

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 Review of 2012 Civil Taxing Unit Budgets and Budget Recommendation, 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 Ted Bilski, President, Jerome Prince, Michael Repay, Elsie Franklin, Daniel Dernulc, Christine Cid, and Rick Niemeyer County Councilpersons, together with Ray Szarmach, County Council Attorney.

Dernulc made a motion, seconded by Niemeyer to take a recess and return at 1:00 P.M. for the non-binding recommendations of the Civil Taxing Units Budgets and Recommendations. All voted "Yes". Motion to recess carried 7-0.

President Bilski opened the meeting and explained that this is for the non-binding recommendations of the Civil Taxing Units.

Dante explained that the non-binders do not have to follow our First and Second Readings, and our public presentations. They do not come into our gateway system at all. They do not go into the scrutiny of the 16-line statement, and the formality of the overlay, in terms of the deficit in taxing districts, and on the bond issues. The only time that they have, with the 4 former ones is we really mechanically should treat all of them the same, so really you've really kind of laid out the groundwork of what you're going to do with these folks because you've given the proposed on the 4, the model suggest you should do the same for 2012.

With the 4 binders, you've said we're going to adopt the proposed rates, budgets, and levies. I'm saying that you probably have to, and should, the model suggests you have to be consistent throughout, because then you're sharing a liability in the complex mix here, it's going to be unfair and biased possibly, if you include one group and exclude another. So that's the only relation that they have with the 4 binding, is through the policy of what you want to do. Otherwise they are unrelated because they are non-binding, and I will let our Attorney explain. Dante said they are non-binding recommendations here.

Dante said the law says they have to submit their proposed budgets, levies, and tax rates to the County Council by September 16, 2011. The Council *must* make non-binding recommendations, or *shall*, one of the two, on budgets, levies, and tax rates for those units.

Bilski said we don't have the authority within the legislation to force any of these units, and it was not explained how that would be treated and handled down state.

In the Matter of Winfield Township

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate, for year 2012 "as submitted" by the Township of Winfield. Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of East Chicago Civil City.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate, for budget year 2012, "as submitted" by the Civil Unit of City of East Chicago. Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Hammond.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for City of Hammond for budget year 2012, "as submitted". Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of St. John Township.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for the Township of St. John, "as submitted" for budget year 2012. Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Gary Civil City.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Gary Civil City, for budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Ross Township

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy and tax rate for Ross Township for budget year 2012, "as submitted". Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Lake County

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy and tax rate for Lake County for budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Calumet Township.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy and tax rate for Calumet Township for budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Center Township.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy and tax rate for Center Township for budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Hanover Township.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy and tax rate for Hanover Township for budget year 2012, "as submitted". Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Hobart Township.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Hobart Township for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Cedar Lake Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Cedar Lake Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Griffith Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Griffith Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Highland Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Highland Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Munster Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Munster Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Merrillville Civil Town

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Merrillville Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Dyer Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Dyer Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Lowell Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Lowell Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Niemeyer seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of New Chicago Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for New Chicago Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of St. John Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for St. John Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Niemeyer seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Schererville Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Schererville Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Winfield Civil Town.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Winfield Civil Town for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Niemeyer seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Crown Point Civil City

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Crown Point Civil City for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Whiting Civil City.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Whiting Civil City for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Cid seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Lake Station Civil City.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Lake Station Civil City for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of Hobart Civil City.

Prince moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Hobart Civil City for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

In the Matter of East Chicago Public Library

Repay moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for East Chicago Public Library for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Cid seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Gary Public Library.

Repay moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Gary Public Library for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Whiting Public Library.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Whiting Public Library for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Niemeyer commented that there is a lot of money here, and said I am voting off last' years budget, and what's proposed by their library board, and I am not in any way recommending that the budget is correct, the 5 million dollars, or how they are spending their money.

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

In the Matter of Lake County Public Library.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Lake County Public Library for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Crown Point Community Public Library

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Crown Point Community Public Library for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Repay, "No". Prince was "absent". Motion carried 5-yes, 1-no, 1-absent.

Dernulc made a motion, seconded by Franklin to take a 10 minute recess. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Lake Station Sanitary District.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Lake Station Sanitary District for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of East Chicago Sanitary

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for East Chicago Sanitary for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Gary Sanitary.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Gary Sanitary for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Hammond Sanitary.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Hammond Sanitary for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Whiting Sanitary.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Whiting Sanitary for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Highland Sanitary.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Highland Sanitary for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Gary Airport.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Gary Airport for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Gary Redevelopment.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Gary Redevelopment for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Hammond Redevelopment.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Hammond Redevelopment for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Gary Public Transportation.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Gary Public Transportation for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Highland Water District.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Highland Water District for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Winfield Water Works.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Winfield Water Works for the budget year 2012, “as submitted”. Niemeyer seconded. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of St. John Sanitary.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for St. John Sanitary for the budget year 2012, “as submitted”. Niemeyer seconded. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of St. John Water District.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for St. John Water District for the budget year 2012, “as submitted”. Niemeyer seconded. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Town of Dyer Sanitary District.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for the Town of Dyer Sanitary District for the budget year 2012, “as submitted”. Franklin seconded. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Dyer Water Works.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Dyer Water Works for the budget year 2012, “as submitted”. Franklin seconded. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Merrillville Conservancy.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Merrillville Conservancy for the budget year 2012, “as submitted”. Franklin seconded. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Independence Hill Conservancy District.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Independence Hill Conservancy District for the budget year 2012, “as submitted”. Franklin seconded. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Ord 1330C – Regarding Vacant Positions for 2011 – Sheriff.

Cid made a motion, seconded by Franklin to add this matter to the agenda to fill three vacancies. All voted “Yes”, except Prince, “absent”. Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Cid explained that it is actually one vacancy, which is the Lieutenant, who retired, and all of his pay and everything has been freed up since September 6th. People are moving up, so we also need to allow the Sheriff, because people are moving up into positions, to fill that vacancy of Lieutenant, and also a Sergeant, and a Corporal position. That’s what’s on the table.

Dernulc asked why do we have to take action today?

Bilski said that when we wrote the Ordinance on restricted hiring, and bringing it in front of the Council, there was a mis-communication on what positions do need to come in front of us, and don’t. One of our areas is under Collective Bargaining Agreements, and per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, they need so many Sergeants, so many Lieutenants, so many whatever.

Dernulc said, in my mind, we are not in compliance with that?

Bilski said, correct, and we thought that when those positions became vacant, they could go ahead and make those moves, and last month, that confusion had not been there, he would have been on the agenda requesting us to fill a vacancy in this. There are 3 other positions of higher ranking individuals that appear to be moving towards retirement so we will have the same in front of us very shortly.

Repay asked is somebody getting hired off the street?

Cid answered, it’s a promotion.

Repay asked what is the lowest rank of a Sheriff' department person?

Bilski answered, a Patrolman.

Cid said this is a Sergeant moving to Lieutenant, and Corporal moving to Sergeant, or whatever, I'm not sure.

Cid asked if the Council would like to wait have the Sheriff to come down to explain this?

The answer was no.

Attorney said you have a Lieutenant that is retiring, and that leaves a vacant position, which then moves up a Sergeant into that position. When the Sergeant moves up, his position is vacant, and then the computer reads that as a vacant position, and it won't be filled with anybody unless you get the permission. A Corporal is going to be moved into the Sergeant position. The Corporal position is vacant, and someone is going to move into that one, which will probably be a Patrol Officer.

Attorney Szarmach said in the past, the hiring freeze ordinance always made an exception for Officeholders that had a contract, Collective Bargaining Agreement, which used to be the Sheriff, the Jail, and Highway. We took that off the hiring freeze ordinance as an exception to come in front of us, for this year, so you may want to leave it on, for next year, or take it off, it doesn't really matter. It just makes them come here for this.

Attorney said the Ordinance doesn't say freeze anymore it says restriction.

Niemeyer asked are we promoting one person, or three?

Cid said the Sergeant is being promoted to Lieutenant, the Corporal is being promoted to Sergeant.

Cid said we are allowing the Sheriff to promote. He is filling one vacancy of Lieutenant. That's vacant. There are people in these other spots. They are moving up the ladder.

Niemeyer said I just want to make sure we are not hiring a new body.

Cid said we are not hiring a new body. It's promotion from within. Our action today is moving people.

Attorney Szarmach said we are giving him permission to fill the 3 vacancies. Eventually there will be a request to fill the Private' vacancy that you are now creating.

Niemeyer said but we are not doing that today?

Attorney Szarmach answered, no. It saves a lot of money.

Dernulc commented we are getting a lot of these, and I like to ponder a decision.

Cid said this is still all within their budget. They are not asking for any additional dollars.

All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion to add this matter to the agenda carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Cid made a motion to approve to allow the Sheriff to fill vacancy 001-0500-12509-001 – Lieutenant, 001-0500-13548-021 – Sergeant, and 001-0500-14555-005 Corporal. Franklin seconded the motion.

Dernulc asked if we had not had this special meeting, would we have been able to do this?

Bilski said what we've done , to avoid any complications with the Contract, not to put this off until the October/2011 agenda, and so we would have no Contractual issues, to put it on today' agenda.

Niemeyer said the Sheriff' Department didn't have to do this, with the old ordinance, but the new ordinance required them to do it, so that's one reason they decided to do the transfer and it didn't work. Pat, in Central Payroll wouldn't pay it our without our authorization, and that's why they came here.

All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion to approve carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Eagle Creek Township

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Eagle Creek Township for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Niemeyer seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

Cid made a motion, seconded by Dernulc to take a recess. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion to recess carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Cedar Creek Township

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Cedar Creek Township for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of West Creek Township.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for West Creek Township for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of North Township.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for North Township for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Hammond Library.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Hammond Library for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Repay seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of Schererville Water Works.

Cid moved to recommend the proposed budget, levy, and tax rate for Schererville Water Works for the budget year 2012, "as submitted". Franklin seconded. All voted "Yes", except Prince, "absent". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-absent.

In the Matter of adding a resolution to the agenda

Niemeyer made a motion, seconded by Franklin to add this Resolution to today's agenda. All voted "Yes". Motion to add to the agenda carried 7-0. Bilski said that Councilman Prince, asked because he is on a conference call, for him to be put down on this as a "Yes" vote.

In the Matter of Resolution Supporting AT&T's Acquisition of T-Mobile USA

Niemeyer made a motion, seconded by Franklin to approve. Dernulc said, due to my relationship as AT&T is my employer, I will be abstaining from this vote. All voted "Yes", except Dernulc, "abstain". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-abstention.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-85

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AT&T'S ACQUISITION OF T-MOBILE USA

WHEREAS, Lake County has a workforce with a strong Midwestern work ethic; and

WHEREAS, high-speed mobile broadband service can remove geographic obstacles, making Higher quality, more affordable, and more efficient healthcare and education a Reality in Lake County; and

WHEREAS, fuller access to high-speed wireless broadband can help drive economic development And improve the overall quality of life of Lake County residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition of T-Mobile USA by AT&T could create access to fast wireless Broadband to a large percentage of Indiana that otherwise would not hjoye Access; and

WHEREAS, investment in our State's infrastructure is critical to prosper our State's agriculture, Manufacturing and small businesses in the future; and

WHEREAS, expansion of high-speed mobile broadband throughout Indiana will spur innovation, Creating new access to educational opportunities, which is critical for the future Of our State; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition of T-Mobile USA by AT&T offers a unique opportunity for Economic growth for Indiana.

County Council
2011

Special Session

September 26,

1:30 P.M.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE REOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

That the Lake County Council supports actions such as AT&T's acquisition of T-Mobile USA that will create Opportunities that will lay the foundation for generations of Prosperity and build a State with a secure future in a Competitive global economy.

SO RESOLVED THIS 26TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2011.

TED F. BILSKI, President

CHRISTINE CID
ELSIE FRANKLIN
RICK NIEMEYER

MICHAEL C. REPAY
JEROME A. PRINCE

Members of the Lake County Council

President Bilski said that this Council will not reconvene on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, or Friday, September 30, 2011. Those meetings have now been cancelled.

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 Holinga Katona,
Lake County Auditor