

**RE: Governmental Consulting Services
Premier Boxboard Tax abatement
Transfer of Funds
Additional Appropriations
Board Members Pay
Tax Board Appointment
Cost to move Sirens
Speed Limit Ordinance
Mileage Rate increase/Ordinance**

Minutes-Vermillion County Council July 13, 2009

The Vermillion County Council met in the Commissioners Courtroom, Courthouse, Newport, Indiana.

Council President John Cheesewright called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Roll call was taken: Present were John Cheesewright, Lavonna Mattick, Randy Dreher, Mike Carty, Mike Costello, Randy Padish, Lary Langley, Attorney Don Darnell, Auditor Phyllis Orman, and First Deputy Auditor Amy Tolbert.

Dreher made a motion to accept the minutes from the prior meeting, seconded by Costello. All were in favor.

Ijeona Dike-Young of Governmental Consulting Services provided copies of an updated report. She said they last report they gave them was Nov. 08. Most of the information pertained to revenue that will be lost as the property tax circuit breakers kick in over the next two years. In the general fund, shortfalls of \$491,000 are expected in 2010 and \$565, 000 in 2011. Dike-Young said that the county currently has a sufficient cash balance to cover these shortfalls. She said the county is in very good financial health over all but encouraged the council to carefully weigh any new positions or expenditures because cash balances will decrease. She said the numbers in the report were used very conservatively. She said they assumed almost no miscellaneous revenue but that category would include money received from the DOC, which has been over half a million in the past. She said the report also did not allow for any unappropriated expenditures and Carty said those have been significant in years past. Dike-Young said the financial situation of the highway department is not as good. Expenditures are expected to rise about 4 percent each year, to the point where they exceed revenues and there is no cash balance on which to fall back. She said that by 2011 the highway could have negative balance of nearly \$1.1 million. Dike-Young

suggested the council consider additional EDIT or LOIT taxes to help fund the highway department or use money from the Rainy Day fund which currently has a balance of \$1.5 million.

Dan Eggermann with Governmental Consulting Services advised the council that there are some changes in the budgeting process. Civil units must now allow 45 days after their budgets are advertised before the budget is adopted. The council must make it's require nonbinding recommendations regarding the budgets at least 15 days before they are adopted. If the county does not meet the timeline then the county's budget can be restricted to the amount approved for the prior year. The council asked Governmental Consulting to assist with recommendations as they did last year.

Premier Boxboard Tax abatement. Economic Development gave a favorable recommendation. Costello made a motion to allow, seconded by Mattick.

Transfer of Funds:

Highway \$10,518 from truck drivers to single hands. Carty motion to allow, seconded by Langley. All in favor.

Assessor. \$40.03 from printing and advertising to printing. \$5,759.0 from reassessment to misc. for postage. \$1,002.52 from reassessment to ratio study. Carty motion to allow, seconded by Mattick.

Jail. \$12,000.00 from assistant cook to jailer 10 civil processing. Costello made a motion to transfer \$10,000, seconded by Dreher.

Additional Appropriations.

Commissioner's court \$10,000 for insurance. Dreher motion to allow, seconded by Carty.

Highway \$33,800 for professional services for an engineering plan for stimulus money. Clark said they have to do a study for the state to even consider giving them any stimulus money. Dreher asked if this is what it cost for us to apply for the money. Clark said it is for an engineering plan, to receive stimulus money you have to have shovel ready projects. Carty asked if this guaranteed we would get approved for the money and Clark said no. Clark said they have already had the engineering work done by Clark-Dietz about a month and a half ago. Mattick asked if the commissioners authorized it. Clark said yes, Wilson had signed the contract. Carty asked if it was approved at a commissioner's meeting and no one could answer that question. Carty said there is never enough time to get things done but that does not excuse not doing it right. Langley said we have to pay it. Carty asked what would happen if we didn't. Darnell said it is not the engineers fault, we have to pay it. Langley made a motion to pay it. Dreher seconded it. Costello questioned whether the money has to be there before you enter into the contract. Darnell said yes, that is how it is supposed to be done. Darnell asked if they had any invoices. Clark said they did in his office. Darnell suggested tabling it until they could see an invoice. Langley withdrew his motion and suggested they table it until next month, seconded by Dreher. LCC asked for \$12,000 and \$3,000. Carty motion to allow, seconded by Mattick.

Board members pay. They have received information on all boards and will review it at budget time.

Tax board appointment. They received a letter from Tom Gosnell. Costello motion to appoint him to the tax board, seconded by Dreher.

Cost to move sirens. O'Heir not present, tabled.

Speed limit ordinance. Spence said the issue has been resolved.

Mileage rate. Dreher made a motion to change the mileage rate to 40 cents per mile effective August 1, 2009, seconded by Mattick.

Mattick made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dreher.

Read in full and approved by the Vermillion County Council on the 24th day of August 2009.

John Cheesewright

Mike Carty

Lavonna Mattick

Randy Dreher

Lary Langley

Mike Costello

Randy Padish

Attest: _____
Phyllis Orman, Auditor