

August 26, 2014  
Steuben County Council  
Public Hearing and First Reading  
of the 2015 Steuben County Budget

The Steuben County Council met in regular session for the public hearing and first reading of the 2015 Budget requests. Present this day was Richard Shipe, Dan Caruso, Ruth Beer, Wil Howard, Ken Shelton & Linda Hansen. F. Mayo Sanders was absent. Also present was Kim Koomler, County Auditor and Secretary to the County Council.

Richard Shipe, President of the County Council presented the 2015 Steuben County Budget requests by reading aloud for the first reading the total requests by fund and by department. Each department head and elected official was present to discuss their particular budget needs and requests.

Judge Allen Wheat, Circuit Court  
Judge William Fee, Superior Court  
Randy Coffey, Magistrate Court  
Pam Feller, Probation Department, Juvenile Probation User; Adult Probation User Fee  
Hugh Taylor, Public Defender, Supplemental Public Defender  
Michelle Herbert, Clerk, Voter Registration, Election Board  
Laurie Stoy, Treasurer  
Dani Parrish, Recorder  
Inger Friend & Crystal VanPelt, Purdue Extension  
William Harter, Coroner  
Larry Gilbert, Surveyor, Surveyor Perpetuation  
Jeremy Musser, Prosecuting Attorney, Pre-Trial Diversion Fund, IV-D Budget  
Marcia SeEVERS, Assessor, Cumulative Reassessment  
Dr. R. Wyatt Weaver, Board of Aviation  
Frank Charlton, Building Inspector  
Sheriff Tim Troyer, Sheriff, Jail Medical Inmates, Sex and Violent Offenders, Sheriff Service of Process Fee, Law Enforcement Ed User Fee, Sheriff Continuing Education, LOIT Public Safety  
Gary LeTourneau, Central Communications, Statewide 911, School System Radio Fund, Tower Rental, LOIT Public Safety  
Ronald Smith, James Crowl, Loretta Smart, Commissioners, Drainage Board, Maintenance, Weights & Measures, Cumulative Capital Development, CAGIT, CEDIT, Major Moves, Mental Health, 2013 Equipment Bond, GIS Electronic Map, Information Technology  
Ed Nagle, Weights & Measures  
Chad Hoover, GIS  
Tami Sumney, Information Technology  
Eric Ditmars, County Park  
Carolyn Nagle, Women, Infants & Children  
Christina Ebel, (not present) Veterans Affairs  
Tom Green & Kayleen Hart, Soil & Water Conservation  
Kris Thomas & Dr. Ted Crisman, Health Fund, Local Health Maintenance Fund  
Vicki Meek, Emergency Medical Service, LOIT Public Safety  
Kristy Clawson, Emergency Management & LEPC-Right To Know  
Jennifer Sharkey & Emmett Heller, Highway, Local Road & Street, Cumulative Bridge  
Kim Koomler, Auditor, Plat Book Fund, Sales Disclosure, SRI Tax Sale Fee Fund  
Marty McNeal, (not present) Drug Free Steuben, Drug Abuse/Prosec/Interd/Coor. User Fee Law Enforcement Ed.  
County Council, Innkeepers Tax, Debt Service

No further business was discussed. The regular budget meeting is being recessed until September 3, 2014 when council will reconvene for the County Council Budget Hearing & Workshops.

At 4:30 PM and immediately following the first reading of the 2015 Budget, President Shipe opened the Public Hearing for non-binding review of the Other Unit Budgets as required by law in accordance with IC6-1.1-17-3.5. The following units were reviewed:

Clear Lake Township      Fremont Township      Jackson Township      Jamestown Township  
Millgrove Township      Pleasant Township      Richland Township      Salem Township  
Scott Township      York Township

Town of Fremont      Town of Orland      City of Angola

Carnegie Library      Fremont Library

MSD Steuben County  
Prairie Heights Community Schools  
Hamilton Community Schools

The Council approved the budgets as submitted but felt their review should only be held to those funds in which tax levies were to be imposed. Each Unit was given the following notice on their submission form: "Attention Governmental Unit: The Steuben County Council has reviewed the submitted proposed budget for 2015 for your unit. The Council has given the following non-binding recommendation to the Unit. The Steuben County Council strongly urges all units to stay within the recommendation of the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance guidelines of the County Annual Growth Quotient as an acceptable maximum levy growth. As Steuben County is a CAGIT county and an acceptable maximum levy has not been issued by the Department of Local Government Finance as of the date of this review. Please review all Budget, Levy and Rates on the Review Worksheet to insure all funds have a max levy budgeted when submitting to the DLGF. (Please note, there are some funds that have no rate or levy where there was one in BY 2014)." Auditor Koomler as instructed to multiply the 2014 budget by 3% and insert those amounts onto form as a total in the 2015 Recommended Levy Column in the Levy Portion of the Review form for all units. Linda Hansen made the motion to approve the non-binding budget review for the aforementioned Units with the 3% levy. Ruth Beer seconded. There being no further discussion, motion carried with six (6) ayes and no (0) nays.

Auditor Koomler was directed to submit the appropriate paperwork to the units and to the DLGF on behalf of the County. Ruth Beer made the motion to adjourn the special hearing, Linda Hansen seconded and the motion carried with six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays.

Linda Hansen stated that the county council appreciates very much the efficiency of both Auditor Koomler and her Chief Deputy Lori Hickey.

The Council announced they would resume working on the 2015 Budget for Steuben County on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at 8:00 AM in the Commissioners room of the Steuben County Community Center.

Steuben County Council

Richard Shipe, President

Ruth Beer, Vice President

F. Mayo Sanders, Member - Absent

Dan Caruso, Member

Wil Howard, Member

Kenneth Shelton, Member

Linda Hansen, Member

Attest: Kim Koomler, Auditor