

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL
August 27, 2014
2015 Budget Hearings

The Bartholomew County Council met on August 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana for the 2015 Budget Hearings. Members present were: Jorge Morales, President Ryan Lauer, Jim Reed, Bill Lentz, Pro-Tem Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Rob Kittle & Chris Ogle. Also in attendance was Auditor Barbara J Hackman.

The budget hearings were reconvened.

Court Services (001-35) Brad Barnes –

- Director Barnes was able to keep his position out of this fund by rearranging other items in his other funds.

Treasurer (001-03) Pia O'Connor –

- President Lauer would like to review some of the cuts made in this department.
- The Council agreed to the following:
- Reset her budget to as requested and then
- 03-10 remove \$1,500
- 03-90 remove \$800
- These changes result in adding \$2,500 back into the Treasurer's budget.

Court Services (001-35) Brad Barnes –

- He believes the position of PO#2 is a critical position – this employee recently retired and he wants to maintain his current number of staff by refilling this position. He wants to put his position back where it was and then talk to his Board about getting the funding from another source. He will know this in November. He believes the PO#2 position will be filled internally and then they will look at back filling that open position. Jorge Morales appreciates him working this out but cautions about moving personnel in and out of different funds without notifying the Council prior

to the change. Director Barnes stated that we are being fully reimbursed for the teachers by BCSC.

Sheriff (001-05) Mark Gorbett –

- Would like to remove the College Incentive pay from the table (\$40,000+)
- He will be returning about \$20,000 from the Riverboat Fund which will pay for the half of the costs of the vests. There will also be a grant for 37% of the total for the vests.

The Council continued on from where they had left off on last Friday, reviewing the 100's of the departments.

Alcohol/Drug Program (010) Brad Barnes –

- No employee changes

Court Services Adult Probation User Fee (011) Brad Barnes –

- 01-11 Add \$73,517 back in placing for the Chief PO

Supplemental Juvenile Probation (012) Brad Barnes –

- D

Court Services Informal Adj/Juv Probation (314) Brad Barnes –

- Fund was removed

Circuit Court (001-36) Judge Steve Heimann –

- No employee changes

Circuit Court IV-D (001-39) Judge Steve Heimann –

- No employee changes

Superior Court I (001-37) Judge Jim Worton –

- No employee changes

Rob Kittle clarified that the percent changes had been removed from all employees. They have been removed.

Superior Court II (001-38) Judge Kathleen Coriden –

- No employee changes

Public Defender Superior Court II (329) Judge Kathleen Coriden –

- No employee changes

Auditor (001-02) Barbara Hackman –

- No employee changes

Elected Officials Training (501) Barbara Hackman –

- No employee changes

Debt Service (013) Barbara Hackman –

- No employee changes

Highway (002) Danny Hollander –

- No employee changes

Local Roads & Streets (003) Danny Hollander –

- No employee changes

Cumulative Bridge (004) Danny Hollander –

- No employee changes

Health Department (007) Collis Mayfield –

- Jorge Morales noted that Collis Mayfield would like permission to refill a position that was open due to the death of a Vital Statistics employee.

Council consensus was to allow the position to be refilled.

- Discussion to increase the Assistant Director of Environmental Health to parity with the Assistant Director of Nursing. The annual increase would be \$2,100. It went through with an approval vote by the Personnel Committee. It was the consensus of the Council to allow this request.

Public Health Preparedness (009) Collis Mayfield –

- No employee changes

Local Health Maintenance (019) Collis Mayfield –

- No employee changes

Indiana Local Health Department Trust Fund (507) Collis Mayfield –

- No employee changes

Solid Waste Management (000) Jim Murray –

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- No employee changes

Convention, Recreation & Visitors Promotion (017) Denise Pence –

- No employee changes

Commissioners (001-30) President Carl Lienhoop –

- No employee changes

Information Technology (001-41) Jim Hartsook –

- Grant the parity changes as requested, less the 3% raise at this time.

- - BREAK - -

Statewide 911 (122) Ed Reuter –

- Revisited at the request of Director Reuter
- Uncomfortable with \$10,000 cut made to the 04-40
- Is for Emergency Replacement of broken equipment
- Council agreed to change it to only a \$5,000 reduction, leaving \$15,000.

At this time, the Council reviewed the current state of the budget, as well as the money they had moved to CEDIT and Riverboat.

We are \$110,000 to the good. This will allow for a 1% raise which is approximately \$109,000. The employees are getting hit hard with increasing insurance costs. They would like to find another 1% if possible.

There was discussion regarding asking for a little more from the CEDIT Fund. Another \$25,000 could be used in Riverboat. The Sheriff's vests should have a reimbursable Grant of \$17,000. Rob Kittle suggested removing \$70,000 from the Commissioner's line 04-20 with the understanding that the Council will approve the use of CEDIT funds if the funds exist.

This allows for a 2% raise increase. The \$109,000 was including full-time employees, part-time employees and elected officials. It does not include contracted employees or employees that's pay is set by the State.

President Lauer suggested approving the budget as it stands with a 2% raise for the employees. Bill Lentz pointed out that Additional Appropriations will kill the budget next year. Rob Kittle pointed out that the department heads and employees have continued to provide the services with the cuts that have been done over the past 4 years. President Lauer agreed with Rob Kittle's statement. Chris Ogle stated that the

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department heads have done well with cuts but that means that next year the budgets won't have much left to cut. President Lauer commended the Commissioners for addressing the health insurance issue this year. Rob Kittle thinks it was important that the employees get a 2% raise so that they do not recognize less in their pay due to insurance costs.

Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the preliminary budget as presented. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There will be a department head meeting to discuss this budget, but it will be after the 1st Reading.

The Auditor's Office will get the adjusted budgets out to the departments for their review. This will allow the department heads to get back with the Council prior to the 1st Reading via the Council Work Session on Monday night.

Chris Ogle made a motion to adjourn. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Jorge Morales, President

By: _____
Ryan Lauer, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Chris Ogle, Member

By: _____
Rob Kittle, Member

By: _____
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Member

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Member

By: _____
Jim Reed, Member

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ATTEST: _____
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor
Bartholomew County