The Decatur County Council opened their August 18th, 2009 budget hearings with the following present: Ernest Gauck, President, Larry Meyer, Rheadawn Metz, Geneva Hunt, Rose Hellmich and Kenny Owens.

Departments presented budgets as follows:

Bridgett Weber – Auditor explained how budgets were submitted. It was recommended that if all departments could work within their operating budgets for the next two years, county council could budget for salary increases.

Mark Mohr – Highway Department

Tim Ortman – GIS

Daryl Templeton – 911 Budgets, Sheriff and Jail

Judge Bailey – Superior Court only request was to bring up the Assistant Court Reporter to full salary.

Janice Bartels – New Directions requested an increase of $2500.00 to a total of $20,000.00 for 2010.

Bob Barker – Parks Department

Jerome Buening – Commissioners

Doug Banks – Coroner

Cindy Marley – Health Department

Dan Wilson – Purdue Extension

Melanie Maxwell – Visitor’s & Recreation

Salary increases were discussed. Council members agreed on increase of $650.00 per year increase to full-time employees and $325.00 to part-time employees. Mr. Gauck asked the Auditor’s Office to apply those amounts to see if this will work within the amounts needed to be considered for the General Fund. County Council will begin working the 2010 budget at 9:00am on Wednesday, August 19th.