WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
2019 BUDGET - PUBLIC HEARING
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM
107 W. Locust Street
Boonville, Indiana
October 4, 2018
7:00 PM

The Warrick County Council met for a Public Hearing on the 2019 Budget in the Warrick County Courthouse, 107 W. Locust Street, Boonville, Indiana.

Attorney Cliff Whitehead and Council Administrator Krystal Powless was in attendance.

Auditor Debbie Stevens and Secretary Kristine Georges attended and recorded the minutes.

Council President, Gary Meyer, called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

ROLL CALL

Gary Meyer: The first thing I'll do is call for the Roll.

Krystal Powless: Gary Meyer?

Gary Meyer: Here. Here.

Krystal Powless: Charlie Christmas?

Charlie Christmas: Yeah.

Krystal Powless: David Hachmeister?

David Hachmeister: Here.

Krystal Powless: Ted Metzger?

Ted Metzger: Present.

Krystal Powless: Brad Overton?

Brad Overton: Here.

Krystal Powless: Greg Richmond?

Greg Richmond: Here.

Krystal Powless: Paul Rudolph?

Paul Rudolph: *(Councilman Rudolph was not present for this meeting).*

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2019 BUDGET
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Councilman Meyer: Okay, anybody from the Public or the Council have any comments, questions, concerns about the budget? This is the final review. We'll adopt the budget I'm assuming two (2) weeks from tonight.

Bobby Howard: Bobby Howard, Warrick County Highway Engineer. I had sent in a request on Equipment, I had originally at Budget Hearings submitted a request for five hundred thousand ($500,000.00) for a grader, a distributor truck, a Gradall, three (3) tandem trucks, and I believe I was budgeted four hundred thousand ($400,000.00). And I just respectfully request that if it was possible, I do appreciate the four hundred thousand ($400,000.00), but in order to have all the equipment that we need, that extra hundred thousand ($100,000.00) that I asked for would be necessary so that we can have a Gradall and a distributor truck for this coming 2019 season. And the reason I'm asking at budget time instead of coming back for an additional appropriation next year is because this equipment needs to be ordered well in advance of when I need it, because it takes several months to get it in. So, if I could have that amended to five hundred thousand ($500,000.00) from the four hundred thousand ($400,000.00), I believe that it is in the Highway budget.

Councilman Richmond: I was going to ask…

Councilman Christmas: (Inaudible) this year for it.

Bobby Howard: This year? I had three hundred thousand ($300,000.00); and I had to buy more equipment; and I had to come back; and I think I had four hundred and thirty thousand ($430,000.00).

Councilman Christmas: You had nothing left last year?

Bobby Howard: So right, so right now, well, I'm finishing up right now. I have single axle trucks that are down,and I'm buying used single axle truck this year that will deplete the rest of what I have currently.

Councilman Christmas: That's what I, I just wanted to know if you was gonna wipe this out.

Bobby Howard: Yeah, I, I need a new saw, concrete saw. That's another fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000.00) piece of equipment that I have to buy, and I'm trying to figure out a way to do that this year too.

Councilman Richmond: This money comes from the State Highway (inaudible)?

Bobby Howard: Yes, this is all Highway dollars, can't be used for anything...

Councilman Richmond: And you say the money is there?

Bobby Howard: Yes. The money, it is available.

Councilman Richmond: I make a motion to raise that to the five hundred thousand ($500,000.00), figured in.

Councilman Overton: Second.

Councilman Meyer: Motion made by Greg and seconded by Brad to approve the additional one hundred thousand dollars in the budget for equipment, for equipment. Discussion?

Councilman Richmond: That's one hundred thousand ($100,000.00) more?

Councilman Meyer: More, yeah.

Bobby Howard: A hundred thousand ($100,000.00) more, yes.

Councilman Hachmeister: How long's that going to take, Krystal?

Krystal Powless: Not very long.

Councilman Hachmeister: Okay.

Krystal Powless: I mean I have about five (5) documents to change.

Councilman Meyer: Any further discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carried six, 'o (6-0).

Bobby Howard: Thank you very much.

Councilman Meyer: You're welcome. Anybody else? Any...yes, Ma'am?

SALARIES DISCUSSION

Auditor Stevens: Debbie Stevens, Warrick County Auditor. I provided all of you a copy of, for the salary increases for 2019. I sent all of you a copy of a spreadsheet where I put together a combination of a flat twelve hundred ($1,200.00) raise increase and a three (3), and I landed on three point three-two percent (3.32%) because, and started at the point where the last person who received a three point three-two percent (3.32%) increase at twelve hundred dollars ($1,200.00) then reverted to a three point three-two percent (3.32%) increase for the remaining employees. And it's about, it was about probably one-third (1/3), one-fourth (1/4) of the way through the list, no, no, more than that. Not quite half (1/2), but maybe forty percent (40%) of the employees were in that percentage of increase from four point six-two (4.62%) down to the three point three-two percent (3.32%) where then I reverted to a three point three-two percent (3.32%) for the remaining employees. There's many more employees that are negatively affected by a flat twelve hundred dollar ($1,200.00) increase. And I just would like to present a case for using a combination. The difference keeps us within a three point four percent (3.4%) growth quotient rate, the tax rate that we have. And just feels like if, you know, you struggle with, I hear, I hear the discussion of you want to be fair. We want to do more for the ones that are paid less. But then that's at the expense of the ones who end up in that larger percentage of our employees providing the services to the taxpayers being hurt all the way down to a one point two-two percent (1.22%) raise increase by using a flat rate. So, did all of you get this and have a chance to look at it and what the difference would be?

Councilman Metzger: Yes, I did.

Auditor Stevens: It is, the total difference is about thirty-seven thousand dollars ($37,000.00) between a flat twelve hundred ($1,200.00) method of increase or a combination of flat rate and percentage. Do you have any questions for me?

Councilman Meyer: I don't have any questions, but I just, I would hope that next year's Council takes time to review our whole pay schedule. I mean this was put in before I got on the Council which is over twenty (20) years ago. And I think it's time, they can look at the whole thing and kind of, you know, consolidate the COMOTs or reorganize it or whatever. Now, having said that, I think what you're asking tonight, we've discussed this and hashed this around and I think it's unfortunately a little late to be changing it at this point. That's my only concern. I understand what you're trying to do is even it up. And there's always going to be, with this Council, a disagreement of flat raises versus percentage. And we've tried to do it every other year and it's a philosophical difference and with this Council anyway, it's not going to change. I don't think right now. So, thank you, but bring that up next year.

Auditor Stevens: No one (1) wants to act on it, or do anything with it?

Councilman Meyer: I don't. I don't know if anybody else would or not. Okay, anybody else like to address the Council on the budget? Any Council member have any concerns, ideas, questions? Okay.

2019 SALARY ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE 2018-09
FIRST READING

Councilman Meyer: Then we need a motion to approve, I guess we do, Salary Ordinance and....

Councilman Hachmeister: '18 what?

Krystal Powless: '09.

Councilman Meyer: '09.

Krystal Powless: '09.

Councilman Richmond: Motion.

Councilman Overton: Second.

Councilman Christmas: Second.

Councilman Meyer: Motion made by Greg and seconded by...

Councilman Christmas: (Inaudible) Charlie.

Councilman Meyer: Brad and Charlie to approve Salary Ordinance 2018-09. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries six, zero (6-0).

2019 APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES
ORDINANCE 2018-10
FIRST READING

Councilman Meyer: Okay, we've got the Ordinance for Appropriation and Tax Rate 2018...?

Krystal Powless: '10.

Councilman Meyer: '10.

Krystal Powless: There is a change since you just approved Bobby's, so if you pull that out and look under Highway, it needs to be three point seven-seven-eight-five-fourteen ($3,778,514.00) instead of three point six ($3,600,000.00).

Councilman Meyer: Three point seven-seven-eight-five-fourteen ($3,778,514.00). Okay. That would be, we need a motion for Ordinance for Appropriation of Tax Rates, Budget Form 1, Budget Estimates, Budget Form 4, Department Totals, and Budget Form 4B Levies and Tax Rates.

Councilman Overton: Motion to approve.

Councilman Christmas: Second.

Councilman Meyer: Motion made by Brad and seconded by Charlie to approve. All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carries six, zero (6-0).

2019 SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE 2018-11
FIRST READING

Councilman Meyer: Ordinance for Appropriation and Tax Rates, Solid Waste, 2018-011, I guess.

Councilman Richmond: Motion.

Councilman Meyer: Did you make the motion, Greg? Motion made by Greg to approve. Did you second?

Councilman Hachmeister: No, but I will.

Councilman Meyer: Okay.

Councilman Hachmeister: (Inaudible).

Councilman Meyer: I heard you mumbling over there.

Councilman Hachmeister: I was looking for the number on it.

Councilman Meyer: Motion made by Greg and seconded by David to approve Tax Rate, Solid Waste, 2018-11. All those in favor? Opposed? Motion carried five, one (5-1 with Ted Metzger opposing). Ted. Okay. I guess that ends the, I need a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing.

Councilman Overton: Motion to adjourn the Public Hearing.

Councilman Meyer: Motion made, motion, adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

WARRICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Gary Meyer, D.D.S., President

Greg Richmond, Vice President

David Hachmeister

Brad Overton

Ted Metzger

Charles R. Christmas

(Not Present)
Paul Rudolph

ATTEST:

Deborah K. Stevens, Auditor
Warrick County, IN

Minutes transcribed by Kristine Georges