

July 21, 2014

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in regular session at 5:30PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Dave Pearman, Tony Radkiewicz, Marvin McLaughlin, Robert Sims, Bryan Cavender, and Freddie Baker present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Pearman. Councilman Mitch Semans was absent.

NORTH JUDSON-WAYNE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY APPROPRIATION REQUEST

NJ-Wayne Twp. Library Director, Jane Ellen Felchuk, appeared before the Board to request approval of an additional appropriation from assets of their Rainy Day Fund. She advised they need to replace three air conditioning units; upgrade five public access workstations for library patrons; and repair the box gutters on the original portion of the Library Building. She advised the amount needed, and the request for the additional appropriation is a total of \$20,340.00. Director Felchuk noted the appropriations will come from their Rainy Day Fund, which had a cash balance of \$52,824.00 as of January 1, 2014. Councilman McLaughlin made a motion to approve the request for the additional appropriations, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

MINUTES

Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19th meeting, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. The motion passed with all ayes.

REPORT FROM PORTER-STARKE

Rocky Schiralli, CEO of Porter-Starke Services, and Staff Members, Sandy Carlson, and Todd Willis appeared before the Board. President Schiralli thanked the Council for their yearly contribution and advised them that Porter-Starke provides more charity care than other community mental health centers throughout the State of Indiana. The Board heard from Sandy Carlson, VP of Clinical Services, and Todd Willis, Director of Children Services who both spoke of the many services provided by Porter-Starke. They advised the services include: outpatient mental health counseling and addiction treatment; psychiatric services; inpatient treatment; admissions & emergency services; community support services; and children's services.

DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER REQUESTS

Councilman McLaughlin made a motion to approve the transfer request from the Board of Commissioners requesting a transfer of \$2,592.00 from the health insurance budget line item of the Commissioners' budget of the County General Fund, 1000-10804.000.0025 to budget line item, Porter Starke Services, 1000-32400.000.0025. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Highway Department Superintendent, Rik Ritzler, appeared before the Board to request transfers within the Highway Department Budget, of Fund 1176. He requested the following transfers:

From: 1176.33600.000.0530, GASB Consultant, \$1,000.00; 1176.30405.000.0531, Service Contract, \$2,000.00; 1176.31304.000.0531, Drainage & other assessments, \$2,931.88; 1176.10804.000.0533, Health insurance, \$30,000.00; 1176.10903.000.0533, Unemployment, \$3,200.00; and 1176.21200.000.0533, Tires & tubes, \$3,855.60 for a total of \$42,987.48 to be transferred to:

1176.10218.000.0531, Part time mowers, \$20,000.00; 1176.11400.000.0531, Overtime, \$20,000.00; and 1176.21500.000.0531, Culverts, \$2,987.48, for a total of \$42,987.48. Councilman Sims made a motion to approve the transfer requests, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. The motion passed with all ayes.

Since the Starke County Economic Development Foundation Director, Charlie Weaver, was not in attendance for the meeting, his request to transfer monies within the CEDIT Fund was tabled. Councilman Radkiewicz made the motion to table Director Weaver's transfer request, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes.

IU HEALTH-STARKE CAPITAL ASSET REPORT FOR THE 2ND QUARTER OF 2014

Craig Felty, President of IU Health-Starke appeared before the Board to present the Capital Asset report for the second quarter of 2014. President Felty advised at the time of acquisition the book basis total of capital assets was recorded as \$6,525,889.00 with the book value of those assets being \$3,140,081.00. He noted assets purchased during the first and second quarters of 2014 were fireproofing, \$9,720.00; wireless licenses for infusion pumps, \$13,000.00; and ER patient stretchers, \$37,157.00. There was a discussion between President Felty, the Council, and Commissioners Davis and Norem, who were also present, questioning if the wireless licenses were actually a capital asset. President Felty next advised since the acquisition a total of \$6,015,084.00 of capital assets have been purchased, and those assets now have a book value of \$3,215,287.00. He stated the total book basis value of all capital assets is listed as \$12,540,972.00 and the book value of those assets is presently \$6,355,368.00.

ORDINANCE AMENDING AND CONTINUING THE UNIFORM INNKEEPER'S TAX IN STARKE COUNTY

County Attorney, Marty Lucas, advised the proposed amendment to the County's Innkeeper's Tax Ordinance has already been advertised, and the public hearing has been held. Auditor Chaffins stated she had two questions in regard to this proposed amendment: when this would officially go into effect, having the County Treasurer collect the County's Innkeeper's Tax instead of submitting it to the Indiana Department of Revenue, and who will be contacting the tax payers of that tax in the County since the IDOR is the only agency with that information. Attorney Lucas advised he will contact the Indiana Department of Revenue. After a brief discussion the proposed date for the amendment to go into effect could be September 1st. Councilman McLaughlin made a motion to approve the proposed Innkeeper's Tax Ordinance Amendment to go into effect on September 1st, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

President Pearman advised since the Sheriff was not present to explain the proposed amendment to the Starke County Police Retirement Plan it will be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

President Pearman stated he would like to see the discussion continue in regard to the County creating a Parks and Recreation Board. Commissioner Kathy Norem stated it would be in the County's best interest if a Parks and Recreation Board were to be established in the County. In conducting research in regard to the County's ongoing issue with the Bass Lake Beach and Campground Attorney Lucas stated there is grant funding available for County's to maintain their parks but only if the County has an established Park Board. Attorney Lucas advised Commissioner Danford had requested he look into the title of the property, the Bass Lake Beach & Campground. Attorney Lucas stated during his research he discovered the property was transferred to the County from the State and the transfer is subject to a clause that the County be compliant with the rules and regulations of the State's Land & Water Conservation Project. Attorney Lucas advised those rules and regulations cover a wide area of issues, but one thing in particular it puts the lease agreement into a gray area in regard to the establishment of long term rentals in the Bass Lake Campground, since one of the rules and regulations is that there shall be no permanent fixtures established.

Commissioner Norem stated she has a change in her perspective in regard for the need of a County Parks and Recreation Board. She noted she didn't think it was necessary to create the board presently, but added there have been "things in the wind" and now she does see the present need for the creation of such a Board. She also stated if the County was to ever receive the Bass Lake Beach & Campground back it could be under the direction of the County's Parks & Recreation Board. Commissioner Norem asked the Council to seriously consider the creation of the Park Board. Commissioner Jennifer Davis stated the Council could deny any request for funding by the Park Board, in the future.

Councilman Baker restated his stance on being against the establishment of a park board that the County will have the responsibility to fund the entity, and he does not want to see any new taxes created. President Pearman called the issue to a vote. Attorney Lucas reminded the Board the Ordinance to create a Parks and Recreation Board was first drafted in 2013. Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to approve the creation of a County Parks and Recreation Board, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with four ayes and one nay (Baker). Ordinance 2014-7-21, "An Ordinance Establishing the Starke County Department of Parks and Recreation" was signed by the Board.

With there being no further business, Councilman Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting was adjourned at 6:48PM.

JULY 21, 2014

Dave Pearman, President

ABSENT _____
Mitch Semans, Vice President

Bryan Cavender

Marvin McLaughlin

Tony Radkiewicz

Robert Sims

Freddie Baker

Katherine Chaffins, Starke County Auditor and
Secretary to the County Council