



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

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LAPORTE COUNTY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 15, 2018 AT 4:30 P.M.**

(Please Turn Off All Cell Phones)

The Special Meeting of the La Porte County Council was held on October 15, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. (local time) in the Assembly Room of the La Porte County Government Complex located at 809 State Street, La Porte, Indiana, 46350.

CALL TO ORDER

La Porte County Council President Randy Novak called the Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Novak asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. President Novak asked that everyone, except emergency personnel, to please turn off their cell phones at this time.

ROLL CALL

Auditor Winski took the Roll Call. Council Members present were Councilmen Yagelski, Sullivan, Kirkham, Novak, Santana and Mollenhauer. Councilmen Garner was absent. A quorum was noted.

NEW BUSINESS

President Novak stated this meeting is being held to discuss the request for permission to spend from the CCD Fund in the amount of \$170,290.00 by La Porte County Maintenance Department for the replacement of the Staefa System in the County Complex. This item was tabled at the September meeting. President Novak asked Building Maintenance Director, Rich Gramarossa to explain the need for this replacement and answer any questions the Council may have.

Mr. Gramarossa stated the problem with the controls goes back to 2013. Since then the controls have been failing, most recently, due to a storm, the system shut down the exhaust fans on the roof of the jail. One entire trunk is failing on a regular basis. Mr. Gramarossa stated this system needs to be replaced in order to be compatible with the system that will be going into the Michigan City Courthouse.

Mr. Doug Newland, HVAC technician, gave a brief overview of why and how the system has been failing and stated the need for the replacement.

A discussion took place between the Council members, Mr. Gramarossa and Mr. Newland. Mr. Yagelski made clear his frustration in that the Council was not made aware of the problems with the system prior to there being an emergency request made to replace the system.

Mr. Mollenhauer asked if any contact had been made to the insurance company to see if any reimbursement could be made toward the damage. Mr. Gramarossa said no and explained the system did not boot back up after a storm caused a power outage. Mr. Mollenhauer asked if the new system has already been ordered, and if there is a protection system in place with the new system if another surge would occur. Mr. Gramarossa stated he will look into the warranty offered with the new system. Mr. Newland stated to the council members that the main controller will be protected.

Mr. Gramarossa asked for a few minutes to contact the vendor for the warranty information.

After speaking with the vendor Mr. Newland explained all controllers have a 2 year warranty, the two main controllers will be on a power backup surge protector. If the safeguards are in place to protect the controllers and the system fails within the 2 years it will be covered under the warranty. Mr. Gramarossa stated there will be no maintenance fee associated with the new system.

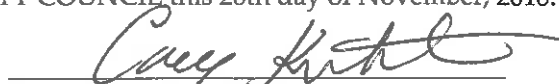
A motion for permission to spend \$170,290.00 from the CCD Fund (1138) was made by Councilman Kirkham and seconded by Councilman Santana. Motion passes 4-2. Councilman Yagelski and Councilman Mollenhauer voting Nay.

Mr. Yagelski asked that consideration to put a threshold on a specific amount of expenditure from the CCD Fund be added to the agenda for the next regular meeting. Mr. Santana and Mr. Novak agreed they would like to see this on the agenda as well.

EXAMINED & APPROVED BY THE LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL, this 26th day of November, 2018.



Councilman John Sullivan



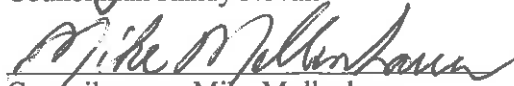
Councilman Cary Kirkham



Councilman Randy Novak



Councilman Jeff Santana



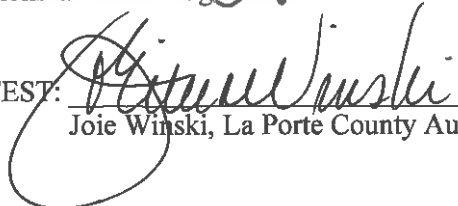
Councilwoman Mike Mollenhauer

ABSENT

Councilman Terry Garner



Councilman Mark Yagelski

ATTEST: 

Joie Winski, La Porte County Auditor