

October 20, 2014

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL
September 9, 2014

The Bartholomew County Council met on September 9, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Members present were: Chris Ogle, Rob Kittle, Pro-Tem Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, President Ryan Lauer, Bill Lentz, Jorge Morales and Jim Reed. Also in attendance were Auditor Barbara J Hackman and Council Attorney Chris Monroe.

Chris Ogle gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of meeting minutes of August 12, 2014. Bill Lentz made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was an Additional Appropriation request for the Health Department (02-40) for twelve-thousand dollars (\$12,000) for purchase of vaccines as presented by Director Collis Mayfield. Director Mayfield explained that this money is reimbursed, however the reimbursement does not come in quick enough to replenish the fund in time to order more vaccines. The difference is they are doing vaccinations with reimbursement through insurance. They are getting reimbursed for the full amount of the vaccination as well as a fee they are allowed to charge. It is simply a cash flow issue. Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the requested amount of twelve-

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thousand dollars (\$12,000). Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was continuation of a discussion of Circuit Court in regards to their Public Defender. Judge Heimann and Judge Mallow were present for the discussion. Judge Heimann pointed out that while Circuit Court currently has four (4) Public Defenders and both Superior Courts have three (3) Public Defenders, Circuit Court Public Defenders have two (2) Courts that they are covering; the Circuit Court with Judge Heimann and Juvenile Court with Judge Mallow. The Juvenile side has simply exploded. They must see to it that the parents have a Public Defender. It can require a separate attorney for each parent. This could result in three (3) Public Defenders per case. Judge Mallow pointed out that there could be homes where there are several children removed, each child by a different father which would require a Public Defender for each child, mom and each dad. Starting January 1, 2015, they must appoint a Public Defender to any child in delinquency cases at the Detention Hearing, which is a step earlier. The child can waive counsel, but they must first meet with them. This is not based on indigence, this is for all youth. Judge Heimann stated they have asked for an additional Public Defender due to the increasing workload. This does not include healthcare costs, additional staff for the Public Defender or supplies and office overhead. Judge Heimann is concerned that if something isn't done, we will be required to set up a Public Defender Office which will cost us the attorney fees plus all the office overhead. Rob Kittle asked if they approve the additional Public Defender, would it lighten the load

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of the other four (4); would it be enough of a shift for the other to notice it. Judge Heimann stated it would. Jorge Morales asked if we had any comparisons to other counties in Indiana. Judge Heimann stated he had done that a few years ago. He is more concerned about the workload today than he is the pay issue. He stated that if they set up a Public Defender Council, then the costs will increase greatly. If you get new Public Defenders then the Judges end up with more work. Rob Kittle and Jim Reed support the additional Public Defender. Bill Lentz stated he was supportive of it. Auditor Hackman had salary comparisons from the 2014 AIC book. While we are at \$43,000 for Public Defender pay, Dearborn County is paying \$54,292, Grant County is paying \$102,000 (*maybe full-time*), Howard County is paying \$80,467 (*maybe full-time*) and Wayne County is paying \$68,037. Judge Heimann pointed out that our Public Defenders go to the jail to meet with their clients on weekends. Jorge Morales is hopeful they can find the funding for the additional Public Defender, but it has to be done while considering the entire County budget. Judge Heimann stated he appreciates that. He is concerned with the risk/reward relationship. Chris Ogle asked the percentage this additional Public Defender would relieve the other four (4) Public Defenders. Judge Heimann stated it would be about twenty percent (20%), but the overall total will increase due to the new rule on January 1, 2015. President Lauer stated that what he is hearing is that the Council is in favor of this. It was suggested that they review this after hearing the other budget request information tonight. Public Defender Dave Nowak was present and spoke regarding the role of the Public Defenders. Mr. Nowak has been a Public Defender since 1994. He

discussed the increase in the workload and the effect it has on his private business. While the work has increased, the pay has only had very minimal increases. Public Defender Charlie Wells stated they had to keep up and be more efficient due to the fine job the law enforcement does in this County; which results in more clients. Public Defender Laura Raiman was transferred thirty to forty (30/40) cases when she started as well as new clients. She spends her weekend time at the jail, meeting with clients. Public Defender Alex Whitted stated he spends about fifty percent (50%) of his practice to the Public Defender position. He spends quite a bit of time at the jail. He will not benefit from the additional Public Defender in the Circuit Court as he works in Superior Court II, but he would appreciate any increase in salary that they can afford.

President Lauer asked if there were any further modifications to the budgets prior to the First Reading. Jorge Morales stated that there may some changes in the Sheriff's Department. Before they opened it up, President Lauer would like to note the changes they made during the Work Session. Auditor Hackman stated that the Local Health Maintenance Fund had been raised due to it being a Grant. If they lower it, then they won't receive the funding. They also changed the Information Technology by a three-hundred dollar (\$300) neutral change in the 200's and 300's. Kelly Benjamin wished to speak about the part-time in the Circuit Court IV-D fund. It is under the Circuit Court budget but it is for all three (3) courts. Kelly Benjamin spoke regarding this change. They want to pay the position fifteen dollars (\$15) per hour. She currently is the lowest paid Court Reporter in the County and one of the lowest paid Court Reporters within the

State. The position will still be at twenty-eight (28) hours. This is reimbursed sixty-six percent (66%). The total amount would be twenty-one-thousand eight-hundred-forty dollars (\$21,840).

Jim Reed made a motion to make the maximum range for 001-39-01-19 at fifteen dollars (\$15) per hour. Jorge Morales seconded the motion. Chris Ogle clarified that this was specific to this position. The motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Gorbett had a few changes to make within his budget. He has spoken with Sheriff Elect Matt Myers regarding the fleet of vehicles and he is okay with driving the current vehicle that Sheriff Gorbett is driving. They have agreed to reduce the number of cars from seven to five (7 to 5), in turn reducing the total request to one-hundred-thirty-one-thousand dollars (\$131,000) from one-hundred-seventy-five-thousand dollars (\$175,000) that was earmarked from the CREDIT Fund. They need to find something to move to the CREDIT for the forty-four-thousand dollars (\$44,000). Jim Reed would recommend that they remove the two percent (2%) raise from the Sheriff's Department budget as they did give them the parity amount. The amount would be seventeen-thousand nine-hundred-eighty-four dollars (\$17,984) dollars in savings. There were two members of the Columbus City Council (*Kenny Whipker and Frank Miller in the audience*). They are looking at two to two and a half percent (2 – 2 ½ %) for Columbus Police and Columbus Fire. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence believes we have better benefits so she agrees with Jim Reed's proposal. The vehicle benefit and longevity with no cap are where she is basing her decision. Jorge Morales is concerned with the drug issue

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within the County. It has an impact on the law enforcement, the courts, the attorneys and the Prosecutor. He is pleading with all of them to come up with a combined plan to deal with this issue. He does not believe this is the time to be playing around with the people who enforce the laws. He hopes the City Council will work with the County Council to erase the parity issues. Bill Lentz had spoken with Rob Kittle earlier. They feel they need to do more for the County employees. Rob Kittle stated that they needed to do more for the County employees other than those with the Sheriff's Department. This could be possibly another half percent (1/2%) for the other employees. He feels if they do not give the two percent (2%) to the Sheriff's Department that they will fall behind in the parity issue. Jorge Morales believes we have had parity issues for twenty-four (24) years and we are on the verge of having those issues resolved. President Lauer stated that he believes we have had good discussions but feels that this is needed to give the Sheriff's Department personnel reason to want to advance. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence stated that we need to be fair to all the four-hundred-fifty County Employees. We are not treating everyone equal with longevity and the other specialty pays. Jorge Morales agrees that we need to treat employees equally, but we do not. Some of them are based on State determinations. Jim Reed asked Rob Kittle where he suggests getting the other half percent (1/2%). Rob Kittle stated they have some money in the CEDIT and other funds coming back from other areas. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence stated that she is concerned with the inflow of income in CAGIT and CEDIT. President Lauer recapped the amounts that had come back this evening through the discussions.

Jim Reed made a motion to remove the two percent (2%) from the Sheriff's Department other than the patrolmen (*it would mean not giving 2% to the command staff which would result in about \$20,000 in savings*). With this savings and the other changes, this would allow for an additional eighty-thousand dollars (\$80,000). Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion. The discussion was open for public input. Judge Heimann stated that if you consider the amount of money that will be turned back in at the end of the year. Consultant Dan Eggermann stated that if it is just one-hundred-thousand dollars (\$100,000) it would more than cover the amount. Chris Ogle stated that he was leery of spending money that is not in his pocket. Judge Heimann suggested that if they go to the office holders and state that they are looking at doing a larger raise and they will get you the firm number. Sheriff Gorbett stated that we have had lengthy discussions on true parity. He can project what he will pay in the salaries to the end of the year. It will be about thirty-thousand dollars (\$30,000). That is a line item that all office holders should be able to provide. The public session of the meeting was closed. Bill Lentz stated that we need to come up with a compromise to make things work. He has talked with Sheriff Gorbett and Matt Myers extensively. He had asked if they could give a little back and they did by reducing the cars. He still believes that they need to help the other County employees with a little more money. Additional Appropriations will kill the County. **The vote was called for. The vote was two yes votes (*Jim Reed & Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence*) and five no votes (*Chris Ogle, Rob Kittle, Ryan Lauer, Bill Lentz and Jorge Morales*). The motion was defeated.**

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The Sheriff's Department came up with thirty-thousand dollars (\$30,000) in 03-60 and fifteen-thousand dollars (\$15,000) in 03-92 to be moved into the CEDIT which frees up forty-five-thousand dollars (\$45,000).

Jim Reed made a motion to give the additional Public Defender to the Circuit Court which was seconded by Rob Kittle. The amount is forty-one-thousand eight-hundred-forty dollars (\$41,840). President Lauer suggested a part-time, not a full-time position. Rob Kittle stated that it is not a bad suggestion but he believes the Judge has made his case for a full-time Public Defender. The vote was called for and the motion passed unanimously.

The Council then addressed the additional money to pay for the pay increase they had provided the Circuit Court IV-D. There were no objections to allowing the increase.

There were questions about the additional half percent (1/2%) raise for the other County Employees. Rob Kittle suggests that they work on that after this meeting. Consultant Dan Eggermann stated that he suggests that they ask the departments exactly how much money they will be returning by the end of the year, especially in the salary amounts. Auditor Hackman stated that there is a Department Head meeting coming up and she will put out an e-mail to them to get the amounts that they are for certain will be coming back. Consultant Eggermann was surprised that they were where they are now considering what they had to do. President Lauer stated that the Department Heads have looked at their budgets very hard over the past years and he is impressed with that.

Auditor Hackman stated that this reading does include the changes that were made this evening. She read the budget as follows:

County General

Fund #	Office	Total
001-01	Clerk	\$505,743.00
001-02	Auditor	\$411,235.00
001-03	Treasurer	\$237,413.00
001-04	Recorder	\$151,465.00
001-05	Sheriff	\$3,139,048.00
001-06	Surveyor	\$333,400.00
001-07	Coroner	\$77,496.00
001-08	Prosecutor	\$588,107.00
001-09	Assessor	\$298,382.00
001-11	Code Enforcement	\$458,014.00
001-18	Emergency Management (EMA)	\$153,917.00
001-19	Drainage Board	\$12,175.00
001-22	Voter's Registration	\$91,448.00
001-23	Cooperative Extension	\$209,666.00
001-25	Park Board	\$162,332.00
001-27	Veteran's Service	\$124,170.00
001-28	Weights & Measures	\$47,460.00
001-29	County Council	\$76,520.00
001-30	Commissioners	\$1,658,458.00
001-31	Maintenance	\$1,253,847.00

001-32	Jail	\$2,508,355.00
001-33	Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	\$16,500.00
001-34	Youth Services Center	\$1,474,999.00
001-35	Court Services	\$484,272.00
001-36	Circuit Court	\$557,926.00
001-37	Superior Court I	\$307,182.00
001-38	Superior Court II	\$417,665.00
001-39	Circuit Court IV-D	\$65,941.00
001-40	Prosecutor	\$450,629.00
001-41	Information Technology	\$921,239.00
	Total Of County General Funds:	\$17,195,004.00

Other Funds

Fund #	Office	Total
002	Highway	\$2,937,987.00
003	Local Roads & Streets	\$475,000.00
004	Cumulative Bridge	\$1,600,000.00
007	Health Department	\$1,555,567.00
008	Election Board	\$296,208.00
009	Public Health Preparedness	\$18,346.00
010	Alcohol/Drug Program	\$187,681.00
011	Court Services Adult Probation User	\$515,940.68
012	Supplemental Juvenile Probation	\$13,929.00
013	Debt Service	\$1,996,000.00
015	Cornerstone Perpetuation	\$6,300.00
017	Convention, Recreation & Visitors	\$1,201,000.00
019	Local Health Maintenance	\$48,859.00
026	Misdemeanant	\$78,580.00

122	Statewide 911	\$1,742,579.33
312	Pretrial Diversion	\$77,944.63
314	Crt Srvcs Inf Adj/Juv Probation	\$0.00
320	Local Emergency Planning Com (LEPC)	\$15,018.00
329	Public Defencer Superior II	\$41,841.00
501	Elected Officials Training	\$11,500.00
504	Recorder's Perpetuation	\$30,000.00
507	Indiana local Health Dept Trust Fund	\$34,636.00
509	Security Protection	\$15,000.00
681	Prosecutor IV-D Incentive	\$25,381.43
682	Clerk IV-D Incentive	\$24,534.00
684	2017 Reassessment	\$532,669.00
	Total Of Other Funds:	\$13,482,501.07

Total of County General Funds:	\$17,195,004.00
Total of CAGIT:	\$5,769,902.00
Total of CEDIT:	\$1,916,695.00
Grand Total Of All Funds:	\$38,364,102.07

President Lauer opened the meeting for public input. Judge Heimann thanked the Council for their hard work and the extra considerations they have reviewed. Sheriff Gorbett thanked the Council and wanted to recognize Rob Kittle and Ryan Lauer as this was their last budget session. President Lauer thanked the tax payers of Bartholomew County.

Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the First Reading of the Bartholomew County 2015 Budget as presented. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the Bartholomew County 2015 Bi-weekly Salary Ordinance. Jim Reed seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the First Reading of the Solid Waste Management District Budget as presented by the former Director Jim Murray and the new District Director Heather Siesel and also Diana Hodnett who is the new Controller. Mr. Murray reminded the Council that property tax makes up a little over a fourth of their income. The 2015 budget requests are dominated by the construction of a new landfill cell for about \$650,000. They have modified the salary and wages to the two percent (2%) amount as the Council has set. This results in a 2015 budget of \$4,331,203. If you remove the new cell, the 2015 is less than the 2014 budget. Chris Ogle noted that the increase for the new cell does not include any rate increases as they will be using funds they already have.

Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the First Reading of the 2015 Solid Waste Management District with the understanding that if the Council does any additional amount in salaries then those will be reflected in the Second Reading of this budget as well. Chris Ogle seconded the motion. The meeting was opened for public comment. Hearing none, the vote was called for and the motion passed unanimously.

Consultant Dan Eggermann presented the 2015 Non-Binding Reviews. He pointed out what each unit could fund and what they had requested. He noted that the

rates may change based on the final assessed value that is used. There are two schools that are included in the review, but they make no decisions on them. By State Statute, they are required to look at the schools budget and sign it. He pointed out that the Towns of Clifford did not submit a 2015 budget. They will automatically get last year's budget and levy. Chris Ogle asked if schools were the only units that could use the referendum process. Consultant Eggermann stated that he believes there are cases that libraries can use the referendum. Bill Lentz asked if the Growth Quotient applies to the Townships as well as the County. Consultant Eggermann stated it does as far as the levy. President Lauer opened the meeting to public discussion. Hearing none, he called for a motion.

Rob Kittle made a motion to accept the Non-Binding Agreements as presented. Bill Lentz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The Council thanked Consultant Eggermann for his work.

The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of the Appointment of two people to the Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission. President Lauer suggested they postpone this as the Commissioners had postponed the decision as to the formation of the Redevelopment Commission. The meeting was opened for public discussion. Jim Wheatley (in the audience), a lifelong resident spoke against the formation of a Redevelopment Commission. He believes it is another increase in government. He believes it will only cause more problems. He is concerned that any TIF Districts by the County will be annexed by the City. He has no confidence in bigger government.

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Mark Webber had met with some Council members several months ago and it was stated that health insurance was a big concern then. Is it a big concern in the 2015 budget? President Lauer stated that it is a big concern as the employees will be paying more in contributions and higher deductibles. Jorge Morales pointed out that we are self-funded and a lot of it has to do with the number of claims we receive. Bill Lentz stated that is why they were trying so hard to get the budget down as low as they could so they could give the employees raises to offset the increase in costs. Mr. Webber's other question was the two percent raises (2%) and the Sheriff's Department. President Lauer stated that they had approved at this time the pay parity and military pay for the Sheriff's Department with a two percent (2%) raise across the board for all County employees. In the Jail budget they adjusted five Control Officer's pay. He believes this will give the Sheriff's Department a clear path for promotion as well as retaining those that we have. Bill Lentz noted that these are still tentative numbers. The final reading will be on October 14, 2014.

Rob Kittle asked about the Department Head Meeting. Auditor Hackman stated that it is this Thursday at 8:30 a.m. and she wants the amount of money that will be returned by each office at that meeting.

The AIC Conference is September 22 through September 24 in Bloomington.

The Commissioners may be postponing the vote on the Redevelopment Commission by another week as some of those representing it are not available next week.

The next items on the agenda were updates by the Council members regarding Boards and Commissions as follows:

Jim Reed – Health Board meets next week.

Jorge Morales – The County Plan Commission passed the CAFO moratorium for 18 months. They have formed a committee to evaluate and study the issue. The Commissioners did, in an ordinance, trim it down to 12 months.

Bill Lentz – Had nothing to report.

President Lauer – Had a Data Board meeting with nothing major to report. The Sheriff's Merit Board had met and they have made a clarification in the longevity policy that is now officially in their books. The transition between Sheriff Gorbett and Sheriff-elect Matt Myers is going well. They have also gotten the attention of the Taser company due to some issues and will be receiving some upgraded Tasers.

Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence – Park Board noted that they have installed new playground equipment at Heflin Park. They are still working on the restrooms at Dunn Stadium. Lynn Lucas has stated that they (Visitors Center) will help with the costs of the restrooms.

Rob Kittle – Had nothing to report.

Chris Ogle – Had nothing to report.

Hearing no other business, Chris Ogle made a motion to adjourn. Jim Reed seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Ryan Lauer, President

By: _____
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Chris Ogle, Member

By: _____
Rob Kittle, Member

By: _____
Jorge Morales, Member

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Member

By: _____
Jim Reed, Member

ATTEST: _____
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor
Bartholomew County