

SWITZERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 14, 2025

REGULAR MEETING –TUESDAY AT 5:00 P.M.

The Switzerland County Council met in a regular session pursuant to law and by being duly advertised.

Those present: County Council: Carrie Barwick, Kim Janssen, Lance Collier, Mat Dutkiewicz, Todd Chase, Patti Kappes and Scott Crandell. County Auditor, Gayle Sullivan.

Lance Collier called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of minutes from the September 10, 2025 regular meeting. Todd made a motion to approve and Kim second. All in favor.

Old Business

New Business

2026 General fund budget-Lance spoke about the changes that Baker Tiley had done. The general fund does have the funds to support the budget for 2026 but that would have the county sitting at 21% instead of the 15% they recommend. There was discussion amongst the council. Mat spoke about the Prosecutor's \$5,000. that he was willing to give up but that he is entitled to those funds and cannot be taken away until the end of his term. Kim spoke about being salary heavy and merit increases needed not just a blanket raise like done in the past. Carrie spoke about purchases being shopped more to help with overall cost. Mat spoke about being to position heavy within the county. Merit increases would be a good idea but it's to late in the game now. Mat talks about taking a position from the Auditor, the part time position in the Treasurer and one position from the Assessor. Mat also talks about having committees for different things such as supplies, medical building and tech building. He also talks about cutting the animal shelter completely out of the county's cost. Discussion was had as far as what to do with all the animals if that were to happen.

There was also discussion about different ideas amongst all of the council.

Mat made a motion to cut a position from the assessor's and auditor's, cut the position from the commissioner's budget and the IT/GIS mapping in the Sheriff's office. Kim second. Yay-Todd, Kim and Mat Nay-Patti, Carrie, Lance and Scott Motion failed.

Scott made a motion to remove the commissioner's assistant and Patti second. All in favor.

Todd made a motion to eliminate the deputy assessor and Mat second. Yay-Todd, Mat and Kim Nay-Patti, Lance, Carrie and Scott. Motion failed.

Patti spoke about wanting to look at the county job descriptions and asked that those be sent to her.

Mat and Kim spoke about how the budget meetings were or should be. Mat spoke about cuts not being made in different departments that should have been made.

Mat made a motion for every department head/elected official within the general fund to cut 3.2% of their 2026 budget and if they don't cut it then council will cut their budget. Carrie second. Yay-Carrie, Todd, Kim and May Nay-Patti, Lance and Scott. Motion passed. Changes made by the 17th and the next council meeting will be on Tuesday, October 21st @ 5pm.

With no further business to come before council, Carrie made a motion to adjourn, second by Todd. All in favor. Meeting ended @ 6:31pm.

Yes

James M. Cole

Loell Jones

James J. Bannick

Robt. Lynn

Ed. Humes

Ed. McCall

Yes

Not a

Attest:

Gayle Sullivan
Gayle Sullivan, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana