

## **LAPORTE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**

**July 26, 2010**

The LaPorte County Council Meeting was held on Monday, July 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the LaPorte County Government Complex, 809 State Street, LaPorte, Indiana 46350.

Meeting was called to order by Council President, Mark Yagelski

Roll Call was taken by Auditor, Craig Hinchman. Those attending were Mr. Bernacchi, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Garner, Mrs. Sosinski, Mr. Mrozinski, and Mr. Yagelski. Also present were Chief Deputy Auditor, Mary Ray and Council Attorney Don Baugher.

The agenda was approved by all members present

The June 28, 2010 minutes were approved by all members present

### **ELECTED OFFICIAL/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Sheriff Mike Mollenhauer reported that all the DVR recorders are now installed and paid for from the Commissary funds. He also reported the great success of the Metro Unit Drug Task Force. They now have another officer from the City Police Department in the unit.

The ladies from Pioneer Land have donated seventy two quilts for Patrol Officers to use in victim's stressful situations.

Commissioner Ken Layton and Bob Young from the highway department stated that they have hired one new person to fill a vacancy and they are requesting permission to hire another. All Council members voted in favor of allowing the request. (Waived the 48 hour rule)

The Council was informed that at budget time they will be asking for additional employees to be hired.

Health Department, Tony Mancuso stated that since he has taken over as director, he rearranged the office staff to be more efficient and he will be asking for one additional employee to be hired at budget time.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

Mr. Garner spoke with the Soil & Water Office regarding the update on the County Plan. He also spoke with the Treasurer regarding her budget and the replacement of an employee that retired. He met with Mike Quinn from the Weights and Measures Department regarding the vast amount of items that need to be weighed or measured in the County. He also met with John Boyd and Gary Broling from the Sheriff's department regarding a part time employee that needs to be made full time. Joyce Leon from Human Resources will assist. He talked with Commissioner Ken Layton about the exterior of the Court house. Finally, he reported that this year's LaPorte County Fair was a great success.

Mr. Bernacchi met with the reassessment committee. They have recommended Tyler Technologies be awarded the contract.

Mr. Cunningham met with the Community Corrections and the Juvenile Service Center.

Mrs. Sosinski met with Clerk Lynne Spevak, Voters Registration, Joyce Leon from the H.R. Department and Tony Mancuso from the Health Department.

Mr. Mrozinski reported that the Hazard Waste Collection will be on Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the LaPorte County Fair Grounds. He also reported that approximately 20 persons from the Veterans Wounded Warriors program were taken on a charter fishing trip.

Mr. Yagelski met with N.I.C.T.D. regarding the relocation of the South Shore Project. He thanked Mr. Mrozinski for all the help he gave in regards to the new sound system for the assembly room and thanked Mr. Garner for a great LaPorte County Fair.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mike Kobos spoke out against the new joint zoning ordinance. He suggested that this be put on the ballot for a vote, not a dictatorship.

(Mr. Mrozinski and Mr. Garner both stated that this is just in the planning stages, not a done deal)

Dennis Methany spoke out against the Community Corrections Department. He stated that the director was not doing his job and should be fired. He said the Community Corrections Center was not up to the American Disabilities requirements and that he had a part in the complaint that was filed. He said that we need to take care of the buildings the county has, not build more. He also would like to have the law changed where the county doesn't have to pay for jail inmates medical expenses. He also stated that he was against tax abatements for ten years; it should only be for five years.

**APPROPRIATIONS OR TRANSFERS OR REQUESTS**

**LAPORTE COUNTY SHERIFF**

Requested an additional appropriation into  
145-20039-000-145 (Food for Prisoners) \$185,000.00  
From either Riverboat Admissions (272)  
Or Win Tax (257)

Motion made to approve the request with funds  
From Riverboat Admissions (272)  
All members present voted in favor of the motion  
Motion approved

Requested an additional appropriation into  
145-30085-000-145 (Medical for prisoners) \$150,000.00  
From either Riverboat Admissions (272)  
Or Win tax (257)

Motion made to approve the request with funds  
From Riverboat Admissions (272)  
All members present voted in favor of the motion  
Motion approved

**LAPORTE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Requested an additional appropriation into  
526-20200-000-526 (Communicable Disease Non Reverting Fund)  
For timely payment of claims \$15,000.00

From either Riverboat Admissions (272) or Win Tax (257)  
Motion made to approve the request with funds from  
Riverboat Admissions (272)  
All members present voted in favor of the motion  
Motion approved

**LAPORTE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

Requested permission to fill two vacancies in his department  
Adult Protective Services Investigator and  
Intake Coordinator position  
Motion made to approve the request to hire two employees to  
Fill the vacancies  
All members voted in favor of the motion  
Motion approved

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Requested funds into 222-30135-000-222 (Professional Fees)

For payment of miscellaneous bills submitted by Matt Reardon of Short Elliott & Hendrickson, Inc. Either Riverboat Admissions (272) or Win Tax (257)

\$50,000.00

Motion made to approve the request with funds from the Riverboat Admissions (272)

All members present voted in favor of the motion

Motion approved

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Community Corrections problem was discussed. The “drop dead date” for closing the facility is September 15, 2010 unless a plan is in place to either update the facility or build a new. The motion was made to support the committee to seek a grant and to get more information.

All members present voted in favor of the motion

Motion approved.

Mr. Mrozinski inquired about the reassessment contract. He wanted to know why the lowest bid was not approved by the Commissioners. He stated that there was no good reason why it was not awarded to the lowest bidder, A & S. Carol McDaniel and Assessor elect, Mike Schultz talked at length as to why they thought Tyler Tech was better for the job. Both said they had more confidence in Tyler even though they were not the lowest bidder. Tyler is ready to go ahead with the reassessment immediately while they don't feel that A & S is. Mr. Schultz stated that if this is not done right this time, it's “his butt”. Mr. Cunningham wanted to know who prepared the bid specs. Mrs. McDaniel responded with “I did”. Mr. Garner agreed with Mr. Mrozinski and asked why the tax payers should pay more for a service that the lowest bidder was qualified to do.

A special meeting was set for August 11, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. for further discussion and final vote.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

SECOND READING OF:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.) OF THE LAPORTE COUNTY INDIANA, TAXABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2010 (HP LRHS LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT); DESIGNATING THE BONDS AS LIMITED OBLIGATIONS OF THE COUNTY; APPROVING THE FORM OF, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF, THE TRUST INDENTURE, LOAN AGREEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF THE BONDS; AND AUTHORIZING PROPER OFFICERS TO DO ALL OTHER THINGS DEEMED NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO. TO BE KNOWN AS ORDINANCE NO. 2010-04

Motion made to approve the ordinance. Ordinance approved as Ordinance Number 2010-04

### **COMMENTS BY THE COUNCIL**

Mr. Cunningham announced that he did receive the report on commissary funds that he requested from the Sheriff. He still has questions regarding the excessive spending from the fund.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.