

JULY 23, 2013

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council along with the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in Special session at 1:20PM in the Annex meeting room, Knox Indiana and the following proceedings were held to wit:

Present: Councilmen Dave Pearman, Mitch Semans, Bob Sims, Freddie Baker, Marvin McLaughlin and Bryan Cavender; Commissioners Kathy Norem and Jennifer Davis.

Absent: Councilman Tony Radkiewicz and Commissioner Kent Danford.

Commissioner President Norem called the meeting to order at 1:20PM. Commissioner Davis presented to both Boards a proposal received from IU-Health, in preparation for the end of the County’s lease of the hospital property. She advised, IU-Health has proposed building a replacement facility with an estimated capital outlay of \$11.8 million and an estimated completion date in 2016. She noted, in the preparation of this proposal, IU-Health assessed the needs of the community as being: lack of primary care, access to healthcare, obesity and diabetes, preventive healthcare and wellness, and emergency and ambulatory services. Commissioner Davis stated IU-Health has proposed a new Medical Facility, with four med/surg beds, an emergency room with two short stay beds, and two short stay beds in the surgery/endoscopy area of the facility. (a sketch of the external building was provided along with a drawing of the floor plan of the facility). She noted IU-Health has proposed the following development budget: functional building program, 36,000 square feet \$9,720,000.00; site development \$684,000.00; professional fees \$832,000.00; demolition of current building \$240,000.00; contingency \$324,000.00, for a total budget of \$11,800,000.00.

Commissioner Davis advised the proposal has been approved by the Hospital Board and will be presented to IU-Health in August. Councilman McLaughlin inquired about the present lease and the County having to purchase the assets back, and Commissioner Davis advised they would be purchased along with the land. President Norem stated she would like to see input from the public. Following a discussion, Council President Pearman suggested the County send IU-Health a letter stating their disagreement with their proposal, with the letter stating the County’s suggestions of such a facility. Commissioner Davis advised the County had hired a consulting group, the Coker Group who had requested information from IU-Health Laporte. IU-Health had stated they were not going to provide that information, and the Coker Group pulled out of the agreement noting they were not working with a friendly group. President Norem advised this is the only option proposed at this time, and the only other option would be for them to pack up and leave the area, and the County would have to pay them for the improvements they had made to the facility, and noted there are three years remaining on the lease.

Councilman McLaughlin suggested the County make a decision as to what the County would like to see and then present a counter offer. Councilman Baker made a motion to authorize a letter to be sent to IU Health listing the County’s requests. Councilman Semans seconded the motion. Commissioner Davis advised she would draft the letter stating the County does not agree with their proposal. Following a brief discussion, the motion was ammended. Councilman Baker made a motion to authorize a letter to be drafted to IU-Health stating the County is requesting a facility with at least twelve beds, more physicians, and also a two-three man morque. Councilman Semans seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

With there being no further business, Councilman Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Semans. The motion passed with all ayes, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:05PM.

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STARKE COUNTY COUNCIL

Dave Pearman, President

Mitch Semans, Vice President

Bryan Cavender

Marvin McLaughlin

Freddie Baker

ABSENT
Tony Radkiewicz

Robert Sims

Katherine Chaffins, Starke Co. Auditor & Board of
Commissioners and County Council Secretary