

LAPORTE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
THIRD AND FINAL HEARING ON THE 2011 BUDGET
OCTOBER 25, 2010

The LaPorte County Council met on Monday, October 25, 2010 6:30 p.m. for the third and final hearing on the 2011 budget in the assembly room of the LaPorte County Government Complex, 809 State Street, LaPorte, Indiana 46350

Hearing was called to order by Council President Mark Yagelski.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

All members of the Council were present. Also present were Chief Deputy Auditor Mary Ray and Lisa Parrett-Hock.

A report was given by Mrs. Sosinski regarding pending budget items that need to be addressed.

Another meeting will be needed between the Director of the Health Department and the Human Resources Department regarding a staff reclassification.

Another meeting will take place regarding the move of Voter's Registration to the County Clerk's office.

The salary of the Chief Deputies of the Treasurer, Assessor, Michigan Twp. Assessor, Recorder, Clerk and the Auditor was discussed. A report from Waggoner, Irwin & Sheele recommended that the salaries of those Chief Deputies be at 80% of the elected official.

There was a motion to approve the 80% salaries

All members voted in favor

Motion approved

A motion was made to increase the salary of the EMS Director to at least \$1.00 over her highest paid employee.

Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Bernacchi and Mr. Garner voted in favor

Mr. Ford, Mr. Mrozinski and Mr. Yagelski voted against. Mrs. Sosinski also voted against although she was in favor of the motion. She stated that any salary change needs to go through the proper procedure.

Motion failed

Attorney James Masters appeared on behalf of Sheriff Mike Mollenhauer regarding the reduction of \$35,000.00 from his budget. He stated that commissary funds can only be used to pay an employee in addition to their regular salary, not to replace a salary from the general fund. Attorney Don Baugher disagreed stating that it wasn't illegal.

It was argued by Jail Commander ,Scott Bell that the jailer in question only spends about 5% of her time on the commissary fund bookkeeping. He stated that it didn't make sense to cut the budget by \$35,000.00 when it will end up costing around \$46,000.00 in overtime. Mr. Baugher feels that it would be ok to pay from the Commissary Fund even though Mr. Masters feels it is illegal.

Assessor elect, Mike Schultz wanted clarification of the PTABOA members' compensation He was told that every member is to receive \$120.00 per day, not per session and no other compensation is given for any levels that they obtain.

The five operators that were moved to the Cumulative Bridge salary account was discussed. Since there have been two different opinions given by the State Board of Accounts as to whether this is permissible, a motion was made to move them back to the Highway #202 account and out of the Cum.Bridge account #213

Mrs. Sosinski and Mr. Ford voted in favor

Mr. Mrozinski, Mr. Yagelski, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Bernacchi and Mr. Garner voted against

Motion failed

This will be re-addressed when a final decision from the State Board of Accounts is received.

A motion was made to approve the 2011 budget

Mr. Ford and Mrs. Sosinski voted against

Mr. Mrozinski, Mr. Yagelski, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Bernacchi and Mr. Garner voted in favor

2011 budget was approved

Meeting was adjourned