

January 12, 2009

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Dan Awald and Bruce Fingerhut absent and the following proceedings were held to wit:

IN RE: DECEMBER 8, 2008 MINUTES

Chuck Estok moved to approve the December 8, 2008, minutes with a correction on the time seconded by Bill Dulin with 4 ayes 1 abstaining (JB) as is new councilperson.

IN RE: REORGANIZATION

Chuck Estok moved to appoint Mark Smith President seconded by Jennifer Davis.
Chuck Estok moved to close the nomination. Five ayes for Mark as president.

Jennifer Davis moved to appoint Chuck Estok as Vice President seconded by Bill Dulin.
Chuck Estok moved to close the nominations. Fives ayes for Chuck as vice president.

Jennifer Davis moved to appoint Martin Lucas as the Council attorney seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

Judy Benninghoff moved to reappoint Mark Smith to the Economic Development Board seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to reappoint Bruce Fingerhut to the Planning Commission board seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to reappoint Roger Chaffins, Sr. to the BZA seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Jennifer Davis moved to reappoint Kathy Allen to the Starke County Library Board seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Bill Dulin moved to reappoint Kenny Wallace to the Alcoholic Beverage Board seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to reappoint Jennifer Davis to the KIRPC board seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to reappoint Bill Dulin to the Solid Waste board seconded by Judy Benninghoff with 5 ayes.

Bill Dulin moved to reappoint Jody Czerniak to the P.T.A.B.O.A. Board seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

Judy Benninghoff moved to reappoint Ed Hasnerl to the P.T.A.B.O.A. Board seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

IN RE: ASSESSOR'S SATELLITE OFFICES

Judy Benninghoff moved to amend the job description for the Satellite Offices from being paid quarterly to being paid monthly seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

IN RE: REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONALS AND TRANSFERS

Jennifer Davis requested that the Auditor remind the office holders that letters of explanation need to accompany any requests or they will not be approved. The office holder would not need to attend the meeting unless they wanted to discuss their request further.

IN RE: COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Chuck Estok moved to hold the 2009 council meetings on the 3rd Monday of every month beginning in February at 5:00 pm seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

IN RE: PLUMBING REPAIRS NEEDED AT JAIL

Oscar Cowen talked to the council about the plumbing needs at the jail. He is getting quotes and would like to use \$7561 of County Corrections money (which should be more than enough) to make the repairs. The council verbally approved the money but it needs to be on the February agenda.

Commissioners Kathy Norem and Dan Bridegroom want the problem with the sewage leaking in the prosecutor’s office fixed as soon as possible. They declared this an emergency at their January 2, 2009, meeting. Kathy Norem stated that the plumbing and fixtures throughout the jail are in very bad shape, and therefore they are getting quotes for that as well.

IN RE: JOINT WORK SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL AND COMMISSIONERS

Kathy Norem stated that she would like some joint work sessions with the council for strategic planning. Jennifer Davis stated that she would like that as well and suggested every three months.

Dan Bridegroom and Kathy Norem informed the council about the stimulus package discussed at their commissioners’ meeting.

Kathy Norem & Jennifer Davis discussed going through the jail, the warehouse and the courthouse to see what needs to be done. Visiting worksites can be done without advertising or posting a meeting. The council and the commissioners are going to do this Friday, January 23rd. They are going to meet at the annex at 9 am and proceed from there to inspect possible worksites. They requested that the Auditor post this just to be safe.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

The council requested that the Auditor continue to provide the council with the fund balance report that was supplied last year and to do so quarterly.

Jennifer Davis asked Bob Smith, I.T. Director, when he thought he would have a plan ready for the purchasing part of his job. He hopes to have it by spring or before.

Sheriff Oscar Cowen discussed an insurance reimbursement he received last year for a wrecked squad car. He had not found one by the end of the year and therefore lost the appropriation. The council told him to turn in a request to get the appropriation back for the February meeting.

The council requested that the Auditor make sure the amount requested for patrolmen is enough to pay 9 patrolmen for the entire year of 2009.

There being no further business to come before the board, Chuck Estok moved to adjourn.

Mark Smith, President

Chuck Estok, Vice President

Bill Dulin

Jennifer Davis

Judy Benninghoff

ABSENT
Bruce Fingerhut

ABSENT
Dan Awald

Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor and Secretary to the Commissioners