

MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COUNCIL
October 27, 2009

The special meeting of the St. Joseph County Council was called to order at 5:35 p.m., on October 27, 2009, by the President, Rafael Morton, in the Council Chambers, fourth floor, County-City Building, South Bend, Indiana.

Members in attendance:

Mr. Mark Catanzarite	Mr. Corey D. Noland
Mr. Dale DeVon	Mr. Mark Root
Mr. Michael J. Hamann	Mr. Dennis R. Schafer
Mr. Michael J. Kruk	Mr. Heath O. Weaver
Mr. Rafael Morton	

Present from the Auditor's office was Mr. Peter H. Mullen, Auditor and Ms. Cynthia Bodle, Chief Deputy Auditor.

Council staff present were Mr. Michael A. Trippel, Attorney and Ms. Joan M. Pawlowski, Executive Secretary.

Public Hearing:

BILL NO. 85-09: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES AND FIXING THE NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, INDIANA FOR THE YEAR 2010. - Assigned to the Budget and Administration Committee

BILL NO. 86-09: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONEYS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, INDIANA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2010, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010, INCLUDING ALL OUTSTANDING CLAIMS AND OBLIGATIONS, AND FIXING A TIME WHEN THE SAME SHALL TAKE EFFECT. - Assigned to the Budget and Administration Committee

BILL NO. 87-09: AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES AND FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING REVENUE TO MEET THE NECESSARY EXPENSE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009, FOR THE COUNTY OF ST. JOSEPH, INDIANA - Assigned to the Budget and Administration Committee

The Clerk stated that the amendment to Bill No. 86-09 was that the fund budgets amounts are as follows:

County General Fund \$63,618,356.00
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund \$5,499,845.00
County Health Fund \$2,169,562.00
County Park & Recreation Fund \$1,449,613.00
Cumulative Property Reassessment Fund \$1,799,950.00
County Bond and Interest Fund \$4,684,500.00
Major Cumulative Bridge Fund \$2,100,000.00
Cumulative Bridge Fund \$1,500,000.00
Cumulative Capital Development Fund \$1,890,000.00
Portage Manor Fund \$2,400,527.00

Airport Authority General, Airport Cumulative Building and Airport Bond Funds were cast by their bodies.

Mr. DeVon welcomed Mike Hamann to the Council. He replaced Randy Przybysz representing District A.

Motion to amend was made by Mr. Catanzarite and seconded by Mr. DeVon.

The motion passed by a voice vote; 9-0. No negatives were heard.

The Clerk read the entire Bill No. 87-09 with the amendments as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:
There shall be levied upon each One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars valuation of taxable property of the County of St. Joseph, Indiana, for the year 2009, to be collected in the year 2010, the following:

For COUNTY GENERAL FUND, the sum of .5387 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property, **included herein is .022 cents per hundred dollars of taxable property for the Community Mental Health Center, per I.C. 6-1.1-18.5-10.**

For MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY FUND, the sum of -0- dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For COUNTY HEALTH FUND, the sum of .0135 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION, the sum of .0203 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For CUMULATIVE PROPERTY REASSESSMENT, the sum of .0120 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For COUNTY BOND AND INTEREST, the sum of .0551 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For MAJOR CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND, the sum of .0221 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND, the sum of .0103 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, the sum of .0221 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For PORTAGE MANOR FUND, the sum of -0- dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For AIRPORT AUTHORITY GENERAL, the sum of .0294 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For AIRPORT CUMULATIVE BUILDING FUND, the sum of .0039 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

For AIRPORT BOND FUND, the sum of .0078 dollars on each one hundred dollars of Taxable Property.

Motion to amend was made by Mr. Kruk and seconded by Mr. Noland.
The motion passed by a voice vote; 9-0. No negatives were heard.

Bill No. 85-09, 86-09 and 87-09 received a public hearing on August 25, 2009. These bills come without a recommendation.

Motion to pass Bill No. 85-09 was made by Mr. Kruk and seconded by Mr. Hamann.

Mr. DeVon stated that he felt that the Council needs to support the Department Heads and apologize to them for the process that this budget went through. It was a long drawn out process and it became very political. He wished the process did not go the way it did. If maybe the Council had gone through these steps before raising the Local Option Income Tax to know exactly where the County stands. There was very little effort in the beginning to find out where the County stood with regard to revenues and expenses, cutting County Government. He hoped that this does not happen next year. He hoped that the Council will go through this process with each Department Head, line item by line item without micro-managing their departments for them. He also commented that the Chaplain has been put back in the Sheriff's budget. He wanted it to be stated for the record that this is only for six (6) months. He was going to work for it to be there for the entire year.

Bill No. 85-09 passed to-wit; 7-2 (Schafer, Root)

Motion to pass Bill No. 86-09 was made by Mr. Catanzarite and seconded by Mr. Kruk.

Bill No. 86-09 passed as amended, 7-2 (Schafer, Root)

Motion to pass Bill No. 87-09 was made by Mr. Noland and seconded by Mr. Kruk.

Mr. Schafer stated that if any Department Head wanted to speak to him he had a long list of items.

Bill No. 87-09 passed as amended, 7-2 (Schafer, Root)

Other Business:

Peter J. Nemeth, Judge Juvenile and Probate Court, extended his thanks and appreciation to all the members of the Council for their efforts on the budget, particularly Councilman Kruk in helping evoking a compromise on the courts budget.

Motion to adjourn was heard at 5:47 p.m.

Auditor, St. Joseph County

President, St. Joseph County Council

