

SWITZERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

AUGUST 2, 2017

**SPECIAL MEETING – WEDNESDAY AT 3:00 P.M.
(For the purpose of 2018 Budgets)**

The Switzerland County Council held a special session pursuant to law and by being duly advertised.

Those present: Mike Bear, Lisa Fisher, Andy Haskell, Elizabeth Jones, Rachel Schuler, and Glenn Scott, and the auditor, Gayle Rayles. John Gary Welch arrived later.

The meeting was opened by Glenn with the pledge of allegiance.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 2018 Budget. Several departments were asked to attend.

Reassessment - Joan Armstrong: There was a discussion on why the half salary for the Assessor's second deputy was moved from the Reassessment budget to the General Fund. Council explained that the General Fund budget needs to be cut and asked Joan what she might be able to do to help. Joan replied that she could go back to making the second deputy part time, as she does not have enough work for a full-time person, and paying for that position out of Reassessment.

Prosecutor - Monica Hensley: Monica was asked if there was anything she could do to help trim the General Fund Budget. There was a discussion of the two other funds she has at her disposal: Pretrial Diversion which she estimated to have a balance of a little over \$20,000 and Infraction Deferral which has a balance of over \$40,000. She said that Gayle had given her information on the fund and that the Infraction Deferral Fund had not had any withdrawals since before 1999. She was uncomfortable paying a salary out of these funds since they are based on fees. She agreed to cut her legal fees by \$4,000 and transfer money from the Pretrial Diversion to cover any shortfalls as she has in the past.

NMC - Saundra Adams: After some discussion on the income sources for the Clinic the Council asked for no changes.

Animal Shelter - Keli Gabbard: There was a discussion with Keli regarding salaries. She had made a few cuts to her budget amounting to \$3,350.00. The Council requested she review her budget and come to the August 9th meeting with additional suggestions.

Soil & Water - Katie Collier: Katie, who was not on the agenda but in the audience, said that the Council could cut the \$4,500 in Cost Share. This expense can be picked up by the District.

Jail - LuAnn Schafer: There was a discussion on the need for additional jailers. Their 2018 budget has one additional jailer. She was asked if she could make due with a part-time jailer. She agreed to this and other cuts amounting to a total of \$50,278.

Sheriff Dept. - Chief Deputy Brian Morton: There had been a plan to move another deputy from Casino Revenue to the General Fund in 2018. Brian agreed to put this on a future budget. There was a new position (Cook's Deputy). Gayle asked if this could be paid out of Sheriff's Casino Revenue. Brian agreed. There was a discussion on other possible cuts. Total Sheriff's Department cuts were \$97,696.

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Communications- Kevin Hayes: Kevin, who was not on the agenda, said that he could make some cuts to his budget. The Communication budget was reduced by \$7,500.

Other: The council agreed to remove several line items from the Courthouse and Commissioners budgets that totaled \$53,360. Gayle was to ask the Recorder if she could cover any rebinding out of her Records Perpetuation Fund saving an additional \$2,000.

Total reductions this meeting equaled \$256,065.00.

The regular council meeting scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on August 9th will begin at 3:30 p.m. Several departments will be asked to attend for budget discussions.

There being no further business to come before council, Mike made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Rachel and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Attest: _____
Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana

