

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 the budgets for the Year 2014, 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 A. Prince, David Hamm, Elsie Franklin, Daniel Dernulc, Christine Cid, and Eldon Strong, County Councilpersons, together with Jerry Bishop, County Council Attorney.

In the Matter of Public Hearings for the Budget Year 2014.

The following budgets were presented:

0900	ASSESSOR/ FUND 001/337/710
2505	PTBOA/FUND/001/710
1000	CALUMET TOWNSHIP ASSR/FUNDS 001/337/651/710
1200	CENTER TWP. ASSR/FUNDS 001/337/651/710
1500	HOBART TWP ASSR/FUNDS 001/337/710
1700	ROSS TWP ASSR/FUNDS 001/337/651/710
1800	ST. JOHN TWP ASSR/FUNDS 001/337/651/710
0200	REGIONAL PLANNING
0100	CLERK/FUND 001/194/256/286/651
0200	AUDITOR/FUND 001/010/012/193/286/293/313/314/320 329/337/385/399/651/710
0300	TREASURER/001/356/427
0400	RECORDER/001/179/260/286/651
0600	SURVEYOR/001/167/206/250/264/286/651
2600	DRAINAGE BOARD/001/313/314/790
0700	CORONER/001/273
2100	ELECTION BOARD/001/263/651/680
2300	CO-OP EXTENSION/001/ALL FUNDS
2400	PLAN COMMISSION/001/106
2650	SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION/001/651
2700	VETERANS SERVICE/001
2800	WEIGHTS & MEASURES/001/255/651
2900	COMMISSIONERS/001/E-911/010/012/196/242/276/291/320/ 320/322/399/514/541/651 HERMITS LAKE/356
3000	COURTHOUSES-HAMMOND/GARY/EAST CHICAGO
2920	FAIRGROUNDS/131/196/651
5011-13-17	HIGHWAY/102/320/322/651
2950	HIGHWAY/PUBLIC WORKS/001/651/ALL FUNDS
3030	GOVERNMENT CENTER/001/242
3500/01	EMERGENCY MNT/EMERGENCY PLANNING/ HOMELAND SECURITY/001/185/249 TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH/SOUTHLAKE MENTAL HEALTH/EDGEWATER SYSTEMS
4100	JUVENILE COURT/001/144/246/322/409/411/651
4150	JUVENILE COURT CASA/001/233/796
3950	JUVENILE COURT IV-D/001/297
4200	JUVENILE DETENTION/001/144/ALL FUNDS
0800	PROSECUTOR/001/104/127/135/141/145/196/297/280/651
0850	PROSECUTOR/IV-D/001/196/651
3800	CIRCUIT COURT/001/234/252/283/409/411/651
3900	SUPERIOR COURT – CIVIL/001/252/283/409/411/651
3910	COURT ADMINISTRATOR/001/210/283
4000	SUPERIOR COURT-CRIMINAL/001/010/143/196/245/283 347/651
4002	PUBLIC DEFENDER/001/010/405/651
4030	LAKE COUNTY COURT DIVISION I/001/143/245/283/651
4040	LAKE COUNTY COURT DIVISION II/001/143/245/283/405/651
4032	LADOS-DIVISION I/217/651
4042	LADOS DIVISION II/218/651
4050	LAKE COUNTY COURT DIVISION III/001,143/208/245/283 405/651
4070	LAKE COUNTY COURT DIVISION IV/001/143/245/283
5060	HIGHWAY-LOCAL ROADS/112/196/229/550
5020	HIGHWAY-BRIDGES/313/314/350/686

6100	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/170/171/171/173/271/284/651/ 686
5130	HEALTH DEPT/105/153/196/296/651
5151-5150	PARKS/107/117/316/317
	LAKE RIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
3600	DATA PROCESSING/001/196/256/313/337/651
	SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
	MERRILLVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
3200	ANIMAL CONTROL/001/156/163
0500	SHERIFF/001/010/126/141/145/239/262/275/280/287/289/290/ 332/333/651/709
0580	SHERIFF/141
0582	SHERIFF/141/145/182
1007	SHERIFF/262
1008	SHERIFF/262
3100	JAIL/001/010/152/320
3150	JAIL WORK RELEASE/001
3700	COUNCIL/001/012/196/320/322/651

OPEN: Public Comments, Council Discussions, and Actions

Bilski said that the Council will be addressing the Grant issue throughout the Budget process. It has been brought to our attention of the deficiencies in the Grants, the tracking of the Grants, the accountability for the Grants, and the proper paperwork being followed and run through the Auditor's Office.

He said the Council is looking to establish a new position, possibly in the Auditor's Department, and that no Grants will be approved by this Council, unless proper protocol has been filed, and the proper check and balances have been put in place, with the Council receiving documentation showing that all of these things have been met, in order to get that Grant. Bilski said that is something that they are going to be firm about.

Bilski said we've had some issues with IV-D that needs to be addressed.

Dante said what happened last week, was a culmination of a bunch of Findings, not on the Council, just a bunch of Findings on each individual departments, chronic Findings, on Grants, such as computations, submissions, filling out the forms, and their, (State Board of Accounts), main complaint, and their main Finding was lack of supervision. There is nobody on a higher level looking at it, adding and checking the form.

Dante said, the position that we are looking at is a Supervisory type of contractual position, probably under the Council' auspices here, even though it wasn't our Finding.

Dante said we have a chart, we have a job description, we know who the departments are, and we've got a person, or agent in mind. He said later in the meeting we will have a discussion, because they want supervision there, they want somebody to sign off.

Bilski said with regards to Tri-City Mental Health, we are recommending what they put in for.

Dante said it's in the Commissioner' budget 2.6%, broken down by population.

Bilski said that with regard to Circuit Court, The Council will take what was submitted and take into consideration.

Lake Ridge was present, and submitted their budgets.

Dante said this is a Binding. They have 2 budgets, Capital, and Operating.

Dante cautioned the Council that if they approve this budget, they are going along with a salary increase as well.

Dante said that right now the Council is leaning towards no salary increases, at this point, but if they blindly, and we forget, approve the 5%, you are going to get a salary increase.

The Judges explained that they have to attend a mandatory conference on September 17th, through September 20th, 2013, and they asked the Council if they would not take any action on the Courts during those dates.

Dante said the Council needs to take action on the amendments/additions to the budgets, and that requires 6 votes. Dante recommends they take care of this to get it out of the way.

Someone asked if they had to be advertised?

Dante said you can take these during any workshops.

If it wasn't in your original packet, you have to make an amendment to the budget, there are only 4 of them.

Cid said she doesn't feel comfortable voting on this today, she would rather wait until the first budget session next week.

Bilski explained that you are not approving these, you are just amending them for consideration. These are the changes that were submitted to the Auditor.

Dante said there is an I.C. Code:

I.C. 36-2-5-11 – At least (3/4) vote of the fiscal body is required to make an appropriation for an item not contained in an estimate or for a greater amount than that named in an item of an estimate.

Amendments and INCREASES (NOT ORIGINALLY REQUESTED)

Franklin made a motion, seconded by Hamm to approve the amended request for consideration for Treasurer (0300), Fund 427, Line Item 43190 @ \$40,000.

Dante explained that this was at zero, not it's going to \$40,000.

All voted "Yes", except Cid, "abstain". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-abstention.

Hamm made a motion, seconded by Prince to approve the amended request for consideration for Civil Court (3900), Fund 001, Line Item 43995 @ \$20,000.

Dante said it will go from zero to \$20,000.

All voted "Yes", except Cid, "abstain". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-abstention.

Hamm made a motion, seconded by Prince to approve the amended request for consideration for LADOS Division II (4042), Fund 218, Various Line Items @ \$0 net. All voted "Yes", except Cid, "abstain". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-abstention.

Hamm made a motion, seconded by Franklin to approve the amended request for consideration for Parks (5156), Fund 218, Line Item 44120 @ \$87,184, Line Item 44310 @ \$266,500, and Line Item 44490 @ \$83,263.

Dernulc wanted to reiterate, and emphasize that this is not what we are voting for, it's just the amendments to the budget.

All voted "Yes", except Cid, "abstain". Motion carried 6-yes, 1-abstention.

Dante explained the handout that he gave, with the check marks. He said that's the sheet that has been seasoned with some recommendations, and considerations by the Budget Committee. Those normal ones are there, but the ones that have been influenced already by a recommendation, or consideration by the Budget Committee have check marks next to them.

Dante said he isn't asking the Council to make recommendations today, but be prepared to go down these paths. He said, where the Budget Committee left off is, we ended at the juncture of pretty much balancing the budget, bringing everything back, making a few perfunctory adjustments, and pretty much dispensing with borrowing. He said, borrowing has pretty much ended, the old borrowing has pretty much ended, and the new stuff is hanging in the balance, and has not been discussed. Any new stuff has not been discussed, so if you want to see the results of those check marks, basically, bookkeeping, budget adjustments, normal stuff, some policy in there, such as Cum Cap, such as rolling back here and there, some increases, some decreases, and then we ended up at ending borrowing, the old borrowing. The Committee was set to turn any residual money, and old borrowing back to the payment of the debt, not to allow any more in, we balanced out, and then we halted at any new items.

Dante said it's those new items that he is asking for, with you, and actions on, recommendations by the Committee. Dante said the sooner we get to them, the easier this process will be.

Bilski said that process will start on Wednesday, September 4, 2013, at 10:00 A.M., in the Council Conference Room.

Dante said some of those items for future consideration are the Mandates, and he has numbers to them. Some of them have been thrown around since the inception of the Income Tax, and some of them you've

heard today. He said he has about a dozen bullet points from today, and somehow the Committee should put that together, let me know what they want, and I will put a number to it.

Bilski asked Dante if it would help him out if they discussed amalgamation, when we start to look at Public Safety, to have an amalgamated group? He asked should they form an amalgamated group for all of these requests that qualify for the Public Safety?

Dante said, first you have to tell me what you want.

Bilski asked don't we take into consideration all that was asked for today, so we have...

Bilski said what we are looking at are additional appropriations for 2014, that qualify for Public Safety, so the additional they were looking at, the additional Probation Officers, if we're going to take that into consideration, shouldn't that be in a pile of what the total cost would be, under Public Safety, because Bilski asked, where are you going to fund it from?

Bilski said I'm prepared right now to say "no" to everything. So we either can openly discuss, or we don't.

Dante said you can say "no" to everything, and re-visit it in January, or you can now look at the priorities, and start telling me which ones they are.

Bilski said, and let's put it in there, so we don't have the issues throughout the course of 2014.

Bilski said so you have some of these requests that would truly qualify, whether it be under Capital, or under Public Safety, that way, put those into two columns, we have one sheet of paper that says Capital, one that says Public Safety, here is the additional request above and beyond the 2014 budget, and say, "Council, which ones do you like, and which ones do you not like."

Cid said I think you have to first look at where our shortfalls were for this year, and you have to make up that first before you consider anything.

Dante said the Committee has to make those recommendations, and have to tell me, and give me directions on what they want. Dante said, right now technically, if you take the recommendations of the Committee, you are balanced.

Dante asked why do you roll back? Because your maximum levy is always based upon last year.

Dante said with regard to borrowing, we are concluding the old. Let's take a look at the add-ons, additional borrowing may not be impossible.

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

