

FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
BUDGET MEETING - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2008

A budget meeting was held in the Stephenson County Board Room on the above date with Mr. Graham, the Chairman, presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Committee members present were Mr. Graham, Mr. Senn, Ms. V. Hooper, Ms. Kubatzke, Mr. Mikkelsen and Mr. Kuhlmeier. Absent was Ms. S. Hooper. County Board Chairman Blum was also present. Other County Board members present were Ms. Boynton, Mr. Cashmore, Mr. Détente, Ms. DeVine, Ms. Dotson, Mr. McKenna and Mr. Wire.

The County Administrator explained that members of the 708 Board had planned to make a presentation tonight, about a referendum to increase their levy above the PTELL limit. However, due to the current economic situation, they have decided not to seek an increase by referendum. Mr. Mulnix presented and reviewed the Mental Health – 708 Board (Fund 38) budget. The 708 Board's property tax request exceeds the PTELL levy limit. Once the PTELL limit is finalized, he will reduce all of the requests, on a pro rata basis, to the PTELL limit. On a motion by Ms. Kubatzke, seconded by Mr. Mikkelsen, the Mental Health – 708 Board (Fund 38) budget was accepted, with the pending reductions.

The County Administrator presented and reviewed the Economic Development (Fund 1, 918) budget. Chairman Blum spoke to the NIDA funding question and recommended funding of \$100,000. He distributed a letter from Brian Stewart highlighting NIDA's activities. Mr. Mikkelsen explained that he wants NIDA's private funding to match the public funding. He questioned whether the County's representation on the NIDA Board was sufficient, if the County was investing \$100,000. Several County Board members wanted to see NIDA's budget. Chairman Blum said that NIDA is still working on its 2009 budget and strategic plan. Mr. Stewart said that NIDA's mission is jobs, new and retained. Chairman Blum said that the County's Enterprise Zone fees should be used for economic development purposes. The funds paid to NIDA will come from the Enterprise Zone fee revenue. Mr. Détente said that he would like to see NIDA's financial statements and budget. Michael Clark spoke in favor of the public – private partnership. On a motion by Mr. Mikkelsen, seconded by Ms. V. Hooper, the Economic Development (Fund 1, 918) budget was accepted, with funding of \$100,000 for NIDA.

The County Coroner presented and reviewed the County Coroner (Fund 2, 404) budget. On a motion by Ms. V. Hooper, seconded by Mr. Kuhlmeier, the County Coroner (Fund 2, 404) budget was accepted. Chairman Blum reported that the planned salary increase for the Coroner was approved after the 180-day statutory deadline. More than a salary increase, the Coroner would like to be included in the County's employee health insurance program. The County Administrator explained that the Plan Document for the health insurance program, limited participation to "full-time" employees. If the Plan Document was amended to "full-time employees and elected department heads", the Coroner would be eligible. On a motion by Mr. Senn, seconded by Ms. V. Hooper, the Committee agreed to add the phrase "and elected department heads" to the Plan Document.

The Supervisor of Assessment presented and reviewed the Supervisor of Assessment (Fund 1, 909) and Geographic Information System (Fund 42) budgets. On a motion by Mr. Mikkelsen, seconded by Ms. Kubatzke, the Supervisor of Assessment (Fund 1, 909) budget was approved. On a motion by Mr. Kuhlmeier, seconded by Mr. Mikkelsen, the Geographic Information System (Fund 42) budget was accepted.

The County Treasurer presented and reviewed the County Treasurer (Fund 1, 906), Treasurer's Automation (Fund 46), Treasurer's Trust (Fund 43), Inheritance Tax (Fund 45) and Working Cash (Fund 44) budgets. Ms. Becker said that she will be replacing the folding machine. On a motion by Mr. Mikkelsen, seconded by Ms. Kubatzke, the County Treasurer (Fund 1, 906) budget was accepted. Ms. Becker explained that the Journal Standard printed the original, rather than the updated list of delinquent property owners. A correction will be published. On a motion by Mr. Mikkelsen, seconded by Ms. Kubatzke, the Treasurer's Automation (Fund 46), the Treasurer's Trust (Fund 43), the Inheritance Tax (Fund 45) and Working Cash (Fund 44) budgets were accepted.

The County Clerk presented and reviewed the County Clerk and Recorder (Fund 1, 902), Election Expense (Fund 1, 904) and Mechanical Document Storage (Fund 24) budgets. On a motion by Mr. Senn, seconded by Mr. Kuhlmeier, the County Clerk and Recorder (Fund 1, 902), Election Expense (Fund 1, 904) and Mechanical Document Storage (Fund 24) budget were accepted.

Mr. Fortney presented and reviewed the Nursing Center (Fund 3) budget. He explained that the budget is based a 5% increase in the census. \$50,000 has been segregated for capital improvements. The Legal and Accounting line was increase to \$20,000. The Nursing Center has ended its contract with ABM. On a motion by Ms. Kubatzke, seconded by Mr. Senn, the Nursing Center (Fund 3) budget was approved.

The Committee adjourned at 8:21 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Kuhlmeier, seconded by Mr. Senn.

Approved: November 7, 2008

Next Stated Meeting of the Committee:
Friday, November 7, 2008 7:00 p.m.
Stephenson County Board Room