2023 Budget Workshop

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the County Auditor, the public interests required that the Lake County Council, should be called to meet in special session at this time, for the purpose of considering Budgets for Year 2023, a written notice was sent to each member of the Council, and proper advertisement made, and all other acts performed in accordance with the laws governing such matters.

And now in obedience to such call, come Ted Bilski, President, David Hamm, Charlie Brown, Daniel Dernulc, Christine Cid, Christian Jorgensen and Alfredo Menchaca County Councilpersons, together with Tom O'Donnell, County Council Attorney.

Jorgensen made the motion, seconded by Dernulc, to appropriate \$15,000 in Professional Service Line item 43190 and \$30,000 in Maintenance and Service Contracts line item 43630 in the County General Fund 1001 for Circuit Court Department 3800. Majority voted yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Jorgensen made the motion, seconded by Hamm, to set Court Administrator position 391011409001 salary to \$79,210. Majority voted yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Jorgensen made the motion, seconded by Hamm, to approve the following in Department 5155 Park and Recreation Fund 107:

Payroll Clerk 5155 16698 002 with a requested salary of \$39,619 Assistant Controller 5155 12308 001 with a requested salary of \$45,339 Bookkeeper 5155 16628 001 with a requested salary of \$38,300 Secretary Bookkeeper 5155 16916 002 with a requested salary of \$37,760

Majority voted yes. Motion to approve carried 7-0.

Jorgensen made the motion, seconded by Dernulc, to add position of Commissioner with a salary of \$105,000 in County General Fund 1001 for Lake County Superior Court IV Department 4070. Majority voted yes. Motion to approve carried 7-0.

Jorgensen made the motion, seconded by Hamm, to set Secretary Office Manager position numbers 40001668000-1,3,5 & 6 salaries to \$46,660 in County General Fund 1001 for Superior Court Department 4000. Majority voted yes. Motion to approve carried 7-0.

Cid made the motion, seconded by Menchaca, to increase court security salaries by \$4,000 in Sheriff Department 0500. Majority voted yes. Motion to approve carried 7-0.

Cid made the motion, seconded by Menchaca, to add two Intel Analyst positions with a salary of \$40,000 in County General Fund 1001 for Sheriff Department 0500. Majority voted yes. Motion to approve carried 7-0.

Menchaca made the motion, seconded by Jorgensen, to approve Elections Director salary of \$67,000 and Assistant Director salary of \$65,000 in County General Fund 1001 for Elections and Registrations Department 2100. Majority voted yes. Motion to approve carried 7-0.

Brown made the motion, seconded by Jorgensen, to approve two new positions of Operations Manager with a salary of \$75,000 and System/RF Tech with a salary of \$68,060 in User Fee Fund 399 for E-911 Department 2901. Majority voted yes. Motion to approve carried 7-0.

John Dempsey: Similar to corrections across the street, it's a 24/7 operation. We've lost over a dozen employees to higher pay in other positions in the last year. We're limited to training expenses and we lose a lot of people to law enforcement so that's why we're seeking the increase. (\$2,000 increase for each employee)

Dernulc: I talked to Scott and I guess we can find \$122,000 but I don't like doing that. I want to make sure were fiscally sound and I don't know what next year will bring so I would ask if you would be willing to do half of this at least right now and we can look at it again next year.

Cid: What was the overall cost?

Dernulc: \$122,000.

Scott: Any add that we do at this point forward is going to subtract from the benefits.

Dernulc: What they're trying to add \$2,000 to each. So, it would be \$122,000 extra. So maybe it could be \$61,000 because I don't know what next year will bring.

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Dernulc made the motion, seconded by Jorgensen, to add an extra \$1,000 to resident supervisors 37, detention officers, 4 senior group leaders, 10 security officers, 8 housekeepers and time management supervisors for a total of \$61,000 in Juvenile Detention Department.

Brown: I'm unclear of this cutting this request to the \$1,000 and just adding \$1,000 to each position and the rational is we currently don't have the money?

Dernulc: We have the money.

Bilski: Maybe. We also don't have an approved budget so were going through this like we do every year. So, no, not necessarily.

Brown: But does it meet your needs? You say you're losing employees because of the lower pay, what does this do, in your opinion, to try to keep the current staff.

Dempsey: Obviously anything will help. The \$1,000 would be acceptable to show intent.

Bilski: These are hourly employees?

Dempsey: Hourly

Bilski: So, they can earn overtime?

Dempsey: Yes

Bilski: So, if you look at that motion, they're getting just over \$0.50 an hour increase on top of the additional. For time-and-a-half or overtime we have to be considerate of that as well.

Brown: Now will this impede our effort to maintain and be more attractive for people coming into the positions?

Bilski: If you're asking me as a person, I don't know what salary we could put out there that were not going to have that problem. I think everyone sitting in this room is experiencing the same thing we are and its just hard to find someone that's willing to work for that amount of money so we're trying to do the best we can.

Cid: Just the clarify they are receiving the five percent, that's already built into the budget. We're adding an additional \$1,000 to their salary.

Jorgensen: I think that's good compromise because we are getting to brass taxes and were looking at second reading. Speculative issues and things like that, I mean we have to make sure that we have enough money in reserve and we could be flexible going into 2023 and be able to take care of the needs that everybody has. I think its generous on one end and conservative enough on the other to meet halfway because we are down to the wire here, budget wise.

Majority voted yes. Hamm and Brown voted no. Motion to approve carried 5-yes, 2-no.

There being no further business to come before the Council, it was moved and seconded that this Council does now adjourn, to meet again as required by law.

## ATTEST:

John E. Petalas, Lake County Auditor