WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

BUDGET SESSION August 13, 2019

The Wells County Council met in budget session Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at 8:00AM in the Wells County Carnegie Annex Building, 223 W Washington St., Bluffton, IN. Present at the meeting were: Todd Mahnensmith, Steve Huggins, Chuck King, Jim Oswalt, Vicki Andrews, Mike Mossburg, Seth Whicker and Auditor Lisa McCormick.

The first budget meeting for the 2020 Budget Year started today with Council Members meeting with all Elected Officials and Department Head to review their 2020 budget request.

Commissioners: Commissioner President Blake Gerber presented a budget request of $3,296,369 for the Commissioner's general fund budget and a request of $1,062,307 for the LIT Economic Development Fund.
Solid Waste District: District President Blake Gerber and Controller Lisa McCormick presented a budget request of $96,186. This amount is reimbursed to the county 100%
Highway and LR&S: Josh Cotton presented a total Highway budget request of $4,192,764 and a LR&S Budget Request of $707,000.
Cum Bridge: Nate Rumschlag presented a budget request of $170,000 for the Cum Bridge Fund.
Surveyor: Jarrod Hahn presented the Surveyor's budget request of $90,305, the Drainage Board's request of $ 18,308, and the Corner Perpetuation request of $27,500.
Health: Marlene Hoag presented a Health Department budget request of $284,167, and Local Health Maintenance budget request of $33,138, and a Local Health Dept. Trust Budget of $18,866.
Assessor: Kelly Herman presented the Assessor's general fund budget request of $124,442, the Reassessment Fund's budget request of $288,330, and the Sales Disclosure Fee request of $4,845.
Recorder: Carolyn Bertsch presented the Recorders general fund budget request of $80,868 and the Identification Security Protection request of $16,000.
Treasurer: Kathy Peeper presented a budget request of $128,902.
Court House: Bobbie Studebaker presented a budget request of $302,248.
IT Department: Roger Richardson submitted a budget request of $189,115.
Coroner: Hilarie Gaskill presented a budget request of $ 64,723.
Veteran: Claude McMillan submitted a budget request of $37,554.
EMA: Rick Velasquez presented a budget request of $ 72,461 for his general fund budget and $8,650 for the LEPC Fund budget.
Extension Office: Roger Sherer presented a budget request of $230,029.
Area Plan & GIS: Mike Lautzenheiser Jr. presented his Plan Commission budget request of $172,325 and his GIS budget request of $27,909.
Clerk: Beth Davis presented her Clerk's office budget request of $308,191, her Election Board requested budget of $82,734 and her Perpetuation Fund budget request of $10,480.
Statewide 911: Adam McCartney presented his budget request of $500,990.
Soil & Water: Leeann Nash presented the budget request of $37,290.
Prosecuting Attorney: Andrew Carnall presented his general fund budget request of $502,850, his Pre Trial Deferral fund budget request of $16,971, and his Pre Trial Diversion Budget request of $1,125.
Circuit Court: Judge Kent Kiracofe presented his general fund budget request of $268,997, his Supp Public Defender Fund budget request of $15,000 and his Jury Pay Fund budget request of $10,000.

Community Corrections: Blake Poindexter presented his general fund budget request of $ 206,127, his Project Income budget request of $ 204,284, his Community Corrections Grant II budget request of $232,657 and the Misdemeanant Fund budget request of $18,711.
Probation: Greg Werich present his general fund budget request of $ 438,317, his Adult Probation Fund budget of $94,407, his Juvenile Probation fund budget of $4,820, his Urinalysis fund budget of $4,000, and his Substance/Indigent Fund budget request of $ 1,300.
Auditor: Lisa McCormick presented her general fund budget request of $226,868, Auditor's Ineligible Deduction fund budget request of $8,600, her Plat Book Fund budget request of $10,000, and the County Elected Official Training Fund budget request of $4,500.
Sheriff: Sheriff Scott Holliday, Chief Deputy Randy Steele, Karen Thompson and Krista Markley presented their general fund Sheriff's Office budget request of $1,749,244 and the Jail budget request of $1,555,653, and LIT Public Safety budget request of $555,847.
Superior Court: Judge Andrew Antrim presented his budget request of $115,114.
County Council: Council members present a budget request of $177,413 and a Rainy Day Fund budget request of $100,000.

The majority of the 2020 Budget requests were similar to the 2019 adopted budgets. The main requested increases to budgets were for employee salary increases. The Highway department increased their budget over all departments $134,400, which is down from an increases of $546,000 for 2019. The Custodian requested an additional amount of $10,000 for flooring. She would like to upgrade the ground floor flooring so it is a good transition after the plaza project is completed. Area Plan is requesting an additional part time employee to assist in the increased workload in the Area Plan office. The position would do permits, petitions and violation site inspections as wells as sign posting for public notifications. He also requested an additional $5,000 for rural town cleanup to assist area communities with dumpsters for trash removal. An additional $10,000 also was requested for long term planning. The Sheriff Department is requesting one new deputy, he requested the creation of one full time Courthouse Security officer, the security position would get paid the jailer salaried amount. The Sheriff is also requesting one new jailer; he would also like to implement a jail matrix to mirror the sheriff matrix that was adopted for the 2019 budget. Community Corrections wants to purchase two of the sheriff's trade in vehicles.

The next scheduled budget meeting will be on Thursday, August 15th, 2019 at 6:00PM followed by the meeting on Tuesday, August 20st, 2019 at 6:00PM and Wednesday, August 21st at 6:00PM meeting only if needed.

Adjourned: 12:45PM Motion made by Mike Mossburg, seconded by Seth Whicker to recess until the Thursday, August 15th meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL

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President, Todd Mahnensmith Vice President, Mike Mossburg

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Attest: Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor