

SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

SPECIAL SESSION

**COUNTY COUNCIL
2019 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**

The Pulaski County Council met for the 2019 Budget Public Hearing on September 19, 2018 at the County Highway Garage Training Room in Winamac, Indiana, at 6:00pm EDST. Those present were, President Jerry (Jay) Sullivan, Vice President Mike Tiede, Thomas J. Roth, Scott Hinkle, and Auditor Laura Wheeler. Linda Powers, Alexsondra Haschel, and Kenneth Boswell were absent.

The purpose of the meeting was to hear public comment on the proposed 2019 published budget. .

Also, present, were Amber Tomlinson, Michael Gallenberger of WKVI, Kenny Becker, Jerry Locke, Kathy Miller, Jeff Johnston, Deb DeSchepper, Cindy Hickle, Holly VanDerAA, Nathan Origer, Bryan Corn, Jaeson Fort, Terry Ruff, Brian Young, and Doug Hoover.

Jerry (Jay) Sullivan called the meeting to order 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: ASSESSOR

Holly VanDerAA requested an increase for the reassessment levy. 2011 was the last time that reassessment was increased. The current rate is .0132 and she is requesting that it go to .0175. If Council chooses not to increase the reassessment levy then appropriated items in reassessment need to be transferred into County General.

Consulting fee discussed at length. Holly had that line item increased in her budget because she is expecting to hire a professional appraiser to combat a parcel currently in appeals. It is an automatic loss for the County if a professional appraisal is not done. Holly explained her increases in Part-time help, Schools, Meetings, & Seminars, and Travel. The following items cut during the Department Budget hearings:

County General Cyclical Reassessment - \$100,000.00
Consultant - \$40,000.00 \$20,000.00 of Consultant moved to Computer Software.
Part-time Help - \$10,000.00
Schools, Meetings & Seminars - \$1,500.00
Travel - \$5,000.00

IN RE: CDC

Nathan Origer commented the budgeted wages for his 1st Deputy. Scott Hinkle, who serves on the MATRIX committee, stated that the issues are being worked out and Nathan will be notified of the changes.

IN RE: BUILDING INSPECTOR/PLAN COMMISSION

Doug Hoover addressed the Council with concerns for his department and the need to have a full-time secretary on staff. The Department dealt with Wind Turbine issues for most of 2018 and they are now looking at solar energy needs. Discussion continued on the requirements, duties, and liability of a building inspector.

The Building Inspector and Plan Commission/Zoning Board budgets cut as follows during the department's budget hearing:

Furniture and Fixtures -1,000.00
Gas, Oil, Etc. -3,000.00
Professional Services -3,000.00
Schools, Meetings, & Seminars -2,000.00
Building Inspector salary reduced to 1% increase.

The Plan Commission department:

BZA Members -3,000.00
Plan Administrator Assistant -22,000.00
Plan Commission Members -2,000.00
Plan Director/Zoning Admin reduced to 1% increase
Schools, Meetings, & Seminars -3,000.00
Travel -1,000.00

IN RE: HIGHWAY

Terry Ruff asked about the 1.25 increase allotted to his bookkeeper to cover the \$2500.00 bonus that she has been paid for the past two years. Council did not respond.

Ruff also asked about start up pay for any new employees and requested a change from 13.77 to 15.00 per hour. Councilman Hinkle stated that the issues are being addressed.

Council agreed that the proposed budget included a 1% raise for everyone.

IN RE: EMS

Bryan Corn requested that his budget be amended to include line items for training materials and instructors wages in the event that EMS staff can offer certifiable classes.

Discussion followed on EMS comparable wages in Fontaine and Jasper Counties and on the progress of building addition.

As there was nothing further to discuss and no further public comment, Michael T. Tiede motioned to adjourn at 6:58pm and Thomas J. Roth seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Signed and dated this 8th day of October 2018.
PULASKI COUNTY COUNCIL

Jerry G. Sullivan

Thomas J. Roth

Alexsondra Haschel

Linda Powers

Michael T. Tiede

Kenneth Boswell

Scott Hinkle

ATTEST: _____
Laura M. Wheeler, Auditor, Pulaski County