

**PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
June 23, 2020**

The Porter County Council will meet on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., in the County Administration Center, located at 155 Indiana Avenue – Room 205, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Mr. Rivas called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were Council Member Jeremy Rivas, Council Member Sylvia Graham, Council Member Mike Jessen, Council Member Bob Poparad, Council Member Greg Simms and Council Member Dan Whitten. Also present was, Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Auditor Chief Deputy Toni Downing Council Attorney Harold Harper and Council Administrative Assistant Joy Blakely. Not present was Council Member Jeff Larson.

Minutes

Approval of Council minutes for May 26th, 2020.

Mr. Rivas, Alright we've have the approval of the minutes in from May 26th, 2020.

Mr. Whitten, Motion to approve.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion and a second, any discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? All Opposed same sign? Motion carries.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

First Reading

Mr. Rivas, First reading Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Porter County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of Porter County, Indiana will meet in the Porter County Government Administration Building located at 155 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso Indiana 46383 on June 23rd, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. to consider the following appropriation adjustments to the county budgets for the year 2020 and to transact any further business which might come before the Council:

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| Storm Water Fund |
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|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Storm Water | 1182-39200-000-0079 | Disposal | \$ 20,000.00 |
| Storm Water | 1182-39500-000-0079 | Contractual Services | \$ 750,000.00 |
| Storm Water | 1182-44300-000-0079 | Other Mobile Equipment | <u>\$ 30,000.00</u> |
| | | | \$ 800,000.00 |

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| PC Drug Task Force Fund |
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|--------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------|
| PC Drug Task Force | 4010-12400-000-0005 | Per Diem | \$ 4,800.00 |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------|

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| Sheriff DEA Proceeds Fund |
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|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Sheriff DEA Proceeds | 8118-22200-000-0005 | Uniforms and Clothing | \$ 47,773.00 |
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| 93.946 SUID/SDY Grant Fund |
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|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----|----------|
| 93.946 SUID/SDY Grant | 8158-44400-000-0007 | Furniture/Fixtures over \$100 | \$ | 2,400.00 |
| 93.946 SUID/SDY Grant | 8158-45400-000-0007 | Other Equipment | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| | | | \$ | 4,400.00 |

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance. Where applicable, the DLGF will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

Vicki Urbanik
Auditor of Porter County

Publish June 12, 2020

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, And that concludes first reading.

Any other matter that may come properly before the Council

- Porter Hospital LLC – Tax Abatement - Form CF-1 for Real and Personal Property
Mr. Sean Dardeau - CEO
Mr. Jeff Daneff – CFO

Mr. Rivas, Thank you Vicki. Alright, if you guys don't mind we are going to jump out of order here real fast and is Porter Hospital here? Do you guys want to come up and we will take care of these CF-1 forms real fast? Unless you want to stay for the show?

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, Thank you very much we appreciate it.

Mr. Rivas, Alright, so we've got the CF-1 forms in front of you and you have asked for a tax abatement. Vicki I believe that you said that everything was received on time (inaudible) on time.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Mr. Rivas, So real quick the employees and salaries to me that seems to be an important section right there, whether you guys said that you would have the current number of employees was 1500 and you said that you actually have 1800 is that right?

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, So the salaries...so everything on the right side there that we can see...\$60,000,000 in salaries; number of employees retained 1500...

Mr. Whitten, Is there anything in the emanate future to reduce staff? Do you have anything like that going on throughout all of this?

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, No we had about 50 that furloughed voluntarily...

Mr. Whitten, Yes?

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, But we'll bring those back as volume returns. We are about eighty (80%) to eight-five (85%) percent based on ED visits and Surgeries. Admissions are a little slow to pick up because folks are still scared to come to the hospital.

Mr. Whitten, Sure.

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, But we're returning.

Mr. Whitten, Alright.

Porter Hospital CFO Jeff Daneff, We are technically in an industry where we don't have enough supply of staff.

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, Yes.

Porter Hospital CFO Jeff Daneff, So we have vacancies in many job categories like any hospital in the country these days.

Mr. Whitten, I understand.

Mr. Jessen, Yes you know it's clear from the current number of employees and salaries you guys are far exceeding the expectation and so that's very much appreciated in line with what we need. I would just like to say from my personal experience involvement Mr. Dardeau with you and the cooperative attitude that Porter Regional has had and the involvement that you have had with the community initiatives and so forth has been outstanding. To be able to get quick and immediate response and positive response it shows that through your leadership the hospital continues to be a significant asset for the community so I appreciate your involvement your commitment to us.

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, Thank you Mr. Jessen I appreciate it.

Mr. Whitten, I'm pleased that the documents got in on time.

(Laughter)

Mr. Poparad, What year are you in?

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, I think its nine (9)...is it nine?

Mr. Whitten, Vicki do you know where we are at off the top of your head where we are at on the tax abatement here?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, After this year there are two additional years.

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, So then it's eight (8).

Mr. Poparad, Time flies.

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, We appreciate the abatement too, thank you very much it's been very helpful.

Mr. Rivas, Any other questions?

Mr. Poparad, Do you need a motion?

Mr. Rivas, Yes it wouldn't hurt.

Mr. Poparad, I'll make a motion to accept these.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, We have a motion and a second to accept the CF-1 Forms. Any further discussion? All in favor to accept these signify by saying Aye? All Opposed same sign? Motion carries.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Rivas, Alright thank you very much.

Porter Hospital CEO Sean Dardeau, Thank you very much.

Mr. Jessen, Thank you have a good evening.

Porter Hospital CFS Jeff Daneff, Thank you.

Mr. Rivas, You guys are more than welcome to hang out if you want it should get fun.

(Laughter)

Commissioners

General Fund - 1000-000-0068

Transfer \$1,500 from 36300 Equipment other than Vehicles Repair & Maintenance to 39780 Care of Patients and Inmates. Reason: Account does not have enough to cover the inmate care invoices.

Form 144 Up to \$16 to Up to \$22.00 Security Guard Hourly
Reason: Change from up to \$16 to up to \$22 hourly for Security Guard.

Mr. Rivas, Alright Commissioners...is there anyone from the Board of Commissioners? No? Where is Scott? We'll skip over this I don't know where Scott is he usually hangs out and we'll see if he shows up.

Mr. Whitten, I'm uncomfortable doing a form 144 without somebody here to discuss it.

Mr. Rivas, I talk to him, he was in here and I know that he talked to you Dan and Bob and I talked to him he explained to me the transfer, but let's skip over that.

Superior Court 3 - Judge Drenth

Superior Court 3 General Fund - 1000-000-0203

Transfer \$300 from 31700 Interpreter to 44400 Furniture/Fixtures Over \$100.
Reason: To purchase a stand-up desk per a letter of medical necessity.

Mr. Rivas, Superior Court 3 Judge Drenth there is a small transfer here \$300 from 31700 Interpreter to 44400 Furniture/Fixtures over \$100.

Ms. Graham, Move to approve.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Rivas, This is to purchase a stand-up desk per a letter of medical necessity. There is a motion and a second to approve, any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? All Opposed same sign? Alright small transfer passes.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Prosecutor - Gary Germann

Prosecutor General Fund - 1000-000-0009

Form 144 Title change from Victim Assistant to Case Manager.

Reason: Asking for a title change only the salaries will be the same. Prioritizing the employee structure to our current office needs.

Mr. Rivas, Prosecutor Gary Germann.

Ms. Graham, Did they ever get the microphone working with your talk show on the radio?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Oh yes we did it Monday...yes finally.

Mr. Jessen, I was trying to get into that too.

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, You were one of two people that actually listened to it.

Mr. Jessen, I think there were actually about six I think.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Oh really (inaudible)

Ms. Graham, I did listen.

Mr. Rivas, So we gave a general fund Form 144 Title change from Victim Assistant to Case Manager. The reason they are asking for a title change only the salaries will be the same. Prioritizing the employee structure to our current office needs.

Ms. Graham, Move to approve.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion to approve the Form 144 change.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion and a second any discussion?

Ms. Graham, I was just going to say it basically is a title change from what I understand.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Yes that's correct.

Ms. Graham, It's not a new position or anything?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, It's not a new position.

Mr. Jessen, And the job description has not changed?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, What we are doing is we are eliminating a Victim Advocate position in Portage and creating a New Court Manger in Valparaiso...it's what we really need.

Mr. Jessen, But the job description for that person is that the same as...

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Yes the job description for that will not change.

Mr. Jessen, Ok.

Mr. Poparad, So you are eliminating the Victims Assistant from your line item? You won't have that position?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Well that position no it's Court Manager we are changing the title.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Yes?

Mr. Whitten, So Gary I guess I have a follow-up to our earlier conversation, because I want the Council to hear and I talk to Jeremy a little bit about it. Not necessarily along the vain of this, but I've been privy to some of the exchanges of letters and emails and I want to make sure that I am not misunderstanding you on this. So you had an employee that was leaving your office to go to Judge Drenth's court?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Correct.

Mr. Whitten, And I don't know if there was ever a question about transferring longevity because we've always done that we've been kind enough if someone leaves one department and goes to another the take their accrued longevity and their accrued vacation with them. So that's always been sort of seamless, but I'm a little troubled or at least concerned that it seems that from the most recent exchanges, do we have an employee that is wanting you to pay out four (4) weeks of vacation for the year, but then is going over to Judge Drenth's and immediately getting another four (4) weeks? Is that what we are dealing with here?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, That is my...

Mr. Whitten, That is not your problem but maybe it is...

Prosecutor Gary Germann, That is my understanding, so yes we're aware of the potential buyout possibility.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, So we've taken some steps to potentially reduce the County liability if you will...The money is in our budget, but we're trying to fill that position as soon as possible as you know. So potentially yes.

Mr. Whitten, So I guess I have two concerns and one of them you have addressed it sounds like, which I appreciate and the other is how does this work in your budget by having your employee asked to be bought out as if she had left...As if she had left the County employment asking for a buyout. Which this is a problem for your budget because you have to find the money. But on the other side of that of course I have a concern that we have an employee that for all intents and purposes is getting eight (8) weeks of vacation on the taxpayer's backs and I want to make sure that's not the case but it sounds like maybe that is the case.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, I think it depends on what happens once her new position starts. So the way it works is that we've budgeted this position in our budget as you know there is a line item for that specific Court Manger.

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, So for sure there would be two (2) weeks where that position has been unfilled. So the County has not paid anyone so that money theoretically is still in the General fund.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, So there is two weeks right there. So if you had to write a check it would be as if she were there but she is not. So that brings us to your question and that I don't know the answer to other than that's possible.

Mr. Rivas, But you wanted to hire somebody immediately but now this hampers that, your ability to hire somebody?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Well yes.

Mr. Rivas, You have to find other funds.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Well what we would do Councilman Rivas is we would wait another two (2) weeks and not start that person until July 20th, 2020 my preference is July 6th, 2020 and we work with the Auditor with our payroll every two weeks as well. So we have to stagger to be consistent with that, so our start date right now is July 6th, 2020. We would have been two weeks without a Court Manager already and if necessary to compensate for our four (4) weeks we would go without a Court Manager for two (2) more.

Mr. Whitten, That addresses your budgetary issue but it does not address my question I suppose that for all intents and purposes we have an employee that could potentially get eight (8) weeks of vacation pay for the year.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Yes so that's up to the lawyers.

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Mr. Poparad, Aren't you a lawyer?

(Laughter)

Mr. Whitten, He's not that kind of lawyer.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Not that kind of lawyer...thankfully.

Mr. Poparad, So I guess I'm down here on the end a little muddy here...so we've got somebody...did she quit your office?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Yes she left and went to Judge Drenth's.

Mr. Poparad, Well no I don't care where she went. She quit and she is entitled to four (4) weeks which we all agree with right? So she's going to walk across the hall and I'm going to echo what Mr. Whitten said...so she walks across the hall to go to work for the Judge and he gives her four (4) weeks of vacation?

Mr. Rivas, Well he has that right I believe.

Ms. Graham, How could that be?

Mr. Jessen, This has got to be addressed in the employee handbook somewhere right?

Mr. Whitten, Well here is the problem...

Mr. Rivas, Yes here is where it gets cloudy.

Mr. Whitten, It's as clear as mud. So I think that Judge Drenth and we probably need to ask him I wish he would have stuck around but he has taken the position it seems from the letter that he retained/got from downstate that it's up to him. Because he is a state employee so therefore it's a quasi-State office etcetera...etcetera.

Mr. Jessen, So therefore he could grant twelve (12) weeks is that what we are saying?

Mr. Whitten, So I think that would be a problem for him because we pass his budgets, so if he wanted a budget higher than what we were to approve for example I believe he would have to get a mandate and I don't think that fits into the mandate string of cases. But what he's got with the letter that he got from...and we probably need to get our own legal opinion, but he got a letter that said vacations are up to him. But now here the thing though we pass the budget. So if there is not enough money in there then in theory he could give someone twelve (12) weeks of vacation but then he is short staffed. But the problem here is here is the oddity, I have a real problem with someone working for the county literally saying thank you for letting me bridge my longevity as you have always done for county employees because you're an

understanding County Council. Now I want an extra four (4) weeks of vacation because I can.

Ms. Graham, That is just not fair.

Mr. Whitten, And I guess that's a problem for me, because it just doesn't seem right. It just seems like that's being excessive. It's taxpayer money.

Mr. Poparad, Who does she work for?

Mr. Whitten, Judge Drenth.

Mr. Poparad, No the County or the State? Because the always throw that back in our face if they are State employees.

Mr. Whitten, No I think she works for the County. But...

Mr. Poparad, Well according to that letter.

Ms. Graham, Doesn't the County have control?

Mr. Jessen, What letter? I have yet to see the letter.

Mr. Rivas, There was an opinion letter that was sent out the day before.

Mr. Whitten, So here is what I think we should do, I think we should instruct our Attorney Harold Harper and the County Attorney Scott McClure to reach out to the attorney that Judge Drenth receive his letter from and reach out to Judge Drenth and get some clarification on this. I want to know what this employee is really getting, do we really have a county employee that's getting eight (8) weeks of vacation for one year? I want to know that.

Ms. Graham, Shall we withdraw?

Mr. Whitten, That's problematic to me, whether it can be done or what should be done maybe two (2) separate things. But I don't think it should be done.

Mr. Poparad, But I have to echo what Mike says, if he said she is entitled to ten (10) weeks?

Mr. Whitten, Yes but again you have to understand they have their Judges manual...

Mr. Poparad, Yes I understand the whole thing it's a concept

Mr. Whitten, They don't go into the county employee manual the Judges have their own Judicial manuals that they have done, which is within their ability to do so. So I suppose that if they wanted to have somebody to have ten (10) weeks of vacation, they could but they haven't done that because it just wouldn't be fair. But then they are stuck with short-staffed and they don't have money to pay somebody to sit there in their stead because they would have to come to us for the budget for the funds. So it's short-staffing themselves...

Mr. Poparad, I guess it's the concept that bothers me more than the...

Ms. Graham, It just isn't fair.

Mr. Jessen, Other than the Judges, do we have any other departments that can arbitrarily grant how many vacations weeks the want?

Mr. Whitten, I don't think so...I don't think so.

Ms. Graham, They have to follow the employee manual.

Mr. Jessen, That's what it should be there for.

Mr. Whitten, So I would suggest that everybody get a copy of the letter that Judge Drenth sent to our Attorney and County Attorney. I suggest that you all take a look at it. I would ask that our Attorney give us an opinion on what we should and shouldn't, or can and cannot do. Not that I want to tune this into...I don't want to go to war with anybody, it doesn't have to be acrimonious. It just seems to me an absurd outcome for somebody to get eight (8) weeks of vacation, if that's what's happening. I want clarification on that and obviously Gary wouldn't have it because she's not his employee anymore.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Right.

Mr. Whitten, She sent him a letter apparently or sent the county a letter that said I'm done here pay me out my vacation.

Mr. Jessen, And was it a transfer or was it a termination?

Mr. Whitten, Well she quit.

Mr. Rivas, She quit, it was determined...

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Initially my view of it when I checked with the Auditor Office, I really wanted to protect her longevity, so to me it was a transfer. So when we filled out our status change instead of me terminating her I filled out the transfer form and so I got a letter saying that in effect she resigned. So now where in what happens to those for weeks of vacation?

Mr. Rivas, If she resigns we have to pay out.

Mr. Poparad, Yes she is entitled.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, So I'm kind of in the middle, you know we'll do whatever the lawyers say about how to handle that four (4) weeks of vacation.

Mr. Rivas, Vicki have you paid anything out yet?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, No

Mr. Poparad, What's HR saying? Don't we have an HR department?

Ms. Graham, Yes we do.

Mr. Rivas, I don't know, I haven't...so there is two problems because not it's a Case Manger that's your Court Manager and that's not an important position for you?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, That's hugely important.

Mr. Rivas, So your left a month without a Court Manger.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, And you have to pay...

Prosecutor Gary Germann, And kind of a good thing is that we are right now not able to have any jury trials because of the Indiana Supreme Court Order. So we're getting back up but it's not like we are really under the gun right now and because of the inability to actually hold Court hearings we are just now getting started as well. So in another month that's when we are really going to feel how super busy we are going to be.

Mr. Whitten, I just feel like the County Council and to some degree the Commissioners have always been very accommodating with respect to the transfer of employees. We've always allowed them to carry longevity over, carry vacation, we've

been very accommodating in that regard even during this COVID we have been very accommodating to our employees. And it just feels to me that if somebody is going to be transferred and then they decide that they are going to resign because they want the extra four (4) weeks of vacation so that they can get eight (8), if that's what happened I'd like to know that because that really changes my view. I have to tell you that really changes my view on things.

Mr. Poparad, Well technically is she a new employees? If she quit and hired into the Judges office...

Ms. Graham, Well you signed for the transfer.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Yes I did the status change that we always send over to the Auditor.

Mr. Jessen, We are obviously at a disadvantage, because we don't have HR here and the Commissioner's office is not here unfortunately and Judge Drenth left.

Ms. Graham, Should we table this?

Mr. Poparad, We're taking no action.

Mr. Whitten, Well no there is nothing to table this is different.

Mr. Jessen, Well no this is separate from that.

Mr. Rivas, Yes.

Mr. Jessen, It would be hard to believe that someone can effectively...

Ms. Graham, Maneuver.

Mr. Jessen, Let's call it transfer/quit but then essentially rehire, because if you quit or if you get terminated and if you still want to work for the County it's a rehire and to think that someone could on the way out get paid for all their vacation time and so forth and then all of the sudden start with another position and get four (4) more weeks that seems ludicrous to me.

Ms. Graham, And accumulate four (4) more weeks.

Mr. Rivas, So that's a good question.

Mr. Whitten, So we need to look at longevity issues and all of that stuff. So I guess Mr. Chairman I would like to ask the Auditor to not pay out the vacation until we figure out the status of this employee and what the obligation is.

Mr. Rivas, So is that a form of a motion or is that just a directive and we don't need a motion for that?

Mr. Whitten, I don't think we need a motion I'm just asking. Do you have a problem with that Vicki?

Mr. Rivas, To not pay anything out to that employee?

Mr. Whitten, Don't payout the vacation yet till we figure out exactly what the status of this whole thing is. Does that so ok?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, That sounds fine with me we have to close payroll tomorrow and we just received the notice that she resigned today. So it would have been very difficult for us to pay it out tomorrow.

Ms. Graham, Well we are telling you don't.

Mr. Rivas, Well we are going to discuss this next meeting and we're going to have the Commissioners here, will have HR here and we've got a lot more questions so it's not going to be the next couple of payrolls.

Mr. Whitten, And we'll have our lawyer here presumable and by the way our lawyer was quarantined for fourteen (14) days. He was quarantined so he was unable to come which is ok, when someone is being quarantined they don't need to come.

Mr. Poparad, She's not missing any pay correct?

Mr. Whitten, No.

Mr. Poparad, So she's not...so it's not like we are hurting her she's just not getting paid her vacation. Ok.

Mr. Jessen, I'd also...if you look at it from a compensation standpoint, we do have involvement with her pay is that fair to say?

Mr. Whitten, Yes that is correct.

Mr. Jessen, And we can also say that vacation should be part of compensation. So if...I would want to know if we can arbitrarily or the Judges can arbitrarily say this person will get four (4), eight (8) or twelve (12) weeks of vacation, we should know that because that should therefore also affect compensation as part of their pay as a part of total compensation. I mean that just seems really strange to me.

Mr. Whitten, Odd but true. So yes I'd like to have a lot more information on this.

Mr. Rivas, Yes Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Not to muddy the waters, but after this pay we're going to be processing longevity and the longevity policy is your policy so do I take it to mean that we should hold off on processing longevity? Or proceed with longevity for this particular employee?

Ms. Graham, Well that brings up a good point, longevity.

Mr. Poparad, Part of longevity is paid by the casino boat money.

Ms. Graham, Right.

Mr. Rivas, That's correct.

Mr. Whitten, Yes which is dwindling.

Mr. Poparad, That well has gone dry.

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Ms. Graham, Right.

Mr. Poparad, Do we have enough money for the first payment.

Mr. Whitten, Where do you propose that we make that first draw from?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, The LIT budget.

Mr. Poparad, Do we have enough for the first payment?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, So we all understand that...so everybody understands that longevity is extra and we always used to take it out of the riverboat casino money

because there was adequate money there to pay it. We hit the casino money a bit with the drug taskforce that hit it pretty good. But it's important, so that put a strain on the casino money and it's become less and less flourishing obviously so we've been pushing more and more to alternate funds such as LIT, but it's extra.

Mr. Poparad, We may have to decide what more important the drug task force or the second half of longevity come later in the year.

Mr. Rivas, Well we are going to have to find another source of revenue to pay it.

Mr. Poparad, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, Well it's certainly going to be a pretty huge discussion I would suspect this year during budget time as to how we are going to do next years...how we are going to attack it.

Ms. Graham, That is exactly right.

Mr. Whitten, Where do we propose to take it from. So the Auditor is asking us about the longevity pay for this. So had she earned her longevity with the Prosecutor's Office?

Ms. Graham, Yes we don't want to double that up.

Mr. Whitten, I don't want to double dip here.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, According to the longevity policy we paid it out if they are an active employee as of June 30th.

Mr. Poparad, She quit.

Ms. Graham, She did quit.

Mr. Rivas, So is she on the payroll for the Judge right now?

Mr. Whitten, Yes but she is new.

Mr. Rivas, Is she on the payroll for the Judge right now?

Mr. Whitten, Yes but she quit.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Effective Monday...yes.

Mr. Whitten, She quit and she is new...she quit.

Mr. Rivas, Has her time been bridged? Has he sent anything over...the Judge to say what his wishes are?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, No...no not yet.

Mr. Poparad, I think that what's that letter is about.

Mr. Whitten, Yes. I think you should hold off on that too.

Ms. Graham, Everything.

Mr. Whitten, I think until we get a better understanding of the legal...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I do want to clarify that the Judge did submit a status change last week as the Prosecutor did, so I didn't want to make it sound like he didn't submit anything. But we were not told that there would be any bridging of the restoration of the benefits.

Mr. Rivas, You haven't been told?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yet anyway.

Mr. Rivas, So you guys...the wishes of the council is to hold off on longevity till a month?

Mr. Whitten, Well Mr. Chairman what do you think, you have the gavel?

Mr. Rivas, Well I'm asking you guys. There are seven of us.

Mr. Whitten, I know but you are the guy in the middle.

Mr. Rivas, Six we are missing one. I mean this puts everything off for a month.

Ms. Graham, From what I am hearing, you are saying that she quit is that right?

Mr. Rivas, She quit, yes the Prosecutor's office.

Mr. Poparad, To get her vacation paid out.

Ms. Graham, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, We have got to sort this out...we've got to sort this out guys so I just have to understand what her status is. I understand that the Judge has some authority to establish benefits and things like that and how he wants to treat longevity. I just think that we need to have...I want a better understanding of this. I want a better picture of what we can and cannot do and what we should and shouldn't do. So I say to hold serve here till we figure that out.

Mr. Rivas, Alright would we need a motion to hold off of longevity for a month?

Mr. Whitten, I think so.

Mr. Rivas, Are you guys ok with that then? Hold off on everything on paying out what she's owed...

Mr. Jessen, Hold off on longevity for everybody or just this employee?

Ms. Graham, This employee.

Mr. Rivas, Can we just carve one person out then? This person too? Are you talking about holding off?

Mr. Whitten, What do you think Mike? What are you suggesting?

Mr. Jessen, I think for this one person where we are trying to figure out what the total compensation is...and that's longevity, that's vacation and whether they quit or resigned or whatever that circumstance was, I think we need to figure that out.

Mr. Whitten, Quitting is usually the same as resigning just to clarify.

Ms. Graham, This letter says please accept my resignation...

Mr. Jessen, I'd like to know specifically what it says and then what the condition was on the rehire or transfer...was it a transfer or a rehire? I mean who knows so...but I also wouldn't say that we hold off on everybody else's longevity based on the one employee.

Mr. Rivas, Vicki are you able to carve this individual out then on any payment including longevity? I mean obviously not...

Mr. Whitten, Not payroll.

Mr. Rivas, Not payroll...yes she's been hired by the Judge, but any vacation that's owed and longevity at this point and time? Because we're not clear even if her time has been bridged.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Correct...yes we can.

Mr. Rivas, Alright.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I don't know if legally what the answer is but yes we can move this to a later payroll. That's not a problem.

Mr. Rivas, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, Any thoughts on that Gary?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Well I guess I just want to make it clear because I've read the handbook and the language that's in the handbook so that when you begin to analyze this I want to make it clear that I did not terminate her. So she was not terminated by me.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Mr. Rivas, No you put transfer in there right?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Because I put transfer and then I got the letter of resignation. So those words are words of art in the handbook.

Mr. Rivas, Ok.

Mr. Jessen, I'm not quite sure why someone would expect to get paid out their vacation time if they are simply transferring to another department. Or how much vacation would they expect going forward?

Mr. Rivas, Were they...

Mr. Jessen, Zero?

Mr. Whitten, I don't think so.

Mr. Simms, It's their interpretation of the handbook.

Mr. Rivas, I don't know.

Mr. Simms, It's going to come down to that just like the constitution, who's going to interpret it and who has the oversight to put the hammer down.

Mr. Rivas, Is there a hole that someone tried to jump through?

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, No not you sir...but you do have a motion and a second on the floor don't you for the Form 144?

Prosecutor Gary Germann, I think so...yes just to change the names.

Mr. Rivas, Just to change. Can we get a vote on the Form 144 change?

Mr. Jessen, Name change only.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Name change only.

Mr. Rivas, Name change only, if there is no more discussion on this Form 144? Let's get a roll call Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----|
| Ms. Graham | - | Yes |
| Mr. Jessen | - | Yes |
| Mr. Poparad | - | Yes |
| Mr. Simms | - | Yes |
| Mr. Whitten | - | Yes |
| Mr. Rivas | - | Yes |

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 6 – 0

Mr. Rivas, Well...

Mr. Whitten, This ought be a stitch, I just think that we need some more information and get back to this. So Vicki you are clear on this or do you want us to take a vote on that or are you ok with us saying it?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I think the discussion is pretty clear.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Mr. Rivas, Ok

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Unless if you want to take a vote that's up to you.

Mr. Rivas, Well I think nobody is up here and it's pretty clear...the directive's clear to hold off.

Mr. Jessen, And we need HR to weigh in and our Attorney to weigh in.

Ms. Graham, Definitely.

Mr. Whitten, County Attorney.

Mr. Rivas, County Attorney

Mr. Jessen, County Attorney to weigh in.

Ms. Graham, And you said HR.

Mr. Rivas, This is definitely an interesting one...

Ms. Graham, Because of the first sentence she resigned.

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Am I free to go?

Mr. Rivas, You are.

(Laughter)

Prosecutor Gary Germann, Thank you very much.

Mr. Jessen, Thanks Gary have a good evening.

Ms. Graham, Thank you.

Development & Storm Water Management – Director Robert Thompson

Storm Water Fund - 1182-000-0079

Additional \$20,000 to 39200 Disposal. Reason: To cover disposal services for house demolition at 207 and 208 State Street.

Additional \$750,000 to 39500 Contractual Services. Reason: To cover drainage improvement projects for the remainder of the year.

Additional \$30,000 to 44300 Other Mobile Equipment. Reason: To purchase off-road vehicle and boat for better access to aquatic/off-road areas.

Mr. Rivas, Stormwater. That was fun.

Mr. Whitten, That was fun.

Mr. Rivas, We will have to continue that discussion next month.

Mr. Whitten, I'm going to make a motion on all three of these Stormwater additional.

Mr. Rivas, There is an additional \$20,000 dollars to disposal; \$750,000 dollars to Contractual Services and \$30,000 dollars to Other Mobile Equipment.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, There is a motion and a second to all three additional, is there any discussion? I'm interested in the purchase of off-road vehicle and boat for better access to aquatic off-road areas.

Ms. Graham, What kind of a boat are you getting?

Mr. Rivas, Jet-ski?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Not a jet-ski we are actually looking at fan boats so that we would have access to the river as well as shallow areas like wetlands and tributaries ditches to the Kankakee.

Mr. Rivas, You don't think that the kayak would be sufficient enough?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Well we might by a kayak as well to allow us to get to some of the streams and rivers as well.

Mr. Whitten, You were just kidding weren't you?

Mr. Rivas, I was just kidding. Is there going to be enough money in there?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Kayak's are cheap.

Mr. Simms, What is the other vehicle that they have at the Wildlife Preserve? An Argo or something?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, That's what we are looking at buying is an Argo it gives us the capability to float and get through wetland areas as well.

Ms. Graham, That's great.

Mr. Whitten, So we were fixing a bunch of culverts. So how are we doing on that? How many do we have left to do? How many have we done do you know?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Yes, we are at about 200 culverts replaced over the last few years and our highway department has pretty much taken over the lead on that.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Using the Stormwater funds to buy the culverts, identifying the which ones need replacing based on the interns assessment we did a few summers ago.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, And going down that list. Now we had some big storm events where we have had to turn our attention to ones that got blown out or washed out as a result for those storm events, but we are right around that 200 mark I believe.

Mr. Whitten, Do you know how many were identified to begin with?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, We are about half way through we had about 400 identified for in need of replacement.

Mr. Rivas, So it says off-road vehicle and boat?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Correct.

Mr. Rivas, I think maybe you should to Mr. Poparad down at the end he might have some.

Mr. Poparad, No, no, no.

Mr. Whitten, He's got an off-road vehicle that is a boat.

Mr. Poparad, I actually have two of those Argo's too.

Mr. Whitten, I mean in a pinch you could use his duck.

Mr. Poparad, No it doesn't do good in mud, to heavy.

Mr. Rivas, Alright is there any further discussion?

Mr. Poparad, Are you going to get tracks for it?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Tracks?

Mr. Poparad, Are you going to get tracks for the Argo?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Do you think we should get tracks?

Mr. Poparad, Yes.

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Ok we will look at that.

Mr. Whitten, This is finally something that Poparad gets excited about.

(Laughter)

Mr. Jessen, I have a question on the house demolition on 207 and 208, those are the Wheeler houses?

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Yes those are in Wheeler.

Ms. Graham, Did you see this?

Mr. Jessen, Do you have a list of other houses that are on your list of potential demolitions and that sort of thing?

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, Those done in Wheeler were done through Stormwater because I've got a Stormwater project going in South Wheeler.

Mr. Jessen, Right.

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, The other list that we have is through the unsafe building hearing officer and we do have a list going.

Mr. Whitten, Now these two they are not occupied at this time.

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, No in fact they are torn down already, these were repetitive flood prone repetitive flood loss properties that we bought and got them out of harms/floods way.

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, They were agreeable sellers.

Storm Water Management Engineer Mike Novotney, Correct.

Mr. Jessen, How robust is that list of houses to be torn down for safety or blighted or whatever you call it?

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, We are adding to them...

Mr. Poparad, These homes were taken down it's cheaper than buying the land for a drainage pond.

Mr. Jessen, No I understand that.

Mr. Poparad, You're blending the unsafe house and...

Mr. Jessen, I'm asking separately about the unsafe house.

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, He's asking about the unsafe buildings.

Mr. Poparad, Yes the unsafe buildings.

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, We have the hearing officer has been pushed back and everything like that. I don't think we are going to have the hearing officer going on until probably August, in that case we are going to be revisiting I think four orders or continued orders that they have. Plus I think I have added a couple of houses. The fund is doing ok, I'm not going to say we are going to go hog wild onto it because it does cost us money and everything like that because of the teardown. We are using the Highway Department where we can and this money is a matter of fact we are paying for Wheeler is for the Highway department's costs they have with the dumpsters and stuff like that, so we are using them to save costs and everything like that. But it's probably but I haven't seen the list recently but I know that I've added a couple recently on my bike rides going around the county and telling Kristy to add a couple of more.

Mr. Jessen, So it's still very active and the list and we're attacking them?

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, It is, but I mean we haven't been able to aggressively go after them because of the fact that our last hearing officer meeting I believe was in February.

Mr. Jessen, Ok.

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, But because of the notification procedures and everything like that and what's been going on I don't think we are going to have one till August now.

Mr. Jessen, Ok thanks for the update.

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, Sure.

Mr. Rivas, Alright you good Mike?

Mr. Jessen, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, Any further questions? Alright there is a motion and a second, can we get a rollcall on the three additional?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----|
| Mr. Jessen | - | Yes |
| Mr. Poparad | - | Yes |
| Mr. Simms | - | Yes |
| Mr. Whitten | - | Yes |
| Mr. Rivas | - | Yes |
| Ms. Graham | - | Yes |

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 6 – 0

Mr. Rivas, Thank you.

Storm Water Management Director Bob Thompson, Thank you very much.

Porter County Sheriff and Jail – Sheriff David Reynolds

Sheriff

Drug Task Force (PC Meg) - 4010-000-0005

Additional \$4,800 to 12400 Per Diem. Reason: To cover increase in per diem from 2019 additional PCMeg Member.

Sheriff DEA Proceeds (Edward Byrne) - 8118-000-0005

Additional \$47,773 to 22200 Uniforms and Clothing. Reason: To cover replacement of Body Armor 43 officers.

Jail

Jail 1217 General Fund - 1000-000-9601

Transfer \$20,000 from 22300 Food and Groceries to 22500 Other Supplies. Reason: To cover expenses incurred related to COVID-19.

Mr. Rivas, Drug Task Force we have an additional of \$4,800 to 12400 Per Diem the reason to cover increase in per diem from 2019 additional PCMeg Member. There is one additional and there is another additional out of the Sheriff DEA Proceeds additional \$47,773 to 22200 Uniform and Clothing...

Mr. Whitten, I'm going to make a motion on the two Sheriff additional and the Jail transfer.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Rivas, For the replacement of the Body Armor. And the transfer is \$20,000 dollars to Other Supplies to cover expenses incurred related to COVID. So what's the COVID related for \$20,000 dollars for sheriff?

Mr. Whitten, There is a pandemic out there called COVID-19. It was originally the Corona virus but they changed it because people got confused with the beer.

Mr. Rivas, You mean the Sheriff?

(Laughter)

Mr. Poparad, Are you running for Sheriff Dan?

Mr. Rivas, You making an announcement?

Mr. Whitten, No. Can you let the Sheriff finished?

Sheriff David Reynolds, I forgot what the question was. That \$20,000 is what you already approved for the lights that we took out. What are doing is we took that \$20,000 dollars back so we can put it in Other Supplies which is like our Tasers and things that we buy in the jail and that. So were just kind of moving that money back.

Mr. Rivas, Got you.

Mr. Poparad, Did we have...because there was conversation about getting reimbursed for them UV lights?

Sheriff David Reynolds, Yes.

Mr. Poparad, We did?

Sheriff David Reynolds, Yes through the Cares Act so we should get seventy-five (75%) percent back.

Mr. Poparad, Ok good.

Sheriff David Reynolds, That was mainly for the lights and for the tests that we used.

Ms. Graham, How is it now at the jail?

Sheriff David Reynolds, We're infection free right now.

Ms. Graham, Wow excellent.

Mr. Simms, Did you get that new equipment in yet?

Sheriff David Reynolds, We got one light but not the big lights. It works.

Mr. Simms, Ok that's good.

Sheriff David Reynolds, We'll let you come on over to see it. But you don't want to look at it, it will burn your eyes out.

Mr. Rivas, Alright are there any further questions on the two additional and the transfer?

Mr. Poparad, Do you need a motion?

Mr. Rivas, Dan made the motion I think and Sylvia seconded it.

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, Well the body armor...I asked you earlier and you said this is for the Jailers?

Sheriff David Reynolds, No you guys approved that, this is monies that I am taking out of Forfeiture by statue the fiscal body is supposed to pay for it. But I am trying to help you out a little bit here.

Ms. Graham, You are being a good guy.

Sheriff David Reynolds, So this is for the Patrol guys.

Mr. Rivas, I know you did a large purchase a couple of years ago...

Sheriff David Reynolds, Five years ago.

Mr. Rivas, Was it five?

Sheriff David Reynolds, They bought them all. We are kind of in a situation we can't get out of because once we bought all of them five years ago...

Mr. Poparad, They all come due.

Sheriff David Reynolds, In five years we have to buy some more of them, so we're going to try to spread it out a little bit so down the road we are not in the same situation. But these vests are expired.

Mr. Whitten, Wow.

Ms. Graham, Time flies.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, Alright perfect. Anything else? Can we get a roll call on the two additional and the transfer?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----|
| Mr. Poparad | - | Yes |
| Mr. Simms | - | Yes |
| Mr. Whitten | - | Yes |
| Mr. Rivas | - | Yes |
| Ms. Graham | - | Yes |
| Mr. Jessen | - | Yes |

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 6 – 0

Mr. Rivas, Sheriff real quick the body cams that we purchased a couple of years ago, what's the replacement on those?

Sheriff David Reynolds, Well the last one since you brought it up, when it comes up again it's basically now it's a \$60,000 dollar maintenance agreement. After the third year we get all new cameras and that's part of it and then it also covers the storage.

Mr. Rivas, And where are we at? Probably the third year?

Sheriff David Reynolds, Next year coming up. We paid for the first \$60,000 dollars but what's going on with all this police reform with the 21st century policing and all the things that the Federal Government is doing and everybody is making moves on. One of the things that you are going to see is they are going to be mandating body cameras and car cameras for law enforcement and we advocate that. We think they should.

Mr. Whitten, Other than you guys Portage doesn't have them.

Sheriff David Reynolds, No. Actually nobody has got body cameras and car cameras. Some have car cameras. Portage has none, I think they want them now.

Mr. Whitten, They do.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Valpo has got car cameras but they are looking at going with body cameras too. If you ever had an opportunity to come over and see our system it's remarkable. I mean I don't know how more transparent you can be...

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Every contact we have with the public is being recorded so I think a large part of the reason we don't have problems is because part of it is that. It's for the officers safety and it's for the public's safety too.

Mr. Poparad, Is storage an issue isn't it?

Sheriff David Reynolds, No the system we've got we worked it out when we bought it. With this system the storage is incorporated in what we are paying.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Sheriff David Reynolds, I mean it's expensive but...

Mr. Poparad, Yes.

Sheriff David Reynolds, But if you think about it and you know you guys have made large purchase over the years on other things, storm water...

Ms. Graham, Right.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Anything involving technology you are going to be paying thirty (30%) percent...and Mike you are going to be seeing that in Valpo. You are going to be paying thirty (30%) percent a year on maintenance agreements whatever you buy. So when we looked at this we thought it was consistent with the system itself is \$500,000 dollars so if you're spending \$60,000 dollars a year to maintain a half of a million dollar system that's not too bad. But we did our due diligence.

Mr. Whitten, And there is probably no ability for all the departments in the county to sort of get on one.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Oh no...well if we went in the same system. We are on the same system with Valpo.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Sheriff David Reynolds, So if we sign an agreement which we did with Chief Balon we can share that information.

Mr. Whitten, I was just wondering if we had more of the departments in a pooled system if it would be cheaper?

Sheriff David Reynolds, Cheaper? I don't know.

Mr. Whitten, Ok I was just curious.

Sheriff David Reynolds, I will say if I have a second, we went through the system. Motorola put on a system presentation last week on stationary cameras. We've got LPR's now two of them with part of this deal which is license plates readers. So we are going through testing out two and there is only two in Indiana and we have them. But we are looking at stationary cameras in the county on a pole. They are \$2,200 dollars apiece. Thirty dollars will be a jet pack so now the technology advanced where you can...we can monitor those cameras. So you put

them in high volume intersections from like Route 6 and Portage is on board with this and obviously looking for the money but if we put ten (10) in the county for about \$20,000 dollars and then you are paying about \$300 dollars a month for the cameras, then you have access to it.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Even from a standpoint of they are not here but the Highway Department could...can you imagine at 2:00 a.m. in the morning you wake up and you want to find out what the roads are you just turn on your computer and you could see. We could put one up on 520 and Hwy 20. But our goal is to try to put cameras and circle our county. I mean it's not like big brother watching it's better for protection for public safety.

Mr. Rivas, At main entrance points leading into the county?

Sheriff David Reynolds, That's what we are looking at. I mean the main accidents in our county in on Route 6 from County line all the way down that's where all our accidents are. So it would be nice to be able to monitor that too.

Mr. Rivas, Sure. So are you in discussion right now?

Sheriff David Reynolds, Right we're looking at monies and we're going to come back and ask you for just \$20,000 dollars.

Mr. Rivas, Just \$20,000 dollars here \$50,000 dollars there.

Mr. Jessen, Dave I'd like to just say real quickly to kind of express my appreciation for the work that the Sheriff's Department has done in working with other Municipalities, in light of the difficulties with rallies, demonstrations and so forth. You helped the city of Valparaiso out significantly with Sergeant Steve Kobitz as well and that collaborative cooperative spirit says a lot, and speaks to the quality of the department and so I express my appreciation.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Well thanks it's easy to working with both of those Chiefs. And I will say that I can't say enough about what happened in the last three months and what has happened in our Jail, I mean those guys had hazmat suits on for two weeks. I know a lot of other departments were under stress, but nothing like these jailers were. They walked in there every day with the unknown of if they are going to be sick. Because it took us about a month to figure out what was going on, you know how did we get this and as it turned out it wasn't even a person who was arrested.

Mr. Jessen, Right.

Sheriff David Reynolds, It wasn't a person in the jail it was a cook that brought it in and she was gone before we knew and then...

Mr. Whitten, That's like the last person you want to have brought that in, the person that is cooking all the food.

Sheriff David Reynolds, It was bad and the ones that were asymptomatic ended up testing positive and at the beginning they were all asymptomatic.

Mr. Jessen, Right.

Ms. Graham, That's happened in other places.

Sheriff David Reynolds, Which really posed a problem for us.

Mr. Rivas, Well we better let the Sheriff go he is costing us money and that was not even on the agenda.

(Laughter)

Sheriff David Reynolds, That will be next month, alright thank you.

Mr. Rivas, Thank you.

Parks and Recreation – Superintendent Walter Lenckos

Parks General Fund - 1000-000-0803

Transfer \$2,500 from 34200 Building/Liability/Compensation to 35100 Power
and Sewer \$2,000 from 34200 Building/Liability/Compensation to 35200 Water

Reason: For increased costs for new building.

Parks Operating Fund - 1179-000-0803

Transfer \$897.31 from 39800 Event Expenses to 45100 Data Processing Equip.
\$2,000 from 39800 Event Expenses to 31300 Training and Education

Reason: COVID related training and supplies.

Mr. Rivas, Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Whitten, I make the motion on the transfers.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, We have a couple transfers in front of us for Parks General fund \$2,500 from Building/ Liability/Compensation to Power. \$2,000 from Building/ Liability/Compensation to Water and Sewer for the increased costs for the new building. The other transfers are from Parks Operating fund \$897.31 from Event Expenses to Data Processing Equipment. \$2,000 from Event Expenses to Training and Education for COVID related training and supplies are the reason for the two. Motion and a second, any further discussion?

Mr. Jessen, Now Walter I have a question on the first transfer with the power and water and sewer?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Yes?

Mr. Jessen, Those transfers are those all specifically related to the new building?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, That's the main driver, but all of our buildings are getting more expensive as they age. The rates have gone up, our buildings are being used much more. Every single year our attendance has increasing, and so if I remember correctly we haven't increase our utility line items in several years.

Mr. Jessen, Do these transfers take you through what you need for the remainder of the year?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, I don't know if in the foreseeable future they aren't, my understanding is that the Park Board wanted to do a little bit more of a measured progression. In other words get what you need for this next quarter and make sure that's good, let's see where you are at for the next quarter and if we need to do a transfer we will.

Mr. Jessen, Ok. Then on the second transfer with the COVID related expenses...

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Yes?

Mr. Jessen, I assume Parks like all departments are tabulating COVID related costs in an effort to get reimbursed through the Cares Act and all that. Is that all being done?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Yes

Mr. Jessen, I'm looking at you and I'm looking at Vicki specifically...so that's all...whatever these COVID related expenses would be on that list?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Correct.

Mr. Rivas, And Vicki do you have a directive? Do all the departments know to get you the information?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes, I hope so...

Mr. Rivas, You hope so?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I sent out an email two weeks ago.

Mr. Rivas, Ok.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Because we were starting to get some questions about what to do and right now we're just tracking the expenses and we just received word a couple of days ago that we are an official participant in this states program for reimbursement. May I just say that Sheriff Reynolds mentioned the reimbursement, I believe that's through the FEMA program...he mentions seventy-five (75%) percent...

Mr. Jessen, Right.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, And we believe that under the Cares Act, the one that we get the direct reimbursement from we'll be able to get that remaining twenty-five (25%) percent covered.

Mr. Jessen, Do you know what our total is at this point? The running total of how much we're set to be reimbursed?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, We have authorization for up to \$5.5 million dollars. But that just authorization it's going to be up to the state to determine.

Mr. Jessen, But do you know what our expenditures are accumulated today?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I don't have that running total yet...no. One of the questions was the Sheriff's if that cost was going to go towards the Cares Act or through the FEMA Cares Act. There's different pots of money that you can apply for. I can get that for you.

Mr. Jessen, I was just curious.

Mr. Rivas, Walter the COVID related training and supplies...

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Yes?

Mr. Rivas, What is that? What's the training of the employees? Is this for the camp coming up?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Yes, so we had (inaudible) even though their wasn't a cost associated with the Health Department. But we did have the Health Department come and do a specific training which they should be acknowledged for, they did an amazing incredible job for us. But then we also hired another trainer to come in to review PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) as part of their first aid training and their CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) training and upgraded that to include all of the different processes and hands cleaning and sanitation and everything else that we'll be doing. In addition to all the supplies that we bought that were specific for the youth programs.

Mr. Rivas, So the Camp is a complete one hundred (100%) percent go?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Yes, we are running at Fifty (50%) percent capacity. Essentially we reduced our number from 120 kids a week to 60 kids, which as soon as we opened it up was filled almost instantaneously. We could have gone a lot higher but this allow us to do a much more effective job of making sure that we were following all the best practices and recommendations and keeping it really simple so far...fingers crossed things have gone really well, parents have been pleased. The staff are incredibly high spirits, they're doing what they are supposed to be doing so I'm...

Mr. Rivas, So did you turn kids away?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Oh yes we had wait lists immediately.

Mr. Rivas, Ok.

Mr. Simms, It's awesome I have been out their twice at the camp, it's cool. It's a lot of fun and smiles and it's a good time.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Yes, anytime anybody wants to stop by.

Mr. Rivas, Alright, did we vote on this?

Mr. Whitten, No.

Mr. Rivas, Alright there is a motion and a second, any further discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? All Opposed same sign? Motion carries.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Rivas, Thank you Walter.

Mr. Jessen, Thanks Walter.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Walter Lenckos, Thank you.

Coroner – Cyndi Dykes

SUID/SDY Grant Fund - 8158-000-0007

Additional \$2,000 to 36300 Equipment other than Vehicles R&M.

\$2,400 to 44400 Furniture/Fixtures over \$100.

Reason: Additional needed for Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) and Sudden Death in the Young (SYD) grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Mr. Rivas, Coroner.

Mr. Whitten, I make the motion on the additional.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Rivas, There is an additional \$2,000 to Equipment other that Vehicles. \$2,400 to Furniture/Fixtures over \$100. Additional needed for Sudden Unexplained Infant Death and Sudden Death in the Young, grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There is a motion and a second for the additional, any discussion?

Mr. Poparad, This is grant money and you have to find a place for it?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Yes it's a reimbursement grant.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, This will come through the CDC.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Yes we just need to find a line for it.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Mr. Rivas, Any other discussion on the additional? Can we get a roll call
Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----|
| Mr. Simms | - | Yes |
| Mr. Whitten | - | Yes |
| Mr. Rivas | - | Yes |
| Ms. Graham | - | Yes |
| Mr. Jessen | - | Yes |
| Mr. Poparad | - | Yes |

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 6 – 0

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Thank you.

Mr. Rivas, Thank you.

Commissioners

General Fund - 1000-000-0068

Transfer \$1,500 from 36300 Equipment other than Vehicles Repair & Maintenance to 39780 Care of Patients and Inmates. Reason: Account does not have enough to cover the inmate care invoices.

Form 144 Up to \$16 to Up to \$22.00 Security Guard Hourly
Reason: Change from up to \$16 to up to \$22 hourly for Security Guard.

Mr. Rivas, Well we have the Commissioners in front of us...well not in front of us but we have their request. I did talk to Scott earlier and he explained to me this \$1,500 from Equipment other than Vehicles Repair & Maintenance to Care of Patients and Inmates. This was a Porter County resident that an autopsy had to be performed in the states. A resident passed away in one of the state facilities and I guess we have to pay for that. He says that rarely ever happens, so that is what that is.

The Security Guard we didn't discuss that I'm going to guess that's for the North County Court but I'm not entirely sure.

Mr. Whitten, So I'm cool with...

Mr. Poparad, Doesn't that fall under the Sheriff then? I thought he was in charge of Court House security?

Mr. Jessen, I don't know that's the Judges isn't it? Wasn't Judge Harper always in charge of that?

Mr. Poparad, No I think it's the Sheriff.

Ms. Graham, I thought the Sheriff too.

Mr. Poparad, Court House security is underneath the Sheriff's Department in somehow and someway.

Mr. Whitten, I'm not sure it's the Court House.

Mr. Rivas, Vicki?

Mr. Whitten, Is it Court House security?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, This deals with security guard that was stationed at the North County Annex on behalf of the Clerks request. You might recall that year the Clerk paid for this additional security guard who is actually an employee of the Commissioners, but at the start of the year the Commissioners took it over. The problem that we have is that the Clerk was paying the higher rate of \$22 dollars but the Commissioners do not have that rate in their salary ordinance.

Mr. Whitten, So here's the thing...just a minute. Here is the deal, this is just me, generally speaking on the small transfer that someone is asking it fine, but I have a real problem approving a form 144 without anybody here to request it. I've explanation from the Auditor and I heard what I think it might be from our Chairman, but nobody is here to tell us. I mean this is not the way it is really supposed to go I don't think so I would like to...for me we have not approved a form 144 without someone here before, so I think we shouldn't start it's a matter of protocol.

Ms. Graham, Should we table it?

Mr. Whitten, I'm ok with the other transfer because I too talked to Scott about that. But I'm not voting on the form 144 without somebody sitting there.

Ms. Graham, So you need a motion?

Mr. Whitten, I make a motion on the \$1,500 dollar transfer.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion and a second on the \$1,500 dollar transfer, any further discussion on that transfer? All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign? Motion carries.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Rivas, There is a Form 144 in front of us.

Mr. Whitten, I move to table that.

Mr. Rivas, Motion to table.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, There is a second, any further discussion on the form 144? All in favor of tabling it signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign?

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Attorney's Report

- Council Attorney Harold Harper – COVID-19 Federal Legislation Act

Mr. Rivas, Attorney's report, did Harold give you anything on it? I know that you talk to him a couple of times recently.

Mr. Whitten, All he did was text me that he was going to get a legal opinion on the question that was raised with respect to bridging an employee's time and the longevity and vacation. He want to clarify that we delayed and haven't actually denied the payment of the time question we are simply delaying it until we get a legal opinion and I said yes.

Mr. Rivas, We are not denying payment we are just delaying it for further clarification.

Mr. Whitten, Right, so he's going to get us a legal opinion on that for our next meeting.

Ms. Graham, Sounds good.

Any other matter that may come properly before the Council

Mr. Rivas, Anything else? I know that Mike and I are going to try to get to Vicki later this week and begin to hash out a budget schedule and try to get that out.

Mr. Whitten, We should try to do that all done in one day.

(Laughter)

Mr. Rivas, So we are going to try and start to get that calendar out and get that information out on that so that is going to be in front of us soon and that will be fun. So anything else any other matters?

Mr. Whitten, We should probably do second reading.

Mr. Rivas, Oh yes we should do second reading.

Second Reading

Mr. Rivas, Second reading Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Whereas it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than what was appropriated in the annual budget. Therefore be it resolved by the Porter County Council of Porter County Indiana that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified subject to the laws governing the same

| |
|------------------|
| Storm Water Fund |
|------------------|

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Storm Water | 1182-39200-000-0079 | Disposal | \$ 20,000.00 |
| Storm Water | 1182-39500-000-0079 | Contractual Services | \$ 750,000.00 |
| Storm Water | 1182-44300-000-0079 | Other Mobile Equipment | <u>\$ 30,000.00</u> |
| | | | \$ 800,000.00 |

| |
|-------------------------|
| PC Drug Task Force Fund |
|-------------------------|

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------|
| PC Drug Task Force | 4010-12400-000-0005 | Per Diem | \$ 4,800.00 |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------|

| |
|---------------------------|
| Sheriff DEA Proceeds Fund |
|---------------------------|

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Sheriff DEA Proceeds | 8118-22200-000-0005 | Uniforms and Clothing | \$ 47,773.00 |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|

| |
|----------------------------|
| 93.946 SUID/SDY Grant Fund |
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| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 93.946 SUID/SDY Grant | 8158-44400-000-0007 | Furniture/Fixtures over \$100 | \$ 2,400.00 |
| 93.946 SUID/SDY Grant | 8158-45400-000-0007 | Other Equipment | <u>\$ 2,000.00</u> |
| | | | \$ 4,400.00 |

That conclude second reading.

Mr. Whitten, Move to approve.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion and a second to approve second reading. Any further discussion? Can we get a roll call?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----|
| Mr. Rivas | - | Yes |
| Ms. Graham | - | Yes |
| Mr. Jessen | - | Yes |
| Mr. Poparad | - | Yes |
| Mr. Simms | - | Yes |
| Mr. Whitten | - | Yes |

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 6 – 0

Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Rivas, Alright I do believe that the Allen matter has been taken off the table for the abatement.

Mr. Whitten, That's what I have come to understand.

Mr. Rivas, They have pulled it off of the table to my understanding. I was going to have them come in front of us but they pulled it off the table.

Mr. Whitten, Everybody have a safe and joyous holiday on July 4th. Don't let your guard down we still have numbers out there with COVID cases so we are not through this fire yet.

Mr. Poparad, I'll make a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, Motion and a second to adjourn. All in favor?

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

**PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA**

Dan Whitten

Jeff Larson

Sylvia Graham

Mike Jessen

Bob Poparad

Jeremy Rivas

Greg Simms

Attest: _____
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor