

September 14, 2011

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 8:00 a.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: 2012 BUDGETS

Councilman Semans made a motion to not allow any pay raises in the 2012 budgets, seconded by Councilwoman Benninghoff. The motion passed with all ayes. Council President, Mark Smith, proposed all 2012 budgets be frozen with the 2011 budget figures, with the exception of the EMS Department, which will be preparing for the implementation of the ALS program; and the Commissioner's budget.

Councilwoman Benninghoff stated the Deputy Recorder's position, and the Clerk of the Surveyor, be made into part time status, instead of full time. She also addressed the issue regarding the County Treasurer's need for additional full time deputies. The issues were dropped for lack of interest. President Smith stated particular job positions could be discussed at a future meeting.

A discussion was held in regard to Fund 1156 (911 dispatchers) fund. President Smith noted the concern of the 17% decrease in the 2011 revenue received, over the 2010 revenue the county received for that fund. All counties in the state are seeing a reduction in their revenue for this fund, because of the decrease in the number of landline telephones, therefore decreasing the 911 fees on the telephone bills. Even though there is an increase in cell phone usage, since their fees are lower than the landline fees, their usage does not compensate for the decrease in the landline phone fees. The following line items of the 1156 budget were moved to the Commissioner's department, of the County General Fund budget for 2012: Unemployment, Perf, Health Insurance, Social Security Match, Overtime, and Vacations. The service contract line item will be moved to the IT Department, which is also part of the County General Fund budget.

In regard to the Jail budget, Department 027, of the County general fund, President Smith stated it is not a good policy to be paying for part time jailers using the Fund 0526, the County Corrections Fund. It is not a good policy of how to spend that money, and also the jail should not assume those funds will always be available from the state in future years. A discussion followed in regard to increasing the total number of jailers by two, and decreasing the total number of patrolmen by two. Also discussed was the cost of the prisoner meals and if the sheriff was following what he had stated at last year's budget hearing—that he would shop for the most inexpensive groceries for the meals. Commissioner Norem stated the average cost per prisoner per day is \$1.78; and the Sheriff is on par for the year, in spending the 2011 budgeted amount for prisoner meals, without any additional appropriations. A discussion also occurred in regard to the salary for the County Sheriff, but no action was taken.

In regard to Department 019, of the County General Fund, the Election Board, it was decided to approve the request for an increase over the 2011 budget, since there will be a general election to pay for in 2012.

The budgets approved are as follows:

COUNTY GENERAL:

001 Clerk \$154,995.00
002 Auditor \$152,067.00
003 Treasurer \$106,742.00
004 Recorder \$67,142.00
005 Sheriff \$586,161.00
006 Surveyor \$67,692.00
007 Coroner \$31,186.00
008 Prosecuting Attorney \$84,744.00
019 Election Board \$82,755.00
020 EMS \$1,078,016.09
021 Purdue Extension Agent \$96,098.00
022 Planning Commission \$82,685.00
023 Drainage Board \$16,850.00
024 Veteran Service Officer \$13,857.00
025 Commissioner's \$1,654,922.00
026 Courthouse & Annex Maintenance \$147,662.00
027 Jail \$503,400.00
029 Circuit Court \$507,675.00
030 Board of Zoning Appeals \$15,995.00
031 Soil & Water \$28,176.00
032 Pros. Attorney/CS \$132,908.95
033 County Council \$32,217.00
035 IT \$301,723.00
Total 0101, County General Fund \$5,945,669.04
0148, JURY PAY \$15,000.00
0503, SUPPLEMENTAL JUVENILE PROBATION \$12,500.00
0504, SUPPLEMENTAL ADULT PROBATION \$71,967.00
0511 PRETRIAL DIVERSION \$100,306.00
0702 HIGHWAY DEPT. FUND
Department:
530 Highway Administration \$98,805.00
531 Maintenance & Repair \$738,881.00
533 General Expenditures \$1,166,185.00
Total 0702 Budget \$2,003,871.00
0706 LOCAL ROAD AND STREET \$350,000.00
0801 HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND \$177,931.00
0807 LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE \$32,564.00
0847 REASSESSMENT \$344,908.00
1156 EMERGENCY 911 \$325,496.00
2391 CUM. CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT \$240,000.00
4528 LHMF/TOBACCO SETTLEMENT \$13,922.00

For complete details, the budgets are on file in the Auditor's office.

There being no further business to come before the board, Councilman Radkiewicz moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Semans. The motion was passed with all ayes; and the meeting was adjourned at 3:55PM.

September 14, 2011

Mark Smith, President

Mitch Semans, Vice-President

Dave Pearman

Robert Sims

Judy Benninghoff

Tony Radkiewicz

Marvin McLaughlin

Katherine Chaffins, County Auditor
& Secretary to the County Council