

**Porter County Council
Budget Meeting – Second Reading
September 26, 2018**

The Porter County Council met on Wednesday, September 26, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Administration Center, 155 Indiana-Suite 205, Valparaiso, Indiana.

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

Members present were Councilmembers Mike Jessen, Dan Whitten, Karen Conover, Sylvia Graham, Jeff Larson, Andy Bozak and Jeremy Rivas. Also present were Council Attorney Harold Harper, Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Auditor Chief Deputy Toni Downing and Council Administrative Assistant Joy Blakely.

Dan Whitten has asked that the Council be provided with insurance costs for next year.

Second Reading – 2019 Budget Hearing

**West Porter Twp Fire General
West Porter Twp Fire Cumulative**

These budgets are approved by the Council because it is a Board appointed by the County Commissioners. They cover the Porter County side of Lakes of the Four Seasons.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve the two budgets as presented. Mike Jessen seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Highway LRS 1169

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve as presented. Mike Jessen seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Major Moves Fund 1172

No Budget was submitted.

Highway Fund 1176

Motion: Karen Conover moved to approve. Dan Whitten seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Highway Overweight Vehicles 4202

Motion: Karen Conover moved to approve. Dan Whitten seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Highway LR & B Match Grant 9400

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Mike Jessen seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Drain Maintenance 2700

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Karen Conover seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: There have been 40 culverts repaired so far this year.

Cumulative Bridge 1135

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Mike Jessen seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Planning Commission 1180

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Mike Jessen seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: This fund is fee supported. The goal is to have a one year balance.

Storm Water 1182

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Karen Conover seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Unsafe Building 1207

Motion: Karen Conover moved to approve. Dan Whitten seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: This budget is up from \$90,000 to \$130,000. This is a fee based fund. The money is used for an administrative hearing officer. There is a priority plan for buildings that have issues.

Storm Water Construction Fund 4802

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Animal Shelter (GF)

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: Staffing is ok and volunteers are up. Municipalities are paying their fair share.

Animal Shelter Fees 4007

Animal Shelter Supplemental 4008

Animal Shelter Fee – Control 4009

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve Animal Shelter Fees 4007, Animal Shelter Supplemental 4008 and Animal Shelter Fee – Control 4009. Karen Conover seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Expo Center 4005

Discussion: This budget is down. Construction is going well.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Karen Conover seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Statewide E-911 Fund 1222

Discussion: This budget has an increase of \$16,701. The increase is items that were approved throughout the year. The budget shows a tiered salary system. This is based on mastering a skill set. The Hourly item is not going to be used. The budget is to staff 42. Right now they have 28 and five in training. This is a fee based fund. It was suggested to reduce the Hourly to \$25,000.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve at \$2,292,736.00. Karen Conover seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

E-911 (FB Fund 4922)

Discussion: This is part of the Foundation budget. It will be discussed later.

EMA (GF)

Discussion: This budget is up some. They would like to buy uniforms for the volunteers who put in over 1,000 hours per year. The EMA Directors have been taking an active role in responding to the scene. They would like to purchase them a ballistic vest.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: Training and Education consists of certifications that are required. Volunteers are required to go to training. There are 17 volunteers. He is spending money on siren parts and to have two complete sirens on hand should one go down.

LEPC Emergency Plan 1152 EMA Hazardous Substance 1221 EMA – Dist 1 Task Force Fund 4020 EMA SHSP Sub Grant 8146

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve LEPC Emergency Plan 1152, EMA Hazardous Substance 1221, EMA – Dist 1 Task Force Fund 4020, EMA SHSP Sub Grant 8146. Mike Jessen seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

This grant is for the five county region. The other counties pitch in. There is a MOU in place. The money in there now is reimbursement from hurricane Sandy.

Surveyor (GF)

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Surveyor Perpetuation 1202

Discussion: Fees are higher so Surveyors are seeing more than they have in the past. This has allowed him to come to the Council and request new vehicles. He also has hired part time help in the summer.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Parks (GF)

Discussion: The increase is capital items. It is in the Master Plan adopted two years ago. It was suggested that Capital Projects would be better addressed when the budget process has been gone through. The Park Board has requested that the budget focus more on maintenance and repair than program delivery. It was discussed what the budget would be with Capital Projects removed.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve \$519,348. Jeff Larson seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Parks Operating 1179

Discussion: This budget has a decrease.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: The hourly is up. They did not fund a communications director so took it out of the GF and put part time help in non-reverting fund. He has changed some to where fees support the activity. Advertising is down. They are moving away from direct mail. They are investing more on the digital side. There has been no detrimental effect from not doing the direct mailings.

Recycling & Waste District Management

Discussion: At the end of August the General Fund was at \$1.6 Million. They are asking to be able to increase hourly so they can open a compost site for Portage and more hours in Boone Grove. They are also asking for an increase in contractual. The recycling costs could double.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Recycling & Waste Capital

Discussion: This budget went down.

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Council (GF)

Motion: Dan Whitten moved to approve. Sylvia Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

So far the General Fund Budget has been increased by \$38,183 over 2018’s budget.

**PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA**

Mike Jessen

Dan Whitten

Karen Conover

Sylvia Graham

Jeff Larson

Andy Bozak

Jeremy Rivas

Attest: _____
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor