

**MINUTES OF A BUDGET MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF  
ILLINOIS HELD AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF CARTHAGE ON  
OCTOBER 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by chairman Wayne Bollin at 7:05. Members in attendance included Harry Douglas, Tom Bergmeier, Alex Blythe, Dennis Castlebury, and Mark Menn. Absent was Mark Hanson. Andrew Asbury entered the meeting at 7:24. Jeff Dedey was a visitor.

Mr. Dedey stated there is a question with the sheriff's department who is looking into a new call system. Authentication for cyber insurance was questioned. Mr. Dedey stated that this is included in software that he is installing on computers.

Preliminarily there was a \$244,479 surplus in the general fund. This would be a 9% levy over last year's budget. This would constitute a truth in taxation hearing. Bellwether stated they could come and hold the hearing.

The tenure step increase was discussed. There are 7 of the 13 that are on the highway department.

Mr. Dedey stated that Devnet controls the server which means a third party has control over our information. He felt that animal control should have their own Facebook page. The sheriff purchased some new computers and he will be doing upgrades in December on them. He is interested in working on security issues first. The whole courthouse will be on its own Wi-Fi and all guests will have their own Wi-Fi. There was another \$20,000 put into IT equipment and software line item for a total of \$57,200.

Revenue and expenses were gone over. It was decided to take the \$244,479 out of the surplus which takes the budget to a 4.9% levy.

Motion to approve the budget at \$5,095,430 for fiscal year 2024 which is a 1.049% increase over last year was made by Mr. Bergmeier and seconded by Mr. Douglas. All members present voted aye.

Motion to approve a balanced budget in the general fund of \$5,049,470 was made by Mr. Bergmeier and seconded by Mr. Douglas. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Asbury moved to approve the ambulance budget and levy of \$1,325,200 revenue and \$1,150,700 in expenses for fiscal year 2024, and levy of \$530,000 at 20/100 cent rate. Mr. Castlebury seconded. All members present voted aye.

Motion to recess until November 9, 2023, at 9 a.m. was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Bergmeier. All members present voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bollin, Chairman