



*LaPorte County Auditor
Joie Winski
555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 205
LaPorte, IN 46350-3490*

**MEETING MINUTES
LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 24, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

The Meeting was called to order by President Yagelski, who began with the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence for the Union Mills Co-Op accident victim. Auditor Winski proceeded with the Roll Call. Council Members present included: Councilwoman Lois Sosinski, Councilmen Rich Mrozinski, Matt Bernacchi, Mark Yagelski, Earl Cunningham, Terry Garner, and Jeff Santana. A quorum was present for the Meeting to proceed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A Motion was made by Councilman Bernacchi and seconded by Councilman Santana to approve the Agenda. The Motion carried 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MAY 20, 2013 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Motion was made by Councilman Santana and seconded by Councilwoman Sosinski to approve the May 20, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes. The Motion carried 7-0.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Assessor Mike Schultz updated Council Members on tax appeals. When the appeal process first started, there were 6,572 appeals, 4,230 have been completed and there are approximately 2,342 left. This is 64% completion. By the time the bills come out, he estimates they will be closer to 80% completion. Assessor Schultz informed the Council that his Chief Deputy, Judy Anderson, will be leaving. She is taking a job with the company that does the ProVal system and her last day will be July 5th.

Chief Sosinski, La Porte County Sheriff's Office reported to the Council the death of Mr. James Swank, an employee of the Union Mills Co-Op. At about 1:27 p.m. on June 24, 2013 there was an explosion at the Co-Op on 800 S. Extensive damage was found to the grain elevator that lowers grain into the rail cars. Mr. Swank passed away due to injuries from that explosion.

Also, Chief Sosinski would like to commend Deputy James Arnold for a job well done for averting a near tragedy. On June 20, 2013 at 8:06 a.m., Deputy Arnold was dispatched to the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportations District (NICTD) Bridge on East Lake Park Ave in rural Hudson Lake for a truck that had struck the bridge. At 8:11 a.m., Deputy Arnold arrived on scene and found a refuse truck wedged under the bridge and the middle beams of the bridge had shifted. He then scaled the steep embankment to reach the tracks above and learned the entire bridge deck was moved 5 to 6 feet, as were the rails for several hundred feet in both directions. Deputy Arnold heard a train whistle and then

radioed to suspend all South Shore rail traffic. Not long after doing that, he saw a westbound commuter train that had stopped on the tracks just east of his location. At the scene, Chief Sosinski spoke with Police Chief Bob Burn, who advised him that the bridge does not have any sensors to alert anyone about a problem. The engineer would have had a green light approaching the bridge. The westbound commuter train was set to depart the Hudson Lake stop at 8:12 a.m. There is no doubt that Deputy Arnold's quick response to the scene, along with the quick actions he took upon arrival that possibly prevented a mass casualty event. There would have been a derailment if the westbound commuter train continued on its path.

Councilman Yagelski stated that there were 81 people on the train that would have derailed.

Chief Sosinski also stated that he recently learned that Captain Bell has chosen to retire. Captain Bell is the Jail Commander. His last day of work will be July 3rd and his official last day of employment will be July 26th due to vacations. His retirement brings about a couple promotions. Sergeant Kellems will be promoted from Sergeant to Captain on July 27th and will be taking over as Jail Commander. Detective Hynek will be promoted to Sergeant.

Maintenance Director, Jerry Cooley reported that all elevators passed inspection. Four will have to be replaced in the next few years but if they break, it could take three months to fix them. There is only one elevator in the La Porte and Michigan City Courthouses, so an elevator outage would affect a lot of people. The boilers in the courthouses will also have to be dealt with eventually. When the jail was built, all the expansion joints were guaranteed for 10 years, and they cost around \$230,000. They will need to be replaced sooner or later and right now the buildings are in decent shape for now.

Councilman Yagelski asked for a top five in order of importance from Mr. Cooley.

Mr. Cooley said that they are looking into the availability of grant money to fix these things. He said he can give the Council an idea of what needs to be done and what the costs will be.

Mr. Cooley was advised to look into the time frame for any grants for this sort of thing.

Councilman Cunningham asked Mr. Cooley for a ballpark figure if all four elevators hypothetically went down.

Mr. Cooley said that they would have to be brought up to code and in accordance with the fire department. The elevator itself was between \$80,000 and \$90,000 and there would be associated costs as well. He estimated around \$125,000.

LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Mrozinski said that the La Porte County Veteran's Recognition Medal Service will be in the conference room at 10 a.m. on July 6th. Any La Porte veterans who have not yet received their medal can pick up an application at the Veteran's Service Office or at the local VFW or American Legion or they can bring in their letter on July 6th and get their medal.

July 10th there will be a meeting of the County Home Advisory Board to discuss the future of the County Home. They are going to try to restart an arts program or get a similar program going.

Animal Control will meet on July 18th and decide on a contractor to take on the project of renovating the Animal Shelter. This work is made possible by money that was left to the shelter in a will.

GLEDC, The Greater La Porte Economic Development Commission, continues to review prospects of businesses that are looking to relocate in La Porte County. Some companies have visited GLEDC for site selection. A retention and expansion (R&E) person has been hired by GLEDC. 80% of the new jobs in the county last year came from R&E.

The KIDC rail project continues to move along. With the mild winter, rail construction is moving at a nice pace and hopefully trains will be in there by fall.

The Rolling Prairie Sewer Project is moving at an amazing speed out on Highway 2. It is going to be a great economic boom for the county.

Councilwoman Sosinski spoke about Friends of the Barn. She said that the Committee would be meeting the next Wednesday so she anticipates a report on that for the next meeting.

Councilman Yagelski asked if they were setting up anything for the fair this year. Councilwoman Sosinski said there was discussion about it at the last meeting and a gentleman had a good idea and is bringing back a blueprint for that on Wednesday.

Councilman Santana talked with Pat Pease from EMS, who is still waiting for some grants to open up so that she can apply for them. One in particular was supposed to open in May but has been delayed.

Surveyor Tony Hendricks is still working on the standing water situation at 925 and 400 N.

EMA Director, Fran Tibbot sounded the alert system Wednesday, June 12, for threatening weather. Councilman Santana wanted to thank her as well as her staff, fire services, police departments, highway department, EMS, and all other departments that were on call and ready to respond to what could have happened. The southern part of the County took the largest hit.

Councilman Garner informed everyone that the La Porte County Fair starts July 7th, and he hopes everyone will come out and support the Purdue Extension and the 4-H. The weather is expected to be nice.

Councilman Garner spoke with Rick Brown, MS-4 director, who has mailed a package to the Council and is hoping to speak at next month's Meeting so that the information can be gone over before Budget Hearings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Kimmel, of 1015 Westwood in La Porte, attended the Commissioner's Meeting the previous week and heard the presentation from Cender & Company. He was shocked and surprised to find out that the County is not as desperate for finances as everyone talked about. He said that he heard that the figure of \$26,000,000 to \$28,000,000 is incorrect and that it is closer to \$4,000,000.

Councilman Cunningham said he was not available to be at that Meeting on Wednesday. He said that as he came into tonight's Council Meeting the County was \$21,604,000 in the red in the General Fund and there will another \$9,000,000 in the Rainy Day Fund.

Auditor Winski said that as of that day, they are minus \$30,604,010.17.

Councilman Cunningham stated that what Mr. Kimmel heard is not correct. He stated that most Council Members do not agree with Attorney Friedman's opinion that the Emergency Reserve Fund does not need to be repaid because if it is not repaid and the money is needed, there will be a lot of interest to pay. The Fund has saved millions of dollars in interest. He stated that he even called the Auditor herself after hearing the figures from the Commissioners' Meeting to ask if there were some unknown donations that had occurred. Auditor Winski assured him that there were not and that they would still be \$19,000,000 to \$21,000,000 in the red. He doesn't want the general public to get too excited about there only being an actual liability of \$1,500,000. Councilman Cunningham pointed out how many times Mr. Cender used words such as "can't guarantee" and "estimate."

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Establishing a Single Property Tax Statement

The State mandated that this has to be passed. Councilman Bernacchi asked for a Resolution Number. Auditor Winski stated that it was 2013-8. (See Attachment "A")

Councilman Bernacchi made a Motion to approve Resolution 2013-8 by title only. It was seconded by Councilman Mrozinski. The Motion carried 7-0.

Auditor Winski read the Resolution by title only.

Resolutions Confirming/Declaratory Economic Revitalization – Dwyer Instruments

Matt Reardon, from the Office of Economic Development, requested a first and second reading for Dwyer Instruments Inc. The company is going to invest \$520,000 into La Porte County. It is a consolidation of operations from Orange County, California. They are going to create 40 part-time and 20 full-time jobs as a result at the Kingsbury Industrial Park. It is noted that this company currently employs 542 people in the state of Indiana of which 311 are in La Porte County and have been in La Porte County since 1963.

Councilman Yagelski asked if this was separate by land and value, and if the Council had to have two separate Motions.

Attorney Biege said that there are two Motions, one for real estate, and one for personal property. The Motions would be 2013-9A and 2013-9B.

Councilman Cunningham made a Motion to approve 2013-9A by title only. It was seconded by Councilman Bernacchi. The Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Santana asked for a range in wages for the part-time and full-time employees.

The wages start around \$8.50 and go up for a part-time employee. \$11.50 is the full time starting rate and would come with insurance and 401K.

Councilman Garner clarified that 300 people in La Porte County are employed by Dwyer.

Auditor Winski clarified that they would be renovating an existing building, and stated that no other Motion would be needed.

Councilman Mrozinski stated there could be money available through the Veteran's Service Office for training if they were to hire a Veteran.

Auditor Winski stated there would need to be a Public Hearing at next month's Meeting for this.

APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSFERS, REQUESTS

La Porte Superior Court No. 1 – Honorable Kathleen Lang

Requesting an Additional Appropriation

General Fund (1000)

For Psychological Services

\$3,000.00

Marilyn Steinheiser appeared on Judge Lang's behalf. She stated that funds had been depleted for psychological evaluations. The original \$3,000 was spent, as was the additional appropriation from the previous month's Meeting of \$2,000. To this date, they have spent \$4,750 leaving them a balance of \$250, and they have outstanding bills of \$900 with nothing left for the end of the year.

Councilman Mrozinski made a Motion to approve. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Santana. The Motion carried 6-1, with Councilman Cunningham voting Nay.

Councilman Mrozinski made a Motion to change the Motion from General Fund to Riverboat Fund. It was seconded by Councilman Santana. The Motion carried 7-0.

La Porte County Community Corrections

Requesting an Additional Appropriation

County Corrections Fund a/k/a Misdemeanant Fund (1175)

for Purchase of Furnishings

not to exceed
\$30,000.00

Dick Buell, Executive Director of Community Corrections requested the money for items that are critical for the new facility to facilitate the programs that are in place. He stated they are also receiving \$48,890.55 from the State. All of the quotes aren't in yet, but they know approximately what they need, and if they fall short they will prioritize the necessary things and wait for another time for the rest of it.

Councilman Mrozinski made a Motion to approve. It was seconded by Councilman Santana. The Motion carried 7-0.

La Porte County Sheriff

**Requesting an Additional Appropriation
Riverboat Fund (1191) or Win Tax Fund (4220)
For Food for Inmates**

\$200,000.00

Chief Sosinski stated that between December 2012 and May 2013, there were 200,003 meals served in the jail, and there were 18,529 meals served in the work release program, for a total of 218,532 meals served during that time period. A total of \$178,023 was spent during that time, which brings the cost per meal to \$0.81½. They are averaging under \$30,000 per month for food and were budgeted \$210,000. They are requesting the additional \$200,000 to get them through to the end of the year.

Councilman Garner said that the Sheriff's Office would typically come around this time anyway to ask for about this amount. He made a Motion to approve taking the money out of the Win Tax Fund. It was seconded by Councilman Santana.

Councilwoman Sosinski clarified with Attorney Biege that she did not have a conflict of interest on voting.

The Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Cunningham asked for the balance of the Win Tax Fund after the \$200,000 is transferred out.

Auditor Winski stated that the balance is \$1,806,989.73 before the \$200,000 is taken out.

**Requesting an Additional Appropriation
Riverboat Fund (1191) or Win Tax Fund (4220)
For Medical for Inmates**

\$140,000.00

Chief Sosinski said that they come back every year for this amount. They were budgeted \$120,000 and they have just about exhausted that.

Councilman Santana made a Motion to approve from Riverboat. It was seconded by Councilman Garner. The Motion carried 7-0.

**Requesting an Additional Appropriation
County Corrections Fund AKA Misdemeanant Fund (1175)
For Payment of Various Claims**

\$8,970.48

Chief Sosinski said that this has to do with several claims pertaining to the jail. There is a claim for \$1,411, which has to do with replacing the jail windows in the jail cells themselves. There is also a claim for \$4,438.96, which has to do with the integrator system. This is the system that operates the doors and is a computer system. There was a failure in that, and repairs had to be made. There is also a claim for the video visitation system for the door in the common area. The claim for this is \$215.09. The next claim is for a washer purchased for the jail in the amount of \$724.95. The next claim is for the

perforated bags that are used to put the inmates' personal belongings when they are booked. This claim is in the amount of \$359.68. The next couple claims are for the identification wristbands. One is for \$878.04, another is \$703.83, another is \$180.66, and one for the tool to attach them is \$58.27. The total is \$8,970.48.

Councilman Cunningham asked for the balance of this account.

Auditor Winski said that there would be \$9,270.80 after this money is taken out.

Councilman Garner asked how much is normally brought into that fund for the year.

Chief Sosinski said that it was about \$77,000 or \$78,000 yearly.

Auditor Winski said that \$73,759.18 was in the fund at the beginning of the year.

Councilman Santana said that looking back to Emerson Network Power that it comes to \$4,438.96. He wanted to know what the travel expense was there. He stated that travel is \$1,640.00. Half of the bill was for travel.

Chief Sosinski stated that this was the only company that they could use because when the jail was rebuilt, this was the company that was used and are the only ones who can service the equipment.

Councilwoman Sosinski made a Motion to approve the \$8,970.48 out of the Misdemeanant Fund for all of the mentioned bills. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Santana. Ayes: Councilmen Santana and Yagelski and Councilwoman Sosinski. Nays: Councilmen Bernacchi, Cunningham, Garner, and Mrozinski. The Motion failed 4-3.

Councilman Cunningham made a Motion to allow Chief Sosinski and the Sheriff's Office to pay this amount out of the Commissary Fund. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Garner.

Councilman Santana asked if the Council needed to give permission for them to use the Commissary Fund. Councilman Yagelski said that it was optional. The Motion was pulled.

La Porte County Animal Control

Requesting Permission to Spend

County Option Dog Tax Fund (1129)

For Purchase of Horse Trailer

\$8,000.00

Jane Bernard, Director of the Animal Shelter stated that in the last month they were called out four different times for various large animals and have had to borrow trailers. The closest available trailer is in Silver Lake, Indiana. The rest of the places were in Michigan or Minnesota. This would be for a 14 foot aluminum stock trailer. The amount needed was \$9,785.

Councilman Yagelski asked Attorney Biege if the Council could make a Motion to allow Attorney Biege to look into this since the amount advertised was different.

Attorney Biege said that because it is a transfer and not an appropriation that the Council is fine.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Mrozinski and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi and Garner. The Motion carried 7-0.

La Porte County Building Maintenance
Requesting an Additional Appropriation
For Qualified Part-Time Employees

\$23,296.00

Mr. Cooley said that he is not asking for more money. He believes that he has enough money in his budget to do what he wants to do, but he is losing a 33 year employee as of July 5th. He is short two cleaning people and two maintenance people. He said that he could currently not offer more than \$10.30 per hour. The employees are only allowed to work 28.5 hours now instead of 30.5. He wants to be able to pay qualified employees a higher starting wage with the ability to raise it. He is at the risk of losing employees due to low wages and hours being cut back. He either needs full-time employees or more money to pay the part-time people with. Some of the guys work the jail all the time and would like to be moved around from time to time. Mr. Cooley says that he doesn't necessarily need more money. He needs permission to do what the County Highway does and pay more with the ability to raise.

Councilwoman Sosinski asked if a more formal proposal could be formed as far as which positions and amounts.

Mr. Cooley said it is hard to do so. He said that his part-time cleaning lady doesn't want to be full-time but she should be paid more for what she does.

Councilman Yagelski said that there needs to be some kind of structure for that pay to avoid it going too far and to the wrong people.

Mr. Cooley said that he needs more money to find someone who is not just qualified to do one thing but can do many things because someone like that won't work for this amount.

Councilman Garner said that HR needs to give Mr. Cooley a bit more guidance.

Councilman Yagelski said that he needs something more formal. He also asked if there is a vacant position already in the budget.

Mr. Cooley said that there was but that he needs to pay them correctly. He said that he needs these well-qualified people.

Councilman Yagelski said that he needs to be able to pinpoint specific jobs that this would affect so that other departments don't come after the Council with the same request.

Councilman Cunningham stated that he would have a moral issue with paying part-time people more when they haven't given the full-time employees raises.

Mr. Cooley said that he has people lined up, but they need more money because he is not allowed to hire full-time employees.

Councilman Santana said the issue is not the money itself, but it is to have a clear breakdown of where and how much he is going to raise them. He also wanted to see if more employees are being hired and how much they would be getting.

Councilwoman Sosinski stated that HR cannot authorize paying additional money for part-time. She said that she suggests getting an actual sketch because she understands that Mr. Cooley was put in a difficult position because he was denied the right to hire someone full-time. She said that she will speak with Mr. Cooley and HR about this at a later time.

Attorney Biege asked what the official disposition was for the Maintenance Request.

Councilwoman Sosinski made a Motion to table this discussion. It was seconded by Councilman Garner. The Motion carried 7-0.

La Porte County Highway Department
Requesting Permission to Hire Four (4) Employees

One employee was let go and one quit, so two positions are open right now, and one person has said they plan to retire in August or September.

Councilman Bernacchi made a Motion to approve two and seconded by Councilman Cunningham. The Motion carried 7-0.

COUNTY COUNCIL/ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Councilman Santana congratulated Nancy from Building Maintenance for her retirement after 34 years. He also congratulated everyone on the Maple City Boat Race that was held on Stone Lake. He said condoning sport activities like this is a win-win situation for the county and the city. He said that he will be encouraging the Convention Bureau to see what we can bring to the smaller cities, towns, and townships to help the economy.

Councilman Yagelski asked who voted yes on the Courthouse sign.

He was told that it was in the Minutes.

Auditor Winski reminded Councilman Yagelski that he needed to schedule a workshop for Alco TV, IT, and the Council.

Councilman Yagelski suggested having the workshop half an hour before the next Meeting.

Councilman Santana asked if there was still to be a Meeting held at PNC.

Attorney Biege said that Indiana Code says that the fiscal body, the Council, shall hold its meetings at the County, Auditor's Office, or at another location provided by the County Executive, the Commissioners. There are no other statutory requirements that would preclude other meetings. The only requirement would be to hold scheduled meetings at a regular time each month. No rules will be violated if the meetings are held elsewhere.

Councilman Yagelski wanted to put the sign back on the Agenda for next month. The previous Ayes to deny the request were Councilmen Bernacchi, Mrozinski, Cunningham and Councilwoman Sosinski. The Nays were Yagelski, Santana, and Garner.

Attorney Biege said that it doesn't matter voted positively or negatively but that a person who voted in the majority could make a Motion to reconsider.

Councilwoman Sosinski made a Motion to reconsider the sign at the next Meeting. It was seconded by Councilman Santana. Ayes: Councilmen Santana and Yagelski and Councilwoman Sosinski. Nays: Councilmen Cunningham, Garner, Mrozinski, and Bernacchi. The Motion failed 4-3.

The Meeting in September will still be held at PNC. Also will record the Meeting instead of having it live.

Councilman Mrozinski stated that PNC is a great place to have the Meeting as there are young people there who may like to come and observe it as they are our future.

Councilman Cunningham said Attorney Biege was going to look into hiring Mr. Layton to look at Budgets. Mr. Cunningham feels a sense of urgency since there is such a discrepancy between the Commissioner's figures and the Council's.

Attorney Biege said that Mr. Layton said that he was willing and able to serve, but he does not wish to receive compensation. He said that he is willing to review issues with the Auditor, review the budget numbers, taxes from last year etc., but he does not want to be compensated. With regard to the Council's authority to put persons in specific offices, the Council does not have that authority. The Council does have the authority to request further inquiry during Budget Hearings and specific line items may be investigated.

Councilman Bernacchi asked if the Council has authority to have a contractual employee.

Attorney Biege said that they did.

Councilman Bernacchi asked if it would be wise to put the salary just as \$1.00 even if Mr. Layton wants to donate that one dollar back.

Attorney Biege wants to speak once again with Mr. Layton to make sure about that compensation and donation of his time. Retaining his services can be done without compensation or an agreement may be drafted.

President Yagelski stated Elected Officials don't have to talk to him and any other employees the Commissioners have the right to deny or accept if Mr. Layton can speak with them. The only thing that can be discussed would be specific questions on the budget, line items, discretionary money, grants, etc.

Councilman Cunningham stated things are critical right now and suggested when the Department Heads come to the Budget Hearings they need to bring a written report saying how many discretionary funds they have and what the balance is as of June 30th and July 31st. There were accounts that the Council had no idea about and there were accounts that were mislabeled or misused.

President Yagelski requested the Auditor to send out a formal letter requesting any grants monies, grant employees who are working for that fund, discretionary funds, extraordinary funds, income sources that come from the General Fund. Councilman Yagelski hopes this request will be seen as an opportunity. With 30 days it is not hard for Departments to meet this requirement and that by the July Meeting they should have all information about any grants or any money. Any questions the Council has could be looked at line by line in plenty of time before the August Budget Hearings.

Auditor Winski said all of the budgets should be in her office shortly. She has an accounting and balance of all of the funds and has been working with the State Board of Accounts on what the funds can be used for. She will provide something in writing at the next Meeting about funds and will also get the Council's requested letter out to the Department Heads tomorrow morning.

President Yagelski stated funds were unaccounted for that is why he would like this Auditor to send out this request.

Since Auditor Winski was not in attendance at last month's Meeting, Councilman Santana questioned her position in regards to Ken Layton and the ability of gathering information the Council needs. Although Councilman Santana understands the Auditor's Office is busy, he believes it is the Auditor's job to know where all of the money, funds, etc. are. He doesn't believe there should be an outside source and even though Mr. Layton will not charge us, he still sees no benefit. He wants to hear what Auditor Winski feels about this.

Auditor Winski stated that she will comply with the Council's wishes or requests. She also said that if Mr. Layton is brought in he is certainly welcome in her Office at any time and she'd be willing to work and share information with him, just like any other person. Auditor Winski told the Council she can give them the financial information needed or if it was their preference, she'd be willing to work with someone else.

Councilman Santana stated that Auditor Winski answered the question that she would be able to provide the necessary information to the Council without an outside source. He also said he understands and appreciates Auditor Winski's position and the transparency in her office; however Auditor Winski knows how to do her job.

Councilwoman Sosinski agreed with Mr. Santana that the Auditor has a pretty good handle on what is going on. Councilwoman Sosinski has no qualms with the Auditor's Office and believes they have taken charge of things. She does not have a problem with Mr. Layton either, however some of the things that should have been fixed per State Board of Accounts were not. Pop money was still sitting in a drawer and all of that happened through the end of 2012. So she is unsure what will be accomplished, but is very confident Auditor Winski has been on top of things and reports back to the Council as needed.

Councilman Garner stated he believed Councilman Santana should be more of an observer in his first year since he has never been through a Budget Hearing before. Councilman Garner stated Councilman Santana is making comments about budget hearings, overstepping his bounds and feels he should observe and not to try and take over the Council otherwise he may be caught in a position he does not want to be in. That is why the Council is asking Mr. Layton to come in who is familiar with different departments with his years of office as his insight is very important. Councilman Santana should take it all in before he starts making comments. Councilman Garner states he is offering advice, not trying to downplay him, but that's the way he feels.

Councilman Santana stated that he was being misunderstood by Councilman Garner. That is not at all what he has done and he is not trying to take over the Council. Councilman Santana states he is an elected official just like Councilman Garner and simply wanted to give the Auditor her chance since to speak since she was unavailable at the previous Meeting to tell the Council if she felt comfortable providing the requested information since she has only been in office for six months.

Councilman Garner asks President Yagelski to please control Mr. Santana.

President Yagelski tells Mr. Garner he had his chance to talk, so please let Councilman Santana finish his statement.

Councilman Santana states he spoke with Auditor Winski, she is privy to the information that is her job, which is why she is an elected official. Again no one is denying or saying that the Council could or could not bring in someone else, but found Councilman Garner's accusations and statements offensive. Next time, Councilman Santana suggested Councilman Garner telephone him.

Councilman Garner says Councilman Santana should observe instead of making comments.

President Yagelski calls for order.

Councilwoman Sosinski stated that she did agree with Councilman Santana and has faith in the Auditor.

Councilman Cunningham says a month ago he thought this was necessary, but listening to public comment tonight in regards to Mr. Cender's report at the Commissioner's Meeting, doesn't understand why there would even be a question about it. Since the Commissioners hired an outside source and disagree with the Council's figures, Councilman Cunningham feels Mr. Layton could state the facts as he sees them without putting Auditor Winski in the middle of a political meat grinder. The County is somewhere between \$2.5 and \$30.6 million in the red and that's a huge gap. Councilman Cunningham asks Auditor Winski if she will take offense if Mr. Layton comes and works with her.

Auditor Winski states she will take no offense to Mr. Layton coming in her office.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cunningham that the Council hire Mr. Layton for One and 00/100 Dollar (\$1.00) to assist the Council in doing its job. It was seconded by Councilman Mrozinski. Auditor Winski takes the roll call. Ayes: Councilmen Garner, Mrozinski, Santana, Bernacchi, and Cunningham. Nays: Councilman Yagelski and Councilwoman Sosinski. The Motion carried 5-2.

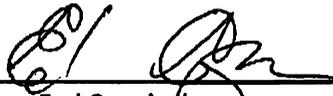
ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Mrozinski and seconded by Councilman Bernacchi. The Motion passed 7-0.

EXAMINED & APPROVED BY THE LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL, dated this 22 day of July, 2013.



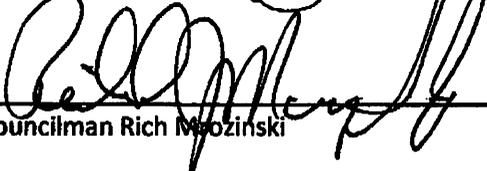
Councilman Matt Bernacchi



Councilman Earl Cunningham



Councilman Terry Garner

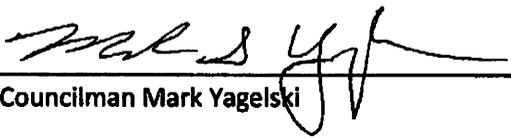


Councilman Rich Mozinski



Councilman Jeff Santana

Councilwoman Lois Sosinski



Councilman Mark Yagelski

ATTEST: 

Joie Winski, Auditor La Porte County