



*LaPorte County Auditor  
Joie Winski  
555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 205  
LaPorte, IN 46350-3490*

**MINUTES  
LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 27, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The La Porte County Council Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by La Porte County Council President Jeff Santana who stated the Pledge of Allegiance was done earlier before the two Workshops. President Santana welcomes Mike Mollenhauer to the Council and welcomes Auditor Winski back. President Santana also reminds the audience that unless you are emergency personnel, please silence or turn off your cell phone or electronic device.

**ROLL CALL**

Not done as this was done at the Workshop.

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 27, 2017 AGENDA**

A Motion is made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Yagelski to approve the Agenda. President Santana makes one modification removing Mr. Chris Diltz under new business. Sheriff Boyd stated Mr. Diltz could not make it this evening to discuss the Sheriff's Pension.

**APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2017 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Councilman Kirkham would like the Minutes to reflect that Attorney Friedman 'look into' the possibility not 'looked into' patient transfers and permits for EMS. Councilman Kirkham asked Attorney Friedman if he looked into the possibility of the County EMS doing transfers or permits as the private outside vendors do.

Attorney Friedman stated he had discussion with Attorney Biege's Office as there was an initial draft Ordinance done. This Ordinance will be brought back at the next Council Meeting in April.

Councilman Kirkham makes a Motion to accept the Minutes with the change reflected above and seconded by Councilman Novak. Motion carries 7-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Dennis Metheny, 6757 W 450 N, Michigan City, IN.*

Mr. Metheny speaks about Matt Burden being on the Agenda from Swanson Center. There is something he wants to say in regards to the opioid presentation. He's going to speak in question form so he does not

slander anyone. Mr. Metheny then states that Commissioner Kora is a doctor and don't doctors write prescriptions for opioids. Is anyone investigating doctors for over prescribing opioids? What would the Council say if he had two people contact him in regards to prescriptions that came from Dr. Kora who over prescribed opioids and he (Mr. Metheny) has their names because they personally contacted him. What would you say to that?

Councilman Novak tries to stop Mr. Metheny, but President Santana says to let him speak.

Mr. Metheny states he watched a documentary regarding opioids which claimed that is the next step to heroin and there is a big heroin problem in La Porte County. Mr. Metheny asks if any of the Council or Commissioners contacted the FBI to check on which doctors are overprescribing opioids and states you can get those answers at the pharmacy.

Mr. Metheny also received a letter regarding condemnation or eminent domain on a property that he owns on 10<sup>th</sup> Street and states that's what the double track has done to him. Mr. Metheny states that when he ran for commissioner he was totally against that condemnation and eminent domain. The County should take care of county people instead of taking care of everyone else. The County also needs to look at the guy working at the South Shore and explore why he was let go from Metra.

Hearing or seeing no other Public Comment, President Santana closes Public Comment.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Rich Mrozinski, Commissioner. Commissioner Mrozinski stated that the Council and Commissioners jointly supported an Ordinance regarding double track and expresses how important the double track project is to La Porte County. Commissioner Mrozinski and Councilman Yagelski went to Indianapolis and met with House Members and the Senate is meeting tomorrow morning. If anyone wants to ride along they are leaving at 4:00 am. It is important that the State of Indiana knows that La Porte County is united in this endeavor. Commissioner Mrozinski states that the Council will have to figure out what fund to expend the money from.

Commissioner Mrozinski stated that the first meeting with the new Economic Development Collaboration will be this Thursday. They have included the South County to be part of the collaboration and it makes sense that we all work together. Councilman Mrozinski would like to get the politicians out of both the Collaboration and the Alliance. Appointments should not be Council or Commission Members rather business owners.

Councilman Kirkham and several other Council Members did not receive the emails in regards to the 'Alliance Meeting' this Thursday.

Councilman Yagelski expressed his concern regarding the Alliance and/or Coalition make up and removal of politicians.

Barb Mossman, Human Resource Director. She would like the Council's opinion regarding the Waggoner Irwin and Scheele study and questions what direction to move forward in. Councilman Novak asks if the final salary ranges have come in. Director Mossman says they are not final yet. There is one Department who is not providing information to get the external salary study completed. She would like to move forward with the information she has and to try and make salaries whole.

President Santana may schedule a Workshop, but Attorney Friedman states an Executive Session would be proper.

George Watkins, Veterans Service Officer. George read a proclamation received from the State of Indiana (see Exhibit "A") and advises of upcoming events. Please contact George with any questions.

Andrew McGuire, EMS. Mr. McGuire speaks to the Council about private outside services that take business away from La Porte County EMS. Mr. McGuire found an Ordinance from 2006 that will need some updating to achieve the ultimate goal. Additionally, the Ordinance is not being enforced at this time and Mr. McGuire is not sure how to enforce it and if it can be enforced. Attorney Friedman will work on updating the Ordinance.

Attorney Friedman states that the Ordinance will create a non-reverting fund public outreach and community education fee. This fund could help promote La Porte County EMS service. Private ambulance services are able to wine and dine in order to entice business in, but La Porte County EMS cannot.

President Santana states that will help the public relations aspect of it and would also like Attorney Friedman to look at private services being permitted and/or some type of regulation.

Attorney Friedman asks if Mr. McGuire could contact another County for a template. That way they are not re-inventing the wheel. Councilman Mollenhauer questions manpower and staffing, especially after 5:00 p.m. Mr. McGuire said the numbers are simply not there to come and ask the Council for additional personnel.

Larry Butcher, EMA. Mr. Butcher explains to the Council that he had to have work done on his Tahoe vehicle. The total cost of the repair is \$1900 plus. He is asking permission to spend out of his account. A Motion by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Motion carries 7-0. President Santana explains that the garage could not fix the vehicle and it had to be outsourced for repair.

Councilman Garner asks how many vehicles EMA has. Larry states there is only one the Tahoe. The other vehicle is a 'pool' car and it stays by Bob Parks. It is used by Jeff Wiatrowski when needed.

Mr. Butcher states the radio project is on task, and just running a few months behind. They are projecting mid-May instead of February. After May it will take another 12-13 months to see the project to completion due to problems in the jail with dead spots. Mr. Butcher states he has not had to ask for more money yet. Towers are on the west side of the jail so he's hoping the towers will hit, but it still will not affect the basement level. There is no communication to the 911 Center. There was nothing that could be done until the system was up and running. This problems will push the completion date out.

Councilman Garner says the selling point was that there would not be problems with communication in basements and Councilman Yagelski agreed. Councilman Novak said the jail is different than houses, etc. Councilman Yagelski reiterated that at the Workshop that question was specifically asked about basements and that's why the Council approved this frequency. Councilman Garner states that Mr. Butcher is on record that the project is still on budget.

Hearing or seeing no other Department Heads, Department Head comment is now closed.

## LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Kirkham talked to the Coroner and a van was found for him to use as a second vehicle. It was Commissioner Huston's vehicle. The Park Department is moving forward with spring projects. Councilman Kirkham went to GLEDC and an Open House at Pottawatomie Park. Both Mayors were in attendance.

Jane Bernard from the Animal Shelter has an agreement with the Highway Department and they can bring pet 'road kill' to her so she can try and notify the owners. The reception area is being worked on and is coming around nicely, and the Animal Shelter has a 'Give Back Day' at Hacienda on April 11.

John Sullivan will attend his first meeting at the Plan Commission.

Councilman Novak attended the Economic Development Open House at Pottawatomie Park along with Councilman Kirkham and the only group missing was La Porte County. He also met with the Judges on a few different issues.

Councilman Garner met with the new County Recorder Sosinski on a maintenance issue. A question came into play on who should be paying for a small secure half-wall to be built in the Recorder's Office. After discussion it was decided that the Maintenance Department would be paying for it as the cost was less than \$500. Recorder Sosinski has a window in her office that has a broken seal, which will need to be fixed and paid for by Building Maintenance.

Councilman Garner stopped in the Auditor's Office and spoke with Chief Deputy Smith. She told them they are doing alright in Joie's absence. He also spoke with the Sheriff.

Councilman Garner thanked all for their kind words on the passing of his wife. He was very grateful and touched by everyone.

Councilman Mollenhauer spoke with his liaison Barb Mossman and thanked everyone for welcoming him on board.

Councilman Yagelski spoke about the double track eminent domain or condemnation letters that were sent to homeowners in Michigan City. We can use some of our Bridge Fund monies to help cover the cost of the double track.

President Santana did not make the Drainage Board Meeting as he was out of town. He also spoke with Recorder Sosinski regarding the security wall.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. *Matt Burden, CEO of Swanson Center – Assessment of Existing and Possible Drug Treatment/De-Tox Options for La Porte County.* (See Exhibit "B"). Councilman Yagelski makes a Motion for a letter of support from the County Council in regards to this program and the Motion is seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Motion carried 7-0.

*2. Sheriff Boyd Proposal and Request for Approval for Unmarried Death Benefit and Life Insurance Increase from \$25,000 to \$100,000.00*

Sheriff Boyd would like the Plan amended to include an unmarried death benefit. Both the Pension and Merit Boards voted in favor of this revision and it was their recommendation to get this approved by the County Council. Married officers are the only ones that have this benefit, unmarried death benefits disappear and go back into the fund. McCreedy and Keene approve of this and feel it should be adopted.

Councilman Kirkham asks if this is a one-time payout.

Sheriff Boyd states that no this is a 20-year payout and they can designate any one for the benefit. The benefit will not take age into consideration and again the cap is 20 years.

Deputy Heeg states the pension automatically assumes that everyone is married and this figure will not go down.

Councilman Yagelski this does not make any sense. All of the pension programs he has been involved with there has not been any increase. He contacted Michigan City and this benefit is not available there. The bottom line is if the money is not used it goes back into the Pension Fund to support the fund. Senate Bill 532 will look for an increase. If the Department wants more benefits and programs, they will have to pay more.

Sheriff Boyd states we do pay, and they paid \$240,000.

Councilman Yagelski how much do you individually put into the Plan?

Sheriff Boyd states One Dollar per year per officer.

Councilman Yagelski states there's always a cost to a plan and nobody locally in law enforcement has this type of benefit. If the Sheriff's Office is going to want added benefits they are going to have to put in more.

Councilman Garner states the mortality rate can throw off the entire chart. Councilman Yagelski is hitting on a subject that is factual.

Attorney Friedman tells the Council that the Sheriff's Department has to rely on their actuary as pensions and benefits are a highly specialized area. He made the suggestion to have someone else give a second opinion on the impact of this benefit? Is it revenue neutral and right now the Council does not have enough information to contradict Mr. Dilts.

President Santana says he never heard of this type of benefit either.

Councilman Novak states that the actuary company they use is the same one that does the State PERF. He would like to have Mr. Dilts come in and make a presentation and makes a Motion to table this request. The Motion is seconded by Councilman Yagelski. Motion carries 7-0.

Sheriff Boyd says the next item for discussion with the Council is a recommendation to increase life insurance benefits. There are 64 merit officers and the \$25,000 life insurance benefit has been in place since 1981. Both the Pension and Merit Boards are recommending an increase to \$100,000. There is no appropriation being asked for and it will come directly from the plan at a cost of approximately \$28,000,000.

The increase is necessary due to the dangerous nature of their jobs and a reduction in life expectancy. Porter County raised their benefit to \$75,000 in 2009 and St. Joseph County is exploring that possibility but they are currently at \$50,000.

The Sheriff's Department is also included under the County's \$50,000 life insurance policy. Councilman Yagelski also clarified that there is an additional AD&D Benefit available to them and others in the public safety professions. This is an additional benefit that they are getting and other employees are not. \$20,000 for natural death and \$40,000 for accidental death, whether you are on the job or not. Even though this is not part of your pension, the County is paying for this benefit.

Deputy Heeg never realized there was this additional benefit. It was again recommended that Mr. Dilts speak about this at the upcoming Workshop.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### *1. La Porte County Treasurer – Clarification of Position that Was Approved the January 23, 2017 County Council Meeting as a COMOT VI not a COMOT IV*

Treasurer Spevak explains that this position was approved in the incorrect classification of a COMOT IV instead of a COMOT VI and that she doesn't even have a COMOT IV in her office. Therefore she was told to come before the Council to correct this inaccuracy. She also says this was a typographical error.

Councilman Yagleski explains that any clerk could receipt the money from Michigan City and Treasurer Spevak agrees, so Councilman Yagelski makes a Motion to send the position back to the Job Evaluation Committee for consideration, which was seconded by Councilman Garner.

Treasurer Spevak asks what this will mean to her office and if she will have to wait six months to fill the position?

President Santana said the person could work as a COMOT IV instead of a COMOT VI, but Treasurer Spevak replies that she doesn't have a COMOT IV so classification would be difficult. She also says that she cannot classify it as a COMOT V because she doesn't have the money in the budget for two people.

Councilman Yagelski replies that it cannot be any higher than a COMOT IV because that was the classification at which it was advertised.

President Santana asks if this particular position came before the HR Committee and Ms. Barb Mossman replies no. Ms. Mossman explains that the First Deputy position was classified as a COMOT VI in 2006 and has not been reclassified since then. She also states that there was a scrivener's error when this Council approved this at the last meeting.

Councilman Garner says that there needs to be a reevaluation of keeping the Michigan City offices open.

President Santana asks if the Committee could get together before the next meeting, but Treasurer Spevak says that it puts her in the difficult position of not having the position filled until then. She adds that she is only asking to replace someone who retired from the position. She says that it is tax time and not filling the position would be very challenging.

Councilman Yagelski says to use part time help until this situation is resolved and Treasurer Spevak states that she has \$10,000.00 for that.

Auditor Winski clarifies that there is money in the Treasurer's budget for either a COMOT IV or a COMOT VI. However, until the position goes back to Committee, it will have to be a COMOT IV because that is what was authorized by the Council.

Treasurer Spevak explains that she is willing to give up a \$30,000.00 COMOT III position to get the COMOT VI position. She adds that she would come back in July to have the position reduced to a COMOT V if necessary.

Councilman Yagelski declares that this is the first time he heard that Treasurer Spevak would accept a COMOT V for this position.

Treasurer Spevak states that she understood it was her duty to follow the approved budget and then make any needed adjustments in July.

Councilman Yagelski says that if Treasurer Spevak is willing to take the COMOT V, give up the \$30,000.00 and because the salary is less than what was advertised, he could withdraw his Motion.

Attorney Friedman adds that this adjustment could be made by Motion, passing, and approval of the Council.

Councilman Yagelski withdrew his Motion and Councilman Garner withdrew his second. Councilman Yagelski says that as long as the salary range advertised falls between a IV and a VI and Treasurer Spevak concedes the COMOT III, he makes the Motion to approve the COMOT V position which is seconded by Councilman Garner. Motion carries 7-0.

Treasurer Spevak leaves the podium and declares that by making this adjustment, there will be a savings of \$32,000.00 to the County.

## *2. Consider Appointments of Three Council Members to Serve as Members of the Redevelopment Commission*

President Santana clarifies through Attorney Friedman that he could make the recommendations but the other Council members should make the actual nominations. Therefore, a Motion is made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Kirkham for Councilmen Novak, Sullivan and Garner to serve on the Redevelopment Commission. Motion carries 7-0.

President Santana explains that he also wants to address the vacancy in the Evaluation Committee that was left by Ms. Sosinski. He suggests that Councilman Garner be appointed as her replacement. Attorney Friedman adds that President Santana could appoint Councilman Garner as the liaison to that Committee. President Santana states that if any Council member wants to switch liaison positions, to contact that person but inform him of the change. Attorney Friedman asks if President Santana is making the appointment on record to insure it is part of the minutes and President Garner replies yes.

Ms. Mossman explains that appointments to the Evaluation Committee are done through her as the Director of Human Resources, but she has no objection to having Councilman Garner on the Committee.

President Santana clarifies that this appointment and the Human Resources liaison position are two completely separate duties.

Councilman Kirkham suggests that at this time, the high school student in attendance should come up and have her paperwork signed. President Santana agreed and the student had her paperwork signed by Councilman Kirkham.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Sheriff Boyd Consideration and Approval and Renewal of La Porte County Council Resolution 2015-4, Approving Commissary Fund Expenditures

Attorney Friedman states that there is no need for any type of approval because this is a standing Resolution and as long as it is being used as intended and isn't changed, it will continue. There would not be a need for anything other than acknowledging its existence as a Resolution.

## **APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSFERS, REQUESTS**

### La Porte County Juvenile Service Center

Requesting Permission to Hire  
for Reception Center Caseworker

Erika Stallworth explains that an employee left for the Air Force so there is a vacancy in the Reception Center. She continues that the position is currently being filled with part time employees, but overtime and comp time are accruing. She adds that this position is at a higher rate because the employee must be trained and certified to assess the children that come into the Center.

President Santana confirms that this is a new hire, but the position does already exist.

Councilman Novak points out that a report on the number of children that go through the Center is included in the packet. A Motion to approve was then made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Mollenhauer.

Councilman Garner asks the amount Ms. Stallworth has in her budget and if the position would be at the same rate as the previous employee. Ms. Stallworth replies that positions will be reevaluated in July but the position will stay the same as it was.

Chief Deputy Andrea Smith informs that there is over \$98,000.00 in the budget, so there is a sufficient amount of funds to support the request.

Ms. Stallworth says that the salary for this position is approximately \$36,000.00. Motion carries 7-0.



La Porte County Animal Shelter  
Requesting Permission to Hire  
for Animal Shelter POLE Position

Jane Bernard explains that Deb Viletstra is retiring after 17 years and therefore there is a vacancy. The position will be filled from within.

A Motion to approve is made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Motion carries 7-0.

La Porte County Adult Probation  
Requesting Permission to Spend  
From Probation User Fees (2102)

for Monitors, Printers, Chair, Scanners, IPad and 3 Wireless Access Points \$6,822.90

Steve Eyrick explains that the purpose of the request for access points is to improve connectivity for better communication. The other requested items are for various offices in the department and they were all approved by Darlene Hale in IT.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilman Mollenhauer.

President Santana states that Mr. Eyrick seems to come before the Council every other month to request additional items. Mr. Eyrick replies that he does not come only for Adult Probation but also the Courts. In addition, several requests are due to upgrades for the new e-filing system for the Courts. He adds that he can assemble a list of purchased items for distribution to the Council. Mr. Eyrick then states that these items are being purchased by the money collected from the offenders that have to pay to be on probation.

Auditor Winski adds that the State Board of Accounts asks for the Probation User Fees fund to be spent down. Motion carries 7-0.

La Porte County MS-4

Requesting Permission to Spend  
From Non-Reverting Fund (9001)  
for On-Line Permitting

\$3,000.00

Councilman Novak confirms that this request refers to the new program with Beacon. A Motion to approve is made by Councilman Novak and seconded by Councilman Sullivan.

Councilman Novak states this is MS-4's portion of the Beacon project that was approved a few months ago.

Rick Brown explains that he would like to make a request for \$5,000.00 from the Non-Reverting Fund for a capital project. This is an ongoing project that will be completed with the County Highway department.

Auditor Winski states that as long as it is in the fund and has been budgeted, he would only need permission to spend.

President Santana asks that the original Motion be voted upon before moving to this item. Motion carries 7-0.

Mr. Brown explains that this is a situation in which County water is going onto private property. It was determined that the hydrology has been blown out. Every aspect of the project has been assessed in order to insure that the repair is done properly. Getting easements was the major undertaking in this project.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Kirkham.

President Santana confirms that this will be transfer from the Non-Reverting fund (9001). Motion carries 7-0.

La Porte La Porte County Information Technology

Requesting an Additional Appropriation  
From Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220)  
for Copiers

Not to Exceed  
\$47,000.00

Ms. Darlene Hale distributed lists to all Council members. She explains that she will actually only need a request for Not to Exceed \$24,000.00 because she can utilize funds from other departments for the remainder. She continues that some new copiers will be purchased and others recycled to other departments. She discusses exactly which department funds will be used.

A Motion to approve out of Win Tax (4220) not to exceed \$24,000.00 was made by Councilman Kirkham and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Motion carries 7-0.

La Porte County Sheriff

Requesting an Additional Appropriation  
From Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220)  
for Sheriff Merit Pension

\$750,000.00

A discussion begins between Council members whether or not this is related to the item previously removed from the Agenda. It is determined that these are separate items.

Sheriff John Boyd explains that the sooner the contribution can be obtained, the sooner it can be invested. Per the Pension Board, return on prior investments is 6.5 percent. By making an early contribution, an additional \$60,000 can be gained. Over the last five years, the annual contributions and service of papers from the County have been approximately \$1,000,000.00 but earnings have been \$1,600,000. The total amount of money suggested by the actuary is \$1,187,533. He adds that he is watching Senate Bill 532 very closely. Sheriff Boyd further discusses the financial specifics of the service of papers.

A Motion to approve out of Riverboat (1191) was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilman Novak.

President Santana asks if there would be an advantage or savings to the Council to appropriate a lesser amount. It is decided that it can be discussed at a Workshop with Mr. Dilts.

Attorney Friedman states that it should be noted to support Senate Bill 532 would be in the County's best interest. Motion carries 6-1, with Councilman Mollenhauer abstaining.

La Porte County Sheriff

Requesting an Additional Appropriation  
From CCD (1138)  
for Sheriff Vehicles

Not to Exceed  
\$400,000.00

Chief Mechanic Bob Parks is in attendance for any questions. Sheriff Boyd states that a CD was distributed to Council Members with pictures of the vehicles and the maintenance and mileage for each. He notes that the mileage may be slightly inaccurate because it was taken in mid-February. The information is broken down into four different bids that were approved by the Commissioners. Sheriff Boyd begins to explain the specifics of each vehicle in the bids.

Councilman Yagelski suggests a quicker way to analyze the information by removing cars from "Line D." Sheriff Boyd states that the bids would be affected. Therefore, a Motion is made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Mollenhauer to accept bids A, B and C out of CCD (1138). Sheriff Boyd stated he didn't have the email in front of him, so President Santana gives the specifics of the bids: Bid A is Chevy Tahoe 4-wheel drive from Best Chevrolet Bremen, Bid B is two 2017 Dodge Charger pursuit vehicles from LaPorte Chrysler, and Bid C is 2017 Dodge Ram Full-Size Cab from La Porte Chrysler.

President Santana asks if Sheriff Boyd could come back for the additional vehicles with trade-in versus non trade-in amounts. He discusses repurposing the vehicles into other departments.

Sheriff Boyd asks which specific vehicles should be considered and Councilman Yagelski says it could be discussed later.

Councilman Novak clarifies that A, B, and C will be approved tonight and further discussion will be held on D before it is approved.

Motion carries 6-1, with Councilman Sullivan voting Nay.

A Motion is made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Garner to table Bid D until the trade-in versus non trade-in vehicle amounts have been analyzed.

Councilman Novak states there is no discussion on a tabled item. Motion carries 4-3, with Councilmen Mollenhauer, Novak and Sullivan voting Nay.

La Porte County EMS

Requesting an Additional Appropriation  
From Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220)  
for EMS Equipment

\$13,000.00

Mr. Andrew McGuire states that the EMS Department reuses used ambulance equipment when possible. However, the majority of the request is from the cot and back boards. The cot cannot be reused due to safety/hygiene issues. The back boards get cracked and damaged and cannot be reused.

A Motion to approve out of Riverboat (1191) is made by Councilman Yagelski and seconded by Councilman Kirkham.

Councilman Yagelski asks that any equipment not being used be given to the Coroner. Mr. McGuire agreed. Motion carries 7-0.

La Porte County EMS

Requesting an Additional Appropriation  
From Riverboat (1191) or Win Tax (4220)  
for EMS Ambulances

\$172,000.00

Mr. McGuire discusses the single bid received from Crossroads Ambulance for a PL Custom Ambulance for a total price of \$169,963.00. This includes a trade-in allowance of \$6,000.00 and a Ford fleet allowance of \$4,800.00. He discusses the amount of trade-in value.

Councilman Novak asks if it would be more advisable to keep the used ambulance for the Coroner due to its low trade-in value.

Mr. McGuire states that the bid would become void if the trade-in ambulance is removed and he would have to go through the bidding process again.

Councilman Kirkham explains that the van currently being used by the Coroner is working out well and is more cost efficient to operate. He also clarifies that this request is for only one ambulance.

President Santana says it was scheduled to be replaced this year.

Mr. McGuire states that the ambulance is worn out and wants to keep from burdening another department with a broken-down vehicle.

A Motion to approve out of Riverboat (1191) is made by Councilman Kirkham and seconded by Councilman Mollenhauer. Motion carries 7-0.

Councilman Kirkham asks if any reimbursement is given when EMS goes on an overdose. Mr. McGuire replies that transport is billed to insurance. If a refusal of transportation is signed, transportation not billed but most of the OD calls are transported and billed to their insurance.

**COUNTY COUNCIL/ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Councilman Kirkham congratulates his Grandson on another State Championship in Michigan.

Councilman Yagelski states that it is not clear how the Coroner came in possession of the van it is using.

Councilman Kirkham replies that the van was used by the Commissioners and Prosecutor and was given to the Coroner by the Commissioners.

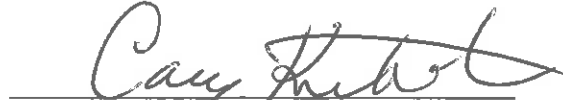
**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to adjourn is made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Motion carries 7-0. The Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

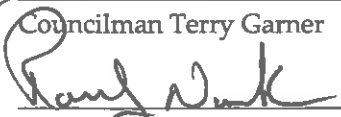
EXAMINED & APPROVED BY THE LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL this 24th day of April, 2017.



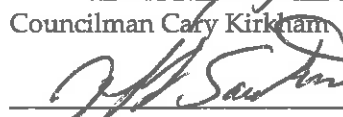
Councilman Terry Garner



Councilman Cary Kirkham



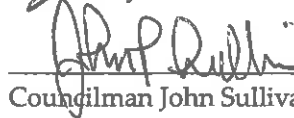
Vice-President Randy Novak



President Jeff Santana



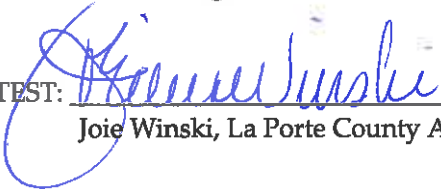
Councilman Mike Mollenhauer



Councilman John Sullivan



Councilman Mark Jagelski

ATTEST: 

Joie Winski, La Porte County Auditor