

CASS COUNTY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 12, 2010

BUDGET REDUCTION

The Cass County Council met at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's Hearing Room for 2010 budget reduction. In attendance were Ralph Anderson, Brent Kelley, Jeff LeDonne, Brian Reed, Tom Keplar, Don Shelhart and Vaneen Ide, Auditor. Absent were Chad Gibson and John Hillis, Attorney.

The meeting was called to order by President Ralph Anderson the Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence. The agenda consists of budget reduction and no other issues will be heard. Ralph Anderson noted it was easier to make cuts in February than in June, before more is spent. Cuts will not be put back into the budget and will not decrease personnel nor will it decrease the 1% raise given for all employees for 2010. Office holders have been very good in maintaining their budgets at a responsible level. They will be responsible for their own cuts to make up the difference in the reductions today.

The Commissioner's insurance will be cut by \$200,000 and this is what office holders will have to reduce to make up the difference. The Council realizes some offices just don't have extra, but there are others that can cut and make up the difference. March 5th is the date that all office holders should have their budget reductions submitted to the Council.

Judge Buns appeared and addressed the Council about the reduction to Circuit Courts Care of Inmates and pointed out that the budget used to be \$431,454 in 2008 and reduced to \$250,000 in 2009 and that was not enough to cover the expenses and he had to request an additional to cover the expenses. The Council is aware of this realizes that he may once again have to request an additional later in the year.

Reduction to the General Fund

23310 Sheriff -Jail Meals	72,554
35460 Circuit Court Care of Inmates	\$100,000
15230 Commissioner's Insurance	\$200,000

Total **\$372,554**

A motion was made by Brent Kelley to make the following reductions, Tom Keplar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reduction to Reassessment Fund

Office holder Judy Lewis appeared and suggested these areas for reduction.

19012 Data	\$3,000
32410 Printing	\$500
32430 Photo/Blue Print	\$4,500
32620 Contractual	\$1,740

Total **\$9,740**

Brian Reed made a motion to accept these figures for reduction, Tom Keplar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reduction to Cumulative Bridge Fund

Office holder Steve Easley appeared and suggested the reduction from Culverts and Misc.

39360 Culverts & Misc.	\$18,650
------------------------	----------

Total **\$18,650**

Brian Reed made a motion to accept this figure for reduction, Brent Kelley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reduction to the Health Fund

Office administrator Stephanie Frank appeared and suggested the reduction come from other supplies.

22371 Other Supplies	\$19,179
----------------------	----------

Total **\$19,179**

Tom Keplar made a motion to accept this figure for reduction, Don Shelhart seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reduction to the Jail Lease/Rent

Council President Ralph Anderson noted that this reduction is part of a contractual payment that the County is under an obligation to pay. The Commissioners believe the contract can be renegotiated to cover the payment.

32620 Jail Lease/Rent	\$69,769
-----------------------	----------

Total **\$69,769**

Don Shelhart made a motion to accept this figure for reduction, Tom Keplar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reduction to the Park & Rec. Fund

Park superintendent Sandy Heckard appeared and suggested the following areas for reduction.

42450 Other equipment	\$8,000
18001 Extra help	\$3,930

Total **\$11,930**

Brian Reed made a motion to accept these figures for reduction, Tom Keplar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reduction to the Cum. Cap. Dev. Fund

President Ralph Anderson addressed this item for reduction. This money is for a maintenace contract for the Cass County Government Building.

47100 Building improvements	\$15,328
-----------------------------	----------

Total **\$15,328**

Don Shelhart made a motion to accept this figure for reduction, Tom Keplar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The total reduction made to the 2010 budget is \$517,151. Tom Keplar made a motion to approve all cuts made today, Don Shelhart seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

President Ralph Anderson once again thanked all office holders for their cooperation and continued support to the Council. All office holders are to submit their reductions at the March 5th meeting to be held at 9:00 a.m. Brent Kelley made a motion to adjourn, Brian Reed seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ralph Anderson, President

Brian Reed, Vice President

Chod Gibson

Don Shelhart

Brent Kelley

Tom Keplar

Jeff LeDonne

ATTEST: _____

Vaneen M. Ide, Auditor