

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the County Auditor, the public interests required that the Lake County Council, should be called to meet in special session at this time, for the purpose of considering budgets for the Year 2011, a written notice was sent to each member of the Council, and proper advertisement made, and all other acts performed in accordance with the laws governing such matters.

And now in obedience to such call, come Thomas O'Donnell, President, Ted Bilski, Elsie Franklin, Jerome A. Prince, Christine Cid, and Larry Blanchard County Councilpersons, together with Ray Szarmach, County Council Attorney. Councilman Ernie Dillon was absent.

OPEN: Public Comments, Council Discussions and Actions.

Dante explained that there is no new deficit, it's the same ole stuff coming forward. He said the "bailout" is trying to push it's way back through on the financial side that's in your statement. He said it's in your statement at the \$5.2 million dollars. He said there are some recommendations that he has made, that basically brings everybody back down to the 2010 level, using their requested amounts as much as I possibly could, and those that came over, I put that down to the original, and those that came in under, I built back up, so we wouldn't double dip them. Basically, by and large, you are at requested. It's a closer baseline to the financial statement, to our assumptions here, and it's better to use than the original.

Dante said we usually go back to original, I am recommending that we go back to requested, with the modifications specified in there.

Dante gave an overview of the items that he passed out to the Councilmen.

Dante said that the bottom line, with the assumptions, and the Line 2 built in brings you to (4,222,335), to the minus. He said that's without Jail, and without the Line 7 shrinkage.

Bilski made a motion, seconded by Prince to rollback to 2011 Requested.

O'Donnell asked if there are any exemptions to that?

Bilski read: reduce following budgets in the General Fund back to 2010 Original Levels and discount their requested increases: Coroner/0700, Calumet Assessor/1000 modified, Coop Extension/2300, Fairgrounds/2920, and IV-D Court/3950.

Dante said those are the folks that actually came in over, so you are really taking care of the ones under, and over, and you are putting them back, financially on the bottom line at the 2010 original, that's what you're doing.

Cid clarified those who submitted any reduction, they are being brought back up to the requested, and those who asked for increases are being brought back down, so there are no reductions, those who cut 8.5%, that's not in there yet, we just erased all of that.

Dante said that's correct, and those who shifted their budget and reorganized are left as is, it's going through. The ones right in the middle of the packet are coming right through as requested, and that bottom line is the same as 2010.

All voted "Yes", except Dillon, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Dante said that the Sales Disclosure was meddlesome. There was no collaboration on that, so he just took the deficit out and dismissed the deficit by cutting in their travel by x amount of percent. He said as they go through the user fee funds, and if they don't have any questions on the ones that have the red on the top, just pass it through.

O'Donnell asked when the motion says adjusted, it's adjusted by you, right?

Dante said it's adjusted by committee. A lot of thought and a lot of work put into it.

Prince made a motion to roll back to "adjusted" on the following funds: Reassessment/237, Cumulative Capital/651 (per plan), County Bond/322, Riverboat Fund/196 (per plan), Supplemental Adult Probation/143, Jail Misdemeanant/152, Health Maintenance/153, Clerk's Perpetuation/194, County Rainy Day/240, Adult Administration Probation/245, Juvenile Administration Probation/246, Weights & Measures/255, E911 Wireless/299, Hermits Lake Operating/356, Major Moves/550, Criminal Public Defender/405, and Sales Disclosure/710. Blanchard seconded the motion.

O'Donnell asked Dante if this would effectively approve those funds as adjusted, and they are "off our plate"?

Dante said, right, the Public Defender is a great example. They originally requested in their request a lot of the Public Defenders into a fund, so that's been dismissed, so that's how you have to go to this adjusted, otherwise they would have gone through, with Public Defenders in 405, so we have to take that out. I had to make the call with Fund 710, to make it balance. That's the only one I took the liberty with.

All voted "Yes", except Dillon, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Dante said Fund 179 is not in there because they don't need an appropriation from the Council.

Adjust Line 2 by the amount in the right hand column.

Bilski made a motion to approve the 2011 Line 2 summary adjustments, "as presented". Prince seconded the motion.

O'Donnell repeated the motion to reduce Line 2 in the General Fund by \$7,983,848, and the other smaller funds.

All voted "Yes", except Dillon, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund#</u>	<u>Line Item</u>	10-2-10 2 nd Reading Additional Amount Of Line 2 Reduced by County (to satisfy '10 and '11 finances)
General Fund	001	(Various Full & Part Time -	\$ 750,000
General Fund	001	3700-41240/Health Insurance	\$7,233,848 \$7,983,848
Parks	107	5156-41240/Health Insurance	\$ 453,546
Health	105	5130-41240/Health Insurance	\$ 101,143
Reassessment	237	0900-41190/Part-Time	\$ 55,000
Reassessment	237	1500-41100/Overtime	\$ 10,000
Reassessment	237	1700-41190/Part-Time	\$ 75,000
Jail Misdemeanant	152	3100-43620/Equipment Repair	\$ 40,000
		3100-44440/Motor Vehicle	\$ 30,000
Hermits Lake	356	2900-43630/Main & Service	\$ 100,000
Major Moves	550	5060-43640/LR&S	\$ 560,382

Cid asked if Line 7 is based on the 92% collections?

Dante answered yes. That's the last piece of the puzzle, it's not in the equation, you have to put it in there, the 92%. It is not part of the \$4.2 million.

It takes a motion, because I did not build the 92% into the 16-line statement. The 16-line statement is as 100%. The State always makes you to 100%.

Dante said the 92% is an aggressive mark that I can live with.

O'Donnell asked Dante if the \$4.2 million deficit is after all of the actions taken in the Initial Reminders. Dante said correct. All those items are in. The 92% is not in there. You have to take things step by step. Dante said your financial system is working.

Bilski made a motion, seconded by Cid to reduce Line 7 from 100% collections to 92% collections, for the purposes of discussion.

All voted "Yes", except Dillon, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Dante passed out the 16-line statement after the Line 7 collections was reduced to 92%, and the deficit shows (12,155,994).

Franklin said, when it comes to the Jail, we can't really say, exactly how much money, whether it's adequate enough for the Jail for the food and the medical.

Bilski made a motion, seconded by Blanchard to increase Jail Medical Supplies & Services by \$400,000, and increase Jail "Food" by \$500,000, for a total of \$900,000 dollars.

Bilski said we are increasing our deficit by an additional million dollars, and even though it is increasing our deficit, we will have that deficit regardless of how we look at it.

Dante said, which is the norm. The Jail is not going away, and it's not getting skinny or skimpier, it's not.

O'Donnell said basically what gets increased in the Jail, is going to get reduced on the Merit side, it has to.

Dante said you have to look at the composite, absolutely. This is the new norm.

Bilski said he would like this to a vote, for the purpose of us moving forward and knowing where we are to meet our deficit I think they have to be rolled in.

O'Donnell said this is a vote that's needed because the money is needed in the Jail.

All voted "Yes", except Dillon, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Dante said now you have all of the negatives in there. You have it all built in, worst case.

In the Initial Reminders, Dante said don't stop the program of investing on your elections stuff. At least let \$400,000 go back to the Elections for "stuff", and allow \$400,000 to go to the general fund, if you wish. Don't stop the momentum. You started a good thing over there with them.

Franklin made a motion that we continue with the Election process that we've had over the years, as it relates to the funding.

Dante said it will be an appropriation in the 400 series, 2100 department, and it will be offset by the \$800,000 dollars, basically. It's got to show up as a line item.

O'Donnell said, you're saying leave the \$800,000 in Elections, is that the motion?

Franklin answered, right.

Dante said, you actually have to create it. You actually have to create a line item in Elections called \$800,000 dollars, in Other Equipment, and that sucks the \$800,000 out of the miscellaneous revenue, and it's net neutral to your bottom line.

Franklin asked do we make the motion today to create the new line item, or do we just approve the \$800,000 dollars?

Bilski said if we don't take any action, we know it's there, if we need a couple of grand if we need a bail out, but do we want to touch it, or do we just leave it out there right now kind of floating around out there until we get to the last day, and if we have to use it to balance out at the end of this year, we might need to tap into that, even though we know it is a bail out, it's only for this year, not for next year, but we might want to just... My preference might be to just hold off on it.

Dante said to dedicate it, you have to create a new line item in 2100 budget, in the general fund, by x amount of dollars, and that takes care of that portion, or all of it, if you wish. That's how you do it. You have to create an appropriation. You've got to the 14th to do it.

Franklin said, so we don't have to do that today.

Dante answered, no.

Bilski asked Franklin if she wants to make a motion to create a line item, and assign that, or just wait?

Franklin said, I will hold off, and talk some more with Blanchard and get back to you.

The Council looked at the sheet with the Activity Based Groupings, which is an amalgamation of departments.

Franklin asked about Weights & Measures, and Emergency Management going up to the group of the Commissioners, instead of being under Specialty Services?

Dante said we can easily group them in another group.

Franklin said I want to put them in there, so when there are group reductions, they will be part of that.

Dante said we are heading down the path of amalgamation, and I can easily move and interchange between groupings here.

O'Donnell suggested they look at this list, so we can come back tomorrow. He said if we look at the last page which says if we assume \$11,000,000 deficit that's 17.5% cuts, and if we jack that number up to 13.1 million, then it's going to be about 20%,

Dante wanted to get a "nod" from the Council on an amalgamation, or not.

Bilski made a motion, seconded by Franklin to amalgamate.

Cid asked Dante, you're amalgamating, so you're going to say Criminal Justice has to cut so much, and then you want all of those departments to work together to cut?

Dante answered, yes.

O'Donnell said we are taking it on the chin, saying we're taking the easy way out by suggesting across the board cuts. I don't see it, and my response to that is what we're doing is, the people are elected to make these decisions, and know what's best for their departments, and we're giving them that authority, with the caveat that if it doesn't happen, then we're all certainly all qualified to come in and say, no, we're going to cut the 100 series by this much. We are not going to go and pick names, and say this person, and this person. It seems like that makes the most sense.

Cid said I don't see how we are going to get them to do that.

O'Donnell said, just by necessity because there is just no money

Franklin said I think if they have the option, they will do that. It works out where it's more to their advantage to work together, than it is by themselves by departments. They will sit down and do that.

Cid said I've heard that we shouldn't leave anybody out, that everybody should have to make cuts.

O'Donnell said we can't add to the Jail, and then cut from the Jail. The population is there. It's not going away. We've put into place programs, but programs aren't successful.

Cid asked what direction would we give all those under these groupings, we would set a deadline for them, they would all have to meet together, then maybe we give them a deadline to come back to us with reductions?

O'Donnell said all of the Judges are out of town right now.

O'Donnell said just so we're all on the same page, you're talking about the 100 Series. We're not going to cut paper clips.

Dante said you're leaning towards amalgamation, let me know, and I will move these 2 around, and it has to be 100 Series, and if they don't make the choice, then give me the authority to mathematically go in, by a certain date and reduce those in the appropriations from the 100 Series, and they will have to make the adjustments in their Revised 144's by December 2nd, or 3rd. Really we're back to the amalgamation, if that's what you really want to take, I recommend it.

O'Donnell said the motion is about amalgamation, putting the service providers into groups, so that their services are all similar.

Blanchard said the intention of the motion is to keep on the path of the amalgamation requested by Dante, and still think about it, and make decisions of where we want to go. Do we want to keep the Courts separate from the Sheriff and Jail, Animal Control, and have them work together.

Bilski said, basically, what direction do we want to take. Do we want to say to each department cut this amount of percentage, or do we amalgamate the group, allow them to work together to come up with that total percentage for that group.

O'Donnell said the bigger the group, it will benefit the whole group.

All voted "Yes", except Dillon, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

There being no further business to come before the Council, it was moved and seconded that the Council does now adjourn to meet again, as required by law.

President, Lake County Council

ATTEST:

Peggy Katona Holinga,
Lake County Auditor