

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2026

Vigo County Commissioners and County Council Schedule Joint Budget Workshop Ahead of 2027 Budget Adoption

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. — The Vigo County Board of Commissioners and Vigo County Council will hold a joint budget workshop on Monday, October 26, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Vigo County Commissioners Conference Room, located at 650 South Riverside Road, Terre Haute, Indiana.

The workshop will provide an opportunity for both elected bodies to collaboratively review the county's 2026 budget and evaluate proposed expenditures for 2027, with particular emphasis on employee compensation, staffing requests, and the associated costs of county employment.

Indiana Code 36-2-5-4 establishes a statutory process for reviewing proposed county employee positions and compensation. Under the statute, county officers and departments submit proposed compensation information to the County Auditor, who presents those statements to the Board of County Commissioners for review and recommendations before they are forwarded to the County Council.

While the County Council maintains final authority over the adoption of the county budget and employee compensation, Indiana law also establishes an important role for the Board of Commissioners in reviewing and making recommendations regarding proposed staffing and compensation.

The October 26 workshop will provide an additional opportunity to examine these matters collectively and ensure that both bodies have a comprehensive understanding of the financial commitments associated with the proposed budget.

In addition to base salaries and wages, the discussion will include the ancillary costs associated with county employment, including Social Security and Medicare contributions (FICA), Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) contributions, health insurance, and other applicable employment-related expenses.

While employee compensation and staffing are important components of this discussion, they represent only a portion of the county's overall financial picture. Beyond personnel expenses, there are millions of dollars in additional appropriations, operational costs, and financial commitments that deserve the same level of review and consideration. This workshop will provide an opportunity to examine those expenditures, evaluate priorities, and ensure we are taking a comprehensive approach to the county's 2027 budget.

"Developing a responsible budget requires us to look at the entire financial picture, not just individual salary requests or departmental staffing needs," said Vigo County Commissioner Chris Switzer. "While employee compensation is an important part of the conversation, we also have millions of dollars in other expenditures and financial obligations that deserve careful consideration. My goal is to make sure we have a complete understanding of where our money is going, what our priorities are, and how we can best utilize taxpayer dollars."

The workshop is not intended to revisit past disagreements or suggest that the budget process was improperly conducted. Rather, it is an opportunity to strengthen communication, review the information available, and ensure that both elected bodies have the opportunity to contribute their respective perspectives and responsibilities.

"Both the Commissioners and County Council share a responsibility to protect taxpayer dollars while ensuring our departments have the resources necessary to provide essential public services," Switzer added. "I appreciate the work that has already gone into developing the proposed budget, and I believe this additional discussion will help us move forward with a more complete understanding of the county's financial position."

The Vigo County Council is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Courtroom to further discuss and consider adoption of the 2027 Vigo County budget.

Scheduled Meeting Information

Joint Vigo County Commissioners and County Council Budget Workshop

- Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
- Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Location: Vigo County Commissioners Conference Room
- Address: 650 South Riverside Road, Terre Haute, IN 47807
- Purpose: Review of the 2027 budget, proposed 2027 employee compensation, staffing requests, associated employment costs, and additional county expenditures.

Vigo County Council — 2027 Budget Meeting

- Date: Thursday, October 29, 2026
- Time: 5:30 p.m.
- Location: City Hall Courtroom, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Purpose: Further discussion and consideration of adoption of the 2027 Vigo County budget.

Public Attendance and Viewing Information

Both meetings will be open to the public and will be live-streamed and recorded on Vigo County Government's official YouTube channel for residents who wish to follow the proceedings remotely or view them at a later date.

Due to the size of the Commissioners Conference Room, seating for the October 26 budget workshop will be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to room capacity.

No public comment will be taken during the October 26 budget workshop. The meeting will be conducted as a working session between the Vigo County Commissioners and Vigo County Council, focused on reviewing financial information, discussing departmental needs, and evaluating budget-related matters.

Residents are encouraged to utilize the county's live-streaming service to observe the workshop if they are unable to attend in person.

Statutory Reference: Indiana Code 36-2-5-4 — Statements and Recommendations on Positions and Compensation; Budget Requests.

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