



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAPORTE COUNTY
Office Annex**

**555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202
LaPorte, IN 46350-3400**

Phone: (219) 326-6808 ext. 229 – FAX: (219) 326-9103

**Barbara Huston,
President**

**William Hager,
Vice President**

**Michael Bohacek,
Member**

**LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2007**

The LaPorte County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the LaPorte County Annex and Security Building, meeting room #3.

Present at the meeting were Commission President Barbara Huston, Commission Vice President William Hager and Commission Member Michael Bohacek. Also present were, LaPorte County Auditor Teresa Shuter, LaPorte County Attorney Robert Szilagyi and Executive Secretary Linda Arnett.

Commission President Barbara Huston called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Szilagyi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Huston, under "New Business" item "C" we need to remove Attorney Robert Szilagyi Resolution to Acquire Sewer District.

Mr. Bohacek, I do have a question on that, are we going to direct Mr. Szilagyi to write a letter to Springfield Sewer District and have him express our interest in acquiring it?

Mr. Hager, I would say let him and Matt Reardon our Economic Development person.

Mr. Bohacek, I want to make sure we move forward with that.

Mrs. Huston, with no other additions or deletions to the agenda I will need a motion to approve.

Mr. Bohacek made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hager made a motion to approve the minutes of September 18, 2007 and the minutes of September 27, 2007 Insurance Meeting Minutes as presented, second by Mr. Bohacek. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

WEEKLY REPORTS

The Commissioners review and sign weekly reports during the meeting.

CLAIMS

Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to approve Payroll Ending October 19, 2007 & November 2, 2007, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve Miscellaneous Claims in the amount of \$1,712,233.54, second by Mr. Bohacek. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to approve Regular Claims in the amount of \$1,288,032.29, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Christa McLennan, Interim Director of Juvenile Court Services and I would like to report to the Commissioners that we have received a \$10,000.00 grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

Mrs. Huston, I believe that this is the first time any one from the Juvenile Services Center has come to us to report that they have received a grant.

Patricia Pease, EMS Administrator, I would like to report that we were awarded the grant that I applied for in April and we were notified a week ago it is in the amount of \$88,000.00 for modification of the facilities for the three EMS Bases. I will be approaching the Council for the local match of \$17,600.00.

Mrs. Huston, are you on the Councils agenda?

Patricia Pease, I am not but they have approved 25% of the dollars that I was going to request and this is under that amount, so I know that I fall in line with that, so this would have to be set aside this year then encumbered for next year.

Teresa Shuter, LaPorte County Auditor and I would like to clarify a misprint that was in the paper last night. I talked with Donavon Estridge, who is here from the LaPorte Herald-Argus this morning and I was disappointed in the headlines Merry Christmas to all of our taxpayers, now pay your taxes. Those are words that I did not speak and I am a little disappointed in the paper for putting headlines like that on an article, he explained that he has no control over the headlines. We are all concerned about our taxpayers here in LaPorte County and the other issue I had with the very brief article that was written was the blame pointed in the direction of Carol McDaniel, our LaPorte County Assessor. We have in LaPorte County two non-compliance issues with the Department of Local Government Finance, one of those is sales disclosure data, Carol McDaniel as Assessor and myself as Auditor have been working jointly to resolve those issues because I feel we have joint partnership, ownership in the problem with that data submission. The data has been completed but the rules were changed after the laws were adopted, we are going back and trying to recreate data in a format that the Department of Local Government Finance is requesting of us. The Assessors Office has been working over three weeks on this issue and we are going to jointly do letters to the DLGF we are working closely with them. The other issue we have is 2003 pay 2004 personal property; these are both coming to us in letter form that if Assessor data is non-complaint, rates are not being held from the county for personnel property, so that is a non-issue. I have been told this morning by the Assessors Office that our final rates are not being withheld because of either one of the two noncompliance issues; I am waiting for a call back to confirm that information. At this time I have in hand, working draft rates for 06 pay 07, so hopefully by weeks end we will be able to resolve this sales disclosure data, and confirm all of this with the Department of Local Government Finance have rates and be ready to bill. Once those rates are obtained, we have to prepare in our office a piece of information called an abstract of taxes, which basically lays out in a perfect world in every taxing district, if everybody pays their taxes this is the revenue LaPorte County and all the units within the county would bring in, that is a three week process. We are hopeful that we can get bills out November 1st and at the latest November 15th and we do wish everyone in our County a Merry Christmas but we have to realize that as bad as it is for the taxpayers to get a bill at that late date, we have lots of units of government in LaPorte County that are struggling to keep afloat because they have not received any tax draws from the County. The City of LaPorte is one that is out borrowing money, we have made small distributions to some of the smaller units but we don't have a lot of money in house to make to the Cities and the bigger units. I have talked with Mr. Estridge this morning and the LaPorte Herald-Argus is printing a retraction and no intention was made there to point fingers at the Assessor's Office and I wanted to clarify that, we have all been working as your local officials very hard to make all of this come together and become compliant and to our credit we are one of very few counties that will be 100% compliant once we accomplish these two compliance issues. We have been working very hard and it has been a joint effort and I wanted to clarify that for the record.

REQUESTS

Patricia Pease, EMS Administrator/ Additional Appropriation \$5,100.00

Mrs. Pease, this is a request to replace three computers in the office they will be replacing lap tops that are approximately seven years old.

Mrs. Huston, these lap tops are about seven years old then?

Ms. Hale, yes I believe they were purchased when you were the director.

Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to approve from CCD Funds, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Jane Bernard, LaPorte County Animal Shelter Director/ Additional Appropriation from CCD Fund for new vehicle in the amount of \$25,000.00

Mrs. Bernard, in August we had an accident involving a deer, that caused extensive damage to our vehicle it is a 2002 and it has 98,000 miles on it. We have gone back and forth if we should fix this vehicle or replace it with a new vehicle, in talking with Swanson Insurance they felt we should repair it, they felt the retail of the vehicle was ten to twelve thousand dollars. The cost to repair it is about five thousand and talking with the dealership the wholesale cost that they would offer would be about five thousand. I think in looking at the whole picture and the amount of miles that it would be in the best interest to purchase a new vehicle.

Mr. Bohacek, is there any salvage value on the vehicle?

Ms. Bernard, yes well I didn't go for salvage value on the vehicle, what I did was ask the dealership to give us a trade in amount and included in the packet I gave you.

Mr. Hager, I would like to approve this out of CCD Funds the amount of \$25,000.00, second by Mr. Bohacek. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Attorney Shaw Friedman/Consideration of Settlement in IURC Cause No. FAC 71/43186 (NIPSCO Purchased-power case)

Mr. Friedman, I am pleased to report that tentative settlement has been reached in a year old dispute that LaPorte County and two other parties representing rate payers have had with Nipsco regarding purchase power cost. The agreement has been negotiated over many months and has seen us LaPorte County collaborate closely with the states office of the Utility Consumer Councilors a group of Nipsco industrial customers to come up with the settlement that is before you today. As you know, we discussed the terms of settlement in executive session yesterday, effective this month as part of the agreement Nipsco will implement a new bench mark standard that will control how cost purchase power are allocated between Nipsco and its customers. Nipsco will pay a greater portion of the cost for power it purchases from the market with the ratepayers paying less for that power. Nipsco has also agreed as part of the settlement to pay a one time refund to customers of thirty-three and a half million dollars to resolve this dispute regarding power it purchased earlier this year and in 2006. Now, you will recall that Nipsco mothballed its Mitchell Generating Station in Gary in late 2001, the utility historically had been able to generate most of its own power for its customers before that time, after that it had been purchasing more and more purchase power after it shut down Mitchell, in 04 for example the total cost of purchase power was about eighty million that increased in 06 total cost of purchase power was a hundred-eighty million, if they were to stay on the same track this year the total cost of purchase power would be about a quarter billion dollars. LaPorte County has vigorously challenged this trend and this settlement will help reverse that trend. Now, there have been discussion about restart of Mitchell recently IDEM has informed Nipsco it was going to put the company through a very tough admissions review before the plant can be restarted, so with Mitchell less and less likely being reopened, LaPorte County, the OUCC and some of the big industrial customers realize that Nipsco will continue buying a certain amount of purchase power for the foreseeable future. It was important to have a benchmark in place that would help protect customers.

Nipsco, as part of the settlement does not acknowledge any fault for purchases made in 06 or 07 but did agree as part of the benchmark to refund an amount that would have been due them had that benchmark been in place in 06 and 07. The one time refund of thirty-three and a half million dollars still has to be approved by the IURC as it considers the settlement agreement in front of you. In addition to providing a much needed refund for customers I am pleased to report the benchmark based upon the last two years could save customers twenty to twenty-five million annually of purchase power cost going forward. This again is going to be subject to a benchmark, in addition the agreement provides that all parties will recover there fees and expenses invested in the litigation, under the agreement not only will LaPorte County be reimbursed every dollar it is invested in the case, we can apply for a multiplier or a premium on the time that I have into the case, of course with the private attorney's that are involved obviously any multiplier premium would go to them and to their law firm, as county attorney any multiplier or premium on my time would come back to the county and I am please to report that we expect that there will be funds from that, that can help us going forward with future cases such as the 2008 rate case where we expect that Nipsco will seek an increase in base rate and we will need resources with extra witnesses to challenge that request in base rates. Any fees we seek to recoup for the county plus any premium, still have to be approved by the Office of Utility Consumer Council but I am delighted to report to you not only have we secured a refund for customers, we have changed the way Nipsco purchases power to protect customers and we will get every dime we invested in the case and then some back to help with future cases going forward. I am respectfully requesting the board this morning to authorize settlement, I think the case is a win-win as we discussed yesterday for the ratepayers and hopefully further protects ratepayers going forward.

Mr. Bohacek made a motion to approve the settlement, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mr. Hager, I would like to thank you for going forward with this, because I don't know if the general public know how much money has been saved by the Commissioners and the law firm fighting this and keeping it down.

Mr. Friedman, it has been with the support of the County Commission that has been steadfast over these years saying do what you have to do to protect ratepayers and LaPorte County has become established throughout the state as a county willing to stand up for ratepayers.

Mr. Bohacek, we will be able to set up a fund for the premium and can earmark it for on going Nipsco.

Mr. Friedman, yes working with the Auditor's Office we can do that.

OLD BUSINESS

Attorney Barry McDonnell/ Robert Palm, Palm & Associates, IncAvant Gardens, Petition for Vacation of Unimproved Public Easement and Right-of-Way

Barry McDonnell, we were here at the last commission meeting when you were approving the secondary plat of Avant Gardens Subdivision. I have provided proof of publications to Mr. Szilagyi in the LaPorte Herald-Argus and there are no adjoining property owners. Also, on file is my petition which I hope you got a copy of because attached to the petition is a small copy of the secondary plat that shows the easement as superimposed upon now which is recorded the secondary plat. It is an unimproved easement that has never been used, at the last meeting Mr. McVay was here and indicated that he had no objections to the vacation of this easement to this right of way.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve.

Mr. Bohacek, this recreational lot three, it will not be developed for home sites.

Mr. McDonnell, that is correct and it will be recorded as three recreational lots.

Mr. Bohacek, I will second the motion. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to approve reading of the Ordinance by title only, second by Mr. Hager.

Mrs. Huston reads the Ordinance by Title only as follows;

**AN ORDINANCE VACATING UNIMPROVED PUBLIC EASEMENT AND RIGHT OF WAY
LAPORTE COUNTY INDIANA**

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve, second by Mr. Bohacek.

Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to waive and read on second and final reading by title only, second by Mr. Hager.

**AN ORDINANCE VACATING UNIMPROVED PUBLIC EASEMENT AND RIGHT OF WAY
LAPORTE COUNTY INDIANA**

Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston this will be known as Ordinance #2007-17

Attorney Robert Szilagyi, Ordinance to Amend Health Department Service Fees

Mr. Szilagyi, we needed to make a few changes and that has been done and we just need a final reading.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve by title only, second by Mr. Bohacek. Motion carried with a motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, this will be known as Ordinance #2007-18.

Attorney Robert Szilagyi/ Ordinance Regarding Dumping on Ziegler Road Waste Area

Mr. Szilagyi, this Ordinance has already had its first reading, we made some changes to it that businesses could not dump there and that is only for residential dumping of trees and yard waste and provides a fine.

Mr. Turner, the only thing I might add is the spelling of it should be Zigler Road not Ziegler.

Mrs. Huston, motion to approve on second reading by title only;

ORDINANCE REGARDING DUMPING ON ZIGLER ROAD WASTE AREA

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve by title only, second by Mr. Bohacek. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, this will be known as Ordinance 2007-19.

NEW BUSINESS

**Rick McVay, LaPorte County Highway Engineer/ Release of Bond M & J Homesites Minor
Subdivision Bond Release Recommendation**

Mr. McVay, this is a minor subdivision which means there are no new roads or drains and I have inspected them and they appear to be acceptable and appears that the developer has done everything we have requested of them.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the release of bond, second by Mr. Bohacek. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Rick McVay, LaPorte County Highway Engineer/ Release of Bond Woods of Concord III

Mr. McVay, this development is approximately 75% complete and I did review and this developer has been very good about keeping the streets clean and I am recommending that we release the bond.

Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to approve the release of bond, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Attorney Robert Szilagyi/ Ordinance Drug Testing

Mr. Szilagyi, this is for anyone that operates a county owned vehicle is subjected to random drug testing and it is my understanding that the Sheriff's Department and Highway Department already does that, if anything we just need to find out what contractors they are using so the departments can make arrangements to do the random drug testing.

Mr. Hager, do we need to include alcohol in this?

Mr. Szilagyi, you can amendment to say drug and alcohol.

Mr. Hager, I would make that amendment to include alcohol.

Mr. Bohacek, how are we going to be selecting our random?

Mr. Szilagyi, the contractor that is being used by the Highway Department and the Sheriff's Department will make the selections.

Mr. Bohacek, I just want to make sure that we are using an outside source.

Mrs. Huston, this is for anyone in the county that operates a county vehicle and that would include ambulance services?

Mr. Szilagyi, that is correct.

Mr. Bohacek, that is also take home vehicles as well, right?

Mr. Szilagyi, yes any vehicle that is owned by the county.

Mrs. Huston, I need a motion to read this Ordinance by title only.

ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH DRUG TESTING

Mrs. Huston, with the amendment that it is under number # 1 that all county employees who operate county vehicles will be subjected to a random drug and alcohol testing. Motion to approve on first reading. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, I need a motion to approve on second and final reading. Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to approve second and final reading by title only, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH DRUG TESTING

Mrs. Huston, this will be known as Ordinance #2007-20

Attorney Robert Szilagyi/ Ordinance Vending Funds

Mr. Szilagyi, the Ordinance is based on State Board of Accounts Audit, about a year ago regarding the because the public use of the vending machines you could not use the funds for employees Christmas party or sending flowers to an employee for a funeral expense but now that you have your

own employee lounge in which you have your own vending machines exclusive used by employees you can use those funds for parties and flowers.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the Ordinance on first reading by title only.

ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH CONCESSION AND VENDING FUND

Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, motion to waive the rules for second reading by title only.

Mr. Bohacek, made the motion, second by Mr. Hager.

ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH CONCESSION AND VENDING FUND

Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, this will be known as Ordinance #2007-21.

Joseph P. and Nancy Skalka/ Rezone from R-1

Joseph Skalka, our business at 0999 U.S. 421 is zoned residential with a variance to establish a business that has been there for nineteen years. We are looking to get it rezoned to general business mainly for a 30% discount on our insurance.

Mrs. Huston, you have been before the Plan Commission and they have given you a favorable recommendation.

Mr. Skalka, yes.

Mr. Szilagyi, normally when someone comes in and request a rezoning they have prepared the Ordinance, do you have an Ordinance.

Mr. Skalka, we sent letters but we did not prepare anything.

Mr. Bohacek, I am sure you could prepare it for them Mr. Szilagyi.

Mr. Szilagyi, I will.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve, second by Mr. Bohacek.

Mr. Szilagyi, you can pass it but when you come to the next meeting you will have to approve the ordinance.

Mrs. Huston, you will have to come back for the next meeting on November 13, 2007.

Mrs. Huston, motion to approve, motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Barry McDonnell/ Millbridge Homes LLC

Mr. McDonnell, we are seeking your approval of the zoning change of approximately sixty-four acres of property located on the west side of 125 East between Fail Road and 800 North in LaPorte County. The zoning of the property is presently Industrial Reserve to R-1 Residential and we received unanimous approval from the Plan Commission.

Mr. Hager, is this a private subdivision?

Mr. McDonnell, yes and it will be when we get that far and the roads will be maintained by the residents.

Mr. Hager, I am kind of opposed to private subdivisions.

Mr. McDonnell, Mr. Palm and I have been involved in the subdivisions and they are up scaled homes.

Mr. Bohacek, I support the development but just be prepared that many of the developments now we are requiring or expecting in the future we are looking for water and sewer for the development. I will make a motion to approve it.

Mrs. Huston, Mr. Palm there looks like there are a lot of wetlands here.

Mr. Palm, we will have no effect on the wetlands.

Mr. Bohacek, made a motion to approve from Industrial Reserve to R-1 Residential for Mill Bridge Homes LLC, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, we now have an Ordinance to approve on first reading by title only. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IV SECTION 8-6 OF THE LAPORTE COUNTY MASTER PLAN AND THE ZONE MAP WHICH IS A PART THEREOF IN ORDER TO REZONE AND RECLASSIFY PARCEL OF REALESTATE IN THE COUNTY OF LAPORTE

Motion carried on first reading with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, motion to waive the rules and read the Ordinance on second and final reading. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IV SECTION 8-6 OF THE LAPORTE COUNTY MASTER PLAN AND THE ZONE MAP WHICH IS A PART THEREOF IN ORDER TO REZONE AND RECLASSIFY PARCEL OF REALESTATE IN THE COUNTY OF LAPORTE

Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, this will be known as Ordinance #2007-22.

Mr. Bohacek, apparently C.E.M. Development thought they were on the agenda and their attorney apparently cancelled it from the agenda but their council has arrived I would like to add them to the agenda.

Attorney Bradley Adamsky C.E.M. Development, Fieldstone Subdivision / Motion to amend the agenda

Bradley Adamsky, Attorney representing C.E.M. Development.

Mrs. Huston, we need a motion to amend the agenda.

Mr. Bohacek, so moved, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mr. Adamsky, we have been through the Plan Commission and gotten our approval for the subdivision which is ninety lots, we have talked with Rick McVay and Ray Hamilton. We are asking for approval, we still need a drainage review and approval of a bond, so any approval we are asking for today will be contingent upon getting a bond submitted as well as the drainage.

Mrs. Huston, do you have any paperwork?

Mr. Adamsky, we have paperwork that is with the Plan Commission and we do have drawings.

Mr. Doyle, we are asking for approval of the subdivision in itself which contains ninety-nine lots.

Mrs. Huston, you are asking approval for the ninety-nine lots and the storm drainage and you have been before the Plan Commission?

Mr. Doyle, yes.

Mr. Bohacek, Mr. Hamilton when this went before the Plan Commission what was the vote?

Mr. Hamilton, the subdivision had preliminary approval.

Mr. Bohacek, contingent on drainage.

Mr. Hamilton, that is correct, when anyone petitions for a subdivision they come to the plat meeting first. At that time they did not have the soil borings for the septic systems and so the Health Department asked them to come back with more samples of the soil and they came back on the 5th of July with those, and then they petitioned to come back for the September meeting for the preliminary approval. Preliminary approval is that the Plan Commission approves the basic concept, the number of lots with the street and at that time they have received a favorable or unfavorable recommendation from the Plan Commission and if they have received a favorable then they go back and do all of the technical part of it. I am understanding now from Mr. Doyle has showed me that they did all of the primary approval work thinking that they just had to come to the one meeting. At this time we have not received but once we get those drawings they are set out to Hass and Associates to review them, we have not at this time received a letter back from them approving the drawings.

Mrs. Huston, you have not issued a favorable or unfavorable yet.

Mr. Hamilton, for the primary right, we did the initial presentation and that is where at that particular time that is when they went did the full blown subdivision drawings where normally we just see the preliminary work but when they came to our meeting they had done it all.

Mrs. Huston, then you are requiring them to come back to you, is that correct.

Mr. Hamilton, yes and then we would give it to our engineer and we would get a letter from Hass stating that they approve the drawings and they appear before the Plan Commission the second time to get final approval.

Mr. Bohacek, so Mr. Adamsky what your asking for is preliminary approval of the subdivision.

Mr. Adamsky, what we are asking for is final approval and we have sent out certified mailings and published notices and opportunity for remonstrators and as he said we have already submitted everything to them at that point. What we are asking for is for this to proceed subject to the approval we are waiting on from Hass.

Mrs. Huston, at one of our last meetings we did have a gentleman come before us and we did send him back to the Plan Commission and at that time we said unless we have a favorable recommendation or non-favorable recommendation letter from the Plan Commission that it would not come before this board. I understand that you have done everything and obviously there was some miscommunication some where along the line but we still require the favorable recommendation, which I don't think there is going to be a problem.

Mr. Hamilton, the preliminary is just the board accepts the presentation of the concept of the subdivision, we don't see any technical part of it.

Mr. Bohacek, how long has Mr. Hass had the drawings?

Mr. McVay, Mr. Doyle dropped a copy of the plans, I was confused myself because I thought it had to go thru another Plan Commission meeting. I did talk to Hass and they said within a week or two they could have that reviewed.

Mr. Bohacek, so we could have it for our next meeting?

Mr. McVay, yes.

Mr. Szilagyi, you need to table it and get the requirements from Hass.

Mr. Bohacek, I make a motion to table this until our November 13th meeting at 6:00 p.m... Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rich Mrozinski, LaPorte County Councilmen, I wanted to ask about your ordinance on drug and alcohol testing not having read the ordinance I wanted to know, if it in fact includes that should a county employee have an accident with a county owned vehicle will they be subject to drug and alcohol testing?

Mr. Szilagyi, yes.

Mrs. Huston, it is part of the personnel policy. The EMS already, if there is a minor accident they are required to be tested.

Rich Mrozinski, LaPorte County Councilmen, I am glad you are getting this straightened out on planning because of what happened at the last meeting, a guy came in and was not on the agenda and when he came before the Plan Commission they had a room full of remonstrators twice and the guy slipped on here without the remonstrators having a chance to be here.

Earl Cunningham, LaPorte County Councilmen, I would like to thank commissioners on the insurance fifty-thousand dollars worth of death insurance for the employees. I feel that we miscommunicated somehow when we had the original meeting, we made the statement that it was for all employees but in some cases because of age they are not able to get the fifty-thousand. More importantly since that time I have had two calls from insurance agents and they wanted to know why there was not a request for proposal or at least give LaPorte County agents to be involved with this and if they were maybe that deadline they all missed it but we should try to spend our money in LaPorte County if possible, maybe this company gave us something that we could not get in LaPorte County but we have enough insurance agents here and I really think Blue Cross-Blue Shield is one of the easiest to purchase. I hope we look at that in the future.

Mrs. Huston, the council is also to be thanked for that because without your assistance and the assistance of the rest of the council members that insurance could not be possible for our employees.

Jerry Cooley, LaPorte County Councilmen, the ordinance you passed on vending machines, where does that money go and who controls that?

Mr. Hager, it goes into a special account for the commissioners to control.

Mrs. Shuter, we are going to put it into a special account and it will require council approval before it is appropriated.

Mr. Hager, I thought it was going to put it in an account for one person to control.

Mrs. Shuter, the council could do an appropriation a token amount for the year and as it starts to run short you could come back before the council for an additional.

Mr. Cooley, are you going to make it so departments are not going to be selling pop and stuff out of there offices.

Lou Ann Troxel, moving the extension office I wanted to let you know that we want to support you and there are a number of people and show our support to you and Purdue Extension.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Hager made a motion that Christmas is on a Tuesday, we will not be having a Christmas party and we will be closed the 24th of December and we will let them have that off, second by Mr. Bohacek. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

ADJOURN

Mrs. Huston adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m...

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



BARBARA HUSTON, PRESIDENT



WILLIAM HAGER, VICE PRESIDENT



MICHAEL BOHACEK, MEMBER

ATTEST: 
TERESA SHUTER, LAPORTE COUNTY AUDITOR