

MEMORANDUM
LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOINT
COOLING OF THE COMPLEX BUILDING, SMALL ANIMAL CLINIC
DAMAGE, COURTHOUSE WATER HEATER AND JSC GENERATOR
July 2nd, 2024

A La Porte County Council & Commissioners Joint Workshop was held on July 2nd, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. (central time) in the Assembly Room of the La Porte County Government Complex, 809 State Street, La Porte, IN 46350.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Council President Randy Novak.

ROLL CALL

While no formal roll call was taken, it was observed that Councilman Cunningham, Councilman Yagelski, Councilman Rosenbaum, Councilman Novak, Councilman Koronka, Councilman Kiel, and Councilman Yagelski were all physical present for the meeting, while Councilman Mollenhauer was not present. Commissioner Connie Gramarossa, Commissioner Rich Mrozinski, and Commissioner Joe Haney were all physically present for the meeting.

PRESENTATION

The Cooling of the Complex Building

Following an HVAC investigation by La Porte County Project Management that resulted in the discovery of an inefficient cooling system in the county's Complex building, the Council and Board of Commissioners discussed the current and sub-par conditions of the building, what potentially caused these inefficiencies and state of disrepair, and what some of the short-term solutions would be while the county investigated a possible long-term solution. With the risk of humidity damaging the newly constructed renovations in the building and a lead-time of roughly 30-46 weeks for a brand-new full cooling system, it was discussed if humidifiers should be utilized on the affected floors to reduce potential damage, in addition to whether replacing windows in the building might assist in maintaining the building's temperature. Andy Skwiat of La Porte County Project Management noted that, in the long run, the full replacement of the cooling system could take as long as 1.5 to 2 years. Mr. Novak stated that he would like to see the establishment of a committee to oversee the development of a long-term solution to the cooling concerns, as well as a long-term analysis of the overall condition of the Complex building.

Small Animal Clinic Damage

Regarding water damage at the Small Animal Clinic that resulted in the death of one cat, Mr. DiMartino reported that litigation for the damage with the insurance adjuster was completed, and informed the room that the adjuster had requested a scope and estimate of what would be needed to repair said damage. He recommended contracting La Porte County Project Management for the project and then the county could proceed with how they would like to address the repair as needed.

La Porte County Courthouse Water Heater

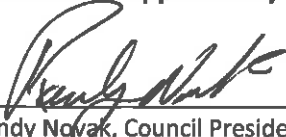
Regarding the recent damage to the water heater in the La Porte County Courthouse, Mrs. Gramarossa explained that a hot water tank would be purchased, however the current Building Maintenance Department was not equipped to handle the repair of the numerous rusted pipes and equipment, and urged the need to hire a qualified external contractor to oversee projects like this.

The Juvenile Service Center Generator

Mr. DiMartino noted that he had taken measures to ensure that the recently purchased generator for the Juvenile Services Center, discovered through the BuyBoard National Purchasing Cooperative, complied with Indiana State statute, which would supersede the need to bid out the generator project.

Examined & Approved by the La Porte County Council this 22nd day of July, 2024.

Examined & Approved by the La Porte County Board of Commissioners this 7th day of August, 2024.



Randy Novak, Council President

Connie Gramarossa, Board President



Adam Koronka, Council Vice President

Richard Mrozinski, Board Vice President



Earl Cunningham, Councilman

Joe Haney, Board Member



Mark Yagelski, Councilman



Justin Kiel, Councilman

Mike Rosenbaum, Councilman



Mike Mollenhauer, Councilman

ATTEST 

Timothy Stabosz, Auditor