

**COUNCIL MEETING
BUDGET WORKSHOPS
AUGUST 22, 2023**

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Stephanie Campbell, President
Jay Alcorn, Vice President
Danny Wallace
Larry Parker
Keith Berry
Wayne Huffman
Phillip Gick

AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Kristina Berish
Evelyn Williams

AIC:

Jacque Clements

The Putnam County Council met on August 22, 2023, 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. Stephanie Campbell opened the meeting with a pledge to the flag.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Jacque Clements, AIC, presented a spreadsheet with the county levy funds. Discussion was made on fundable and non-fundable levy funds. General discussion was made on possible changes the State is thinking about doing. Stephanie asked the deadline for salary ordinance changes. Jacque replied by December 31st. Kristina stated that she asked all the departments to put raise requests in one line item to make it easier for budgeting. Phil brought up that they should keep in mind that an annex is in the future, emergency radios, and the possibility of a solar farm in the county. Danny stated funding for bridges is a priority as well.

COUNTY ASSESSOR & REASSESSMENT

Assessor Don Badaloto stated he looked at what other Assessors were making and asked for an increase for himself. Some employees must have a Level 2 to do their job. He has two employees that are in the process of getting their Level 3. He felt it necessary to put them in for a significant increase in pay. Discussion was made. Don stated he asked for a 5% increase in all other line items that were not salary.

Don stated he has signed a contract for reassessment of commercial properties. Stephanie asked if the office supply increase was necessary since last year there were several hundred dollars left over. He stated with the new contract he wasn't sure what would come up. Discussion was made regarding the Reassessment Fund. The council agreed to zero out county general and reassessment per diem and mileage account so Fund 1131 Sales Disclosure County may be utilized. Kristina asked if the contract line item should be increased since Don was unaware of contract amount when he submitted the budget originally and it is not enough currently to pay the contract. Raised account 30366 to \$52,000.

CIRCUIT COURT

Judge Headley – Two public defenders in Circuit and two in Magistrate. Discussion was made on ways to pay them, hourly, cases, etc. They are currently contractual. Kristina stated they have been using Fund 7399 Public Defender to pay some of the public defenders, but it is now depleted. Larry asked about the Holding of Juveniles line item. Judge Headley went into detail regarding how much of an increase they've seen.

Judge Headley asked them to consider hiring a full time IT person. Discussion.

JUVENILE PROBATION

Rene Marsteller – increased the conference/mileage and maintenance line items. Decreased equipment line item.

SUPERIOR COURT

Judge Bridges – Phil asked why the drastic increase in pauper counsel. Judge Bridges stated it's hard to come up with lawyers, ends up hiring from other counties and that is more expensive. Contractual Labor increase – mental health evaluations have significantly increased. Supplies increase – Phil asked why 50% increase. Purchasing copier/scanner. Law Books – increases every year. Judge Bridges wanted to reiterate the need for an IT person.

ADULT PROBATION

Teresa Parrish – Phil asked about increase in drug screens line item in the User Fees Fund. Teresa stated they were taken out of SATP but changed that fund. Probation Officers mandated salary increase was significant. Discussion was made on grants. Increased SATP continual education line item.

CLERK

The clerk did not show up for her allotted time to discuss her budgets. The council went through budgets line by line and discussed increases, comparing previous years. Perpetuation is not fundable. County general was discussed regarding election. Spoke of increasing poll workers pay and not providing meals.

TREASURER

Treasurer Kathy Minnick – increased repairs/maintenance to pay for software. Office supplies increase was questioned. Kathy stated prices have increased.

SURVEYOR

Surveyor Greg Williams – County General, added telephone to reimburse for cell phone use. Conferences – former Surveyor did not attend, he will be. Surveyors are required to attend certain classes to maintain education. He does not use part time, uses contractual labor instead.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Baugh – County General Sheriff – there is a planned retirement in 2024. Therefore, increased pension line item. Uniform allowance was discussed. Property and casualty insurance line item was increased. Equipment line increase, 5-year contract for body cameras. Baugh stated they are using forfeiture money to get it started this year. Contract was discussed. Increased line for part time.

The Sheriff stated he would like additional sergeants. Jail – increase in part time and overtime. Looking at adding more jail officers. Increased meals line. Shift differential, new request for jail officers. Discussion on salary increase request.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Operating supplies increased.

SOIL & WATER

Sara Campfield – increased contractual labor

EXTENSION

Mark Evans – not asking for more funds but moving money around as needed. Discussion about moving part time account to an overtime account.

PLAN COMMISSION

Lisa Zeiner – Planning budget staying the same. Asked for a raise in salaries. Building budget, contract line increased. Asked for increase for full time inspector. Decreased mileage since they have two vehicles. Decreased office supplies due to going paperless.

CORONER

Coroner Jon Myers – met with the prosecutor and was told he must find a new pathologist. Due to this it will affect several line items in budget. Increased toxicology, equipment rental, and per diem/conferences lines. The council agreed to increase the autopsy line.

GIS/PLAT

Robbie Cudnik – Stephanie asked where she was getting her pictography. Robbie stated they get it from the state every five years for free.

WEST CENTRAL SOLID WASTE

General discussion.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Jamie France – funding sources are State Department of Correction and fees collected. Budget request went down due to insurance premiums decreasing. He stated that typically his department follows suit with the county employee salary increases. Jamie did his own salary study. Used salaries from other counties and used an average. Believes a 5% increase would be sufficient.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dr. Amos, Joni Young, Brian Williams – 1159 Health Dept. – cut by \$90,000, shifted to other funding sources. Added an overtime pay line. Salary increases were based on educational requirements and positions.

1168 – Local Health Maintenance – (Tobacco money) will be going away. Received the last payment this year.

4926 - Preparedness – Homeland Security – 5-year program, on year 5. Then will cycle over again. Part of Brian’s salary comes from this. Joni went through all the things that are covered by this fund, radios, phones, storage building.
8201 – CSFRF - Reimbursable grant – up to \$13,000.

8116 – Vax Supplemental Grant – 2nd nurse’s salary. Her salary will be moved. It will go away in June of 2024. Used to advertise for vaccinations.

9150 - Reopen Schools – School liaison.

9151 – Workforce Development ELC Expansion

2802 – IN Local Health – going away

8333 – Maternal/Child Health Grant (Safe Sleep Program)

4927 – Vaccine Immunization – COVID Immunizations. They have invested some of the money and earning interest.

4200 – Environmental Violation Fines – From doing inspections and places are fined.

1161 – Local Public Health Services – New legislation fund. Budgeted for the minimal amount the county will receive.

RECESS

Parker made a motion to recess the meeting until tomorrow morning. Gick seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Attest: Auditor’s Office
Kristina Berish**