

**February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in joint/special session at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with \_\_\_\_\_ absent, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

TO BE FILLED IN LATER – WHEN RECEIVED

**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in joint/regular session at 5:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Dan Awald, Bill Dulin, and Bruce Fingerhut absent, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

All three Commissioners were present.

**IN RE: MINUTES**

The Council signed the November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 minutes previously approved.

Judy Benninghoff moved to approve the January 18<sup>th</sup> minutes, seconded by Chuck Estok, with four ayes.

Judy Benninghoff moved to approve the January 12<sup>th</sup> joint meeting minutes, seconded by Chuck Estok, with four ayes.

**IN RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2010-01**

Charles Weaver, with Economic Development, explained the Development Foundation's portion of the additional request. He told the council he was there to answer any questions they may have. Mark read the total request for the Development Foundation and the Commissioners. Chuck Estok moved to approve the entire CREDIT request of \$1,754,112, seconded by Judy Benninghoff, with four ayes.

The Judge requested \$1,138 for Psychiatric Services. The council discussed this and felt they did not want to start approving these small requests in County General, so early in the year. They asked the Auditor's Office to send a letter to the judge telling him the request was tabled, and they would like him to see if there is somewhere else from where he can transfer the money. Chuck Estok moved to table the request, seconded by Judy Benninghoff, with four ayes.

The Highway Department had requests for Maintenance & Repair, Stone Gravel & Aggregate, and Bituminous. Some of the money was received from FEMA and has never been appropriated. Chuck Estok moved to approve the \$68,840 request by the Highway, seconded by Judy Benninghoff, with four ayes.

**IN RE: NEW VEHICLES FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Oscar Cowen was scheduled to be on the agenda for the Commissioners' Meeting requesting three new vehicles. The Council received a letter from Oscar as well, explaining his request. Commissioner, Kathy Norem told the council that the Sheriff's Department has five vehicles that are as old as 2005. Mark said Oscar

feels these three vehicles would put him back on schedule. Kathy said Oscar would like to have two pick-up trucks and a car. Commissioner, Dan Bridegroom explained that the resale on pick-up trucks is much better than the cars, but the cost is only \$700 more. They questioned whether the fuel and maintenance on the pick-ups would be higher. The Council & Commissioners discussed this at length and felt it would be best to only approve two vehicles, at this time. Approving one truck and one car would give the Sheriff's Department the opportunity to try out the pick-up truck and see if they feel it meets their needs. Mark figured, by Oscar's figures, it would be \$41,294 for one new truck and one new car. Kathy Norem moved to approve that amount for the new vehicles, subject to Council approval. Dan Bridegroom seconded the motion, and it passed with three ayes.  
**IN RE: STARKE COUNTY E.M.S.**

Mark gave the board a verbal report on where the county is with EMS. He said everyone has been working well together. The next EMS meeting will be March 16<sup>th</sup> at the Hamlet Fire Station. Dr. Houston has agreed to come on board, to help write a new protocol for EMS/EMA. Dr. Hasaan & Dr. Bartush are currently on board.

**IN RE: CLERK'S REQUEST FOR A COPY MACHINE**

The council received a letter from the Clerk, Evelyn Skronski, requesting they revisit her tabled request for a new copy machine. Mark feels they still don't have the information they requested from the IT Director at the last meeting. The Council would still like Bob Smith to look into this and put a spreadsheet together with all of the county's copy machine information. Chuck Estok moved to table the request again, seconded by Judy Benninghoff, with four ayes.

**IN RE: JOINT MEETING**

They discussed the CAMS meeting, and the next meeting to review the County Handbook. The Council & Commissioners scheduled a joint meeting on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m., regarding the County Handbook & CAMS.

Judy Benninghoff moved to adjourn.

**Council Board Members:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Smith, President

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Chuck Estok, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT  
Bill Dulin

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Davis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Benninghoff

\_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT  
Bruce Fingerhut

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ABSENT  
Dan Awald

**Commissioner Board Members:**

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Dan Bridegroom, President

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Kathy Norem

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Mark Milo

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Melinda McCarty, Auditor Pro Tem

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