SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

1. Chairman Haney called to order the Special Meeting of the Winnebago County Board for Monday, September 11, 2017 at 5:33 p.m.

2. Chairman Haney announced the following Agenda Changes.

Under Public Participation

Please Add:
- Michael Delgado - Public Safety - CON
- Roger L. Schramm - Law Enforcement & Budget Priorities - PRO

3. Roll Call: 18 Present, with 2 Absent. (Board Members Fellars and Wilson were absent.)

4. County Board Member F. Wescott gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Public Participation

Bruce Roberts thanked members of the Board for having him. Mr. Roberts spoke of Public Safety and how these individuals need to be adequately staffed and properly trained when the public is in need of help. We need to know we can rely on each other and also on the Government.

R. Brent Meade, a Rockford businessman spoke of how he is against cutting the Sheriff’s budget because of the crime in Rockford and how it has affected his business by a loss of employees and potential customers.

Michael Delgado spoke of the loss of his son in 2007 due to a violent crime in Rockford. Mr. Delgado requested that the County Board to fully fund the Sheriff’s Department in an effort to keep the tax paying citizens of Winnebago County safe.

Roger L. Schramm and wife were brutally attacked in their home on May 2, 2013. Two armed men shot and killed their dogs and left them injured. Sheriff’s deputies were in the house within minutes of their 911 call. Within 36 hours of the event both perpetrators were caught by the outstanding work of the Winnebago County Detectives and with the cooperation of the Rockford Police Department. An effective Public Safety apparatus is crucial to protect our citizens.

6. County Board Member Fellars arrived at 5:45 p.m.

7. None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMUNICATION

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8. Chairman Haney gave a brief Overview of the 2018 Proposed Budget as a next step in the budget process which will lead to the adoption of the final Budget on September 28, 2017; this may include another meeting for discussion purposes before the final adoption. At this time our revenues do not match our expenditures. Our reserve spending is of particular concern; this can’t be the “easy button” going forward. We need to consider the issue of property tax increases going forward. There are no good solutions on the table, but we need to have some tough discussions and make some tough decisions. We need to take a hard look at the effectiveness of all of our internal operations.

Winnebago County Chief Financial Officer Carla Paschal gave a Presentation Proposing the Fiscal Year 2018 County Budget.

County Board Member Boomer made a motion to call a Caucus of the Whole, seconded by Board Member Hoffman. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote of all members present. (Board Member Wilson was absent.) The Board Meeting recessed at 6:15 p.m. The Special Meeting of the Winnebago County Board reconvened at 6:31 p.m. Board Member Jury thanked CFO Paschal for the excellent job she has done with this Budget; it’s the best information he has seen during his years on the Board.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

9. Board Member Jury made a motion to Lay Over the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget, to the September 28, 2017 Meeting, seconded by Board Member Webster. Board Member Biondo questioned the validity of laying over this Proposed Budget while maintaining the ability to then make changes after further discussions. Deputy States Attorney Kurlinkus responded the Proposed Budget must be Laid Over and put on public display in the County Clerk’s Office for 15 days prior to the time the Board takes final action. State Statute also says changes can be made to that budget that is Laid Over. However, the 15 day “clock running” would start after those changes were made. Board Member Gerl asked to schedule a new Finance Committee meeting three days from now, which would be this Thursday. Chairman Haney stated that we have a motion and a second to Lay Over the Proposed Budget. CFO Paschal questioned the Property Tax Level option to be used during the consideration of Proposed Budget? Chairman Haney said that the recommendation of the Finance Committee was to take the $170,000, so that is what we go forward with at this time. Board Member Webster again questioned the ability to amend the current Proposed Budget. Deputy States Attorney Kurlinkus responded that changes could be made, it would start the 15 days over again, and the Proposed Budget must be displayed in the County Clerk’s office for the required statutory inspection period. Board Member Biondo clarified that this Proposed Budget is what the Finance Committee has approved and is to be Laid Over. Board Member Jury called the question. Chairman Haney asked that all Board Members in favor of Laying Over the Budget, signify by saying Aye. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of all members present, with the exception of Board Members McDonald and Biondo who voted no. (Board Member Wilson was absent.)
10. Further discussion of the Proposed Budget by Chairman Haney and Board Member Webster. Board Member Gelr asked if a meeting of the Finance Committee could be scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2017. Board Member Jury said that only Committee Chairman Biondo could call for a meeting, and he encouraged him to do so. Chairman Haney said it could be discussed. Additional discussion by Chairman Haney, Board Members McDonald, Hoffman, Boomer, Salgado, Biondo, Schultz, Crosby and Webster.

11. Board Member Salgado made a motion to approve Agenda Item C. Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Appropriation Ordinance, to be Laid Over to the September 28, 2017 Meeting, seconded by Board Member Nicolosi. Motion was approved by a voice vote. (Board Member Wilson was absent.)

12. Chairman Haney explained that any amendments coming forward for the 28th meeting should be in writing.

13. Chairman Haney entertained a motion to go into Closed Session. County Board Member Fellars made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to the provisions of Section 2C-11 of the Illinois Open Meeting Act 5ILCS 20/2C-11, seconded by Board Member Nicolosi. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote of all members present. (Board Member Wilson was absent.) Meeting closed at 7:03 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 7:54 p.m. During Closed Session Board Member Gelr left at 7:25 p.m. and Board Member Wescott left at 7:35 p.m. Chairman Haney announced that no action was taken during the Closed Session.

14. Chairman Haney entertained a motion to adjourn. Board Member Jury moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board Member Biondo. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote of all members present. (Board Member Wilson, Gelr and Wescott were absent.) The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Rogers
Chief Deputy
Winnebago County Clerk

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