

## Minutes of the Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors Committee of the Whole Meeting

The Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors Committee of the Whole convened in open session at the Heritage Center, County Board Room, 1701 Michigan Ave, Manitowoc on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Chairman Martell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call: 22 members were present at the time of roll call: Behnke, Brey, Falkowski, Grambow, Hacker, Hansen, Klein, Jadowski, Lillibridge, Maresh, Martell, Metzger, Muench, Naidl, Neils, M. Phipps, R. Phipps, Schiesl, Shimulunas, Sitkiewitz, Weiss, and Zimmer. Supervisor Hammel was excused. Supervisors Bonde, and Engelbrecht were absent.

### Approval of January 16, 2024 minutes:

On a motion by Supervisor Sitkiewitz, seconded by Supervisor Behnke the January 16, 2024 meeting minutes were approved on a unanimous vote.

### Presentation by the County Executive on 2023 and 2024 Budgets:

Chairman Martell informed the committee this meeting was called to provide information regarding the 2023 and 2024 budgets.

Manitowoc County Executive Ziegelbauer provided information regarding how Manitowoc County's 2023 Budget for the Human Services Department has an estimate \$2,500,000 deficit and in 2024 it would potentially be \$3,500,000 deficit. The 2024 budget was built from the 2023 budget, hence the anticipated deficit for 2024. By 2024-year end, the projected deficit for the Human Services Department would be \$6,000,000 for the last two years.

Executive Ziegelbauer proposed two options to the board to rectify the deficit. The first option would be to increase the property tax levy in 2025 by 30% (\$9,750,000), which would be \$120 tax increase on a \$100,000 property. In 2026, the levy would be increased by 3% (\$975,000). At 2026-year end, there would be a surplus of \$2,475,000.

The second option would be to increase the property tax levy in 2025 by 3% (\$975,000) and implement a half-percent sales tax, which would provide an estimated revenue of \$8,500,000. In 2026, the levy would be increased by 3% (\$975,000) and the sales tax could provide an estimated revenue of \$9,000,000. At 2026-year end, there would be a surplus of \$2,425,000.

County Executive Ziegelbauer reported the main reasons contributing to the deficit was inflation and high demand for services that the County was statutorily obligated to provide. He also informed the committee he would not veto a resolution implementing the half-percent sales tax.

Once the presentation was finished, Chairman Martell opened up the floor for discussion between the Board and County Executive Ziegelbauer.

### Adjournment:

Supervisor Brey moved to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Muench. The motion was adopted by acclamation. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Tennant, Deputy County Clerk