

September 13, 2011

APPROVED 9/27/11

Proceedings of a Public Hearing on the Proposed 2011-2012 County Budget in and for the County of Menominee and the State of Michigan were held at the Menominee County Annex Building, Stephenson, Michigan.

Chairman Furlong called the meeting to order at 6:37 P.M.

A call of the roll indicated that the following Commissioners were present/absent:

**Present:** Coms. Furlong, Jasper, Lang, and Pearson

**Absent:** Com. Meintz was excused

Moved by Com. Lang, seconded by Com. Jasper to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 4-0.

Chairman Furlong called for public comment.

**Public Comment:**

-Ray Gurgall – Asked about the \$20,000 that is given to the Menominee County EDC, and can it be split between them and the Carney and Hermansville EDC.

**Presentations:** Public Hearing on the Proposed 2011/2012 County Budget

-Ray Gurgall - Asked about the \$20,000 that is given to the Menominee County EDC, and can it be split between them and the Carney and Hermansville EDC.

-Com. Furlong explained what the EDC money is used for.

-Jon Anderson – commented that in the past 95% - 98% of the EDC money has been spent in the City of Menominee.

-Mari Negro – Asked if Nancy Douglas could be required to meet with the local EDC groups from Carney and Meyer Township.

-Brian Bousley said that there would be a meeting held between all three groups.

-Bob Desjarlais – EDC money.

-Penny Mullins – asked if individual making comments could please state their name and where they are from.

-Jon Anderson – stated that several years ago a County Commissioner implemented a plan that all entities requesting money from Menominee County need to report back with what they are doing with the money, and provide a copy of their financials.

-Brian Bousley – stated that we already receive appropriation letters from these entities and they supply this information.

-Com. Lang – stated that the County Board has to enter into agreements with those who receive money from them.

-Brian Bousley - said that he is happy with the budget, and it is very sound. His only concern is in the health insurance premiums being unpredictable.

-Bob Desjarlais – asked about the \$10,000 that has annually been appropriated to the Parks, and no money has been designated in this budget to create a fund balance again.

- Com. Pearson – stated that he thought the 20% increase in parks fees was suppose to cove the \$10,000 normally designated.
- Com. Furlong – stated that the money that would normally be designated was included in the bathhouse project for this year.
- Bill Haefman – asked if the State Park permit fee paid when you renew your license states it is also for County Parks. Is this true.
- Com. Furlong – he does not believe that is correct.
- Com. Jasper – he stated he agrees with Jon Anderson

**Public Comment:**

- Bill Haefman – Thanks the County Board for a balanced budget.
- Jon Anderson – Thanks for holding a budget hearing.
- Bob Desjarlais – Board did a good job on creating a balance budget with a surplus of \$37,000.
- Com. Furlong – Thanked Administrator Brian Bousley and Sherry Smith for all of the hard work they did preparing the budget.
- County Treasurer Diane Lesperance – Agreed with Com. Furlong.
- Bill Haefman – Asked if the budget that was provided tonight is the same as is on the county website.
- Ray Gurgall – Thanks the County Board for holding meetings in Meyer Township.

Moved by Com. Jasper, supported by Com. Pearson to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Motion was approved 4-0.

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James Furlong, Chairman

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Marc Kleiman, County Clerk