

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in Regular Session at 6:40PM, due to the lateness of the Starke County Council Joint Session, in person at the Starke County Annex Building, Knox, Indiana, with Charles Chesak and Bryan Cavender present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner President Charles Chesak directly at 6:40PM.

SHERIFF – HOLIDAY PAY DISCUSSION

Bill Dulin, Starke County Sheriff and Pam McDonald, Starke County Sheriff's Department Matron/Office Manager, came before the Board of Commissioners to request a change is how the holidays are paid out to their employees. Matron McDonald advised that on the admin calendar Christmas Day is not on the Holiday calendar as it falls on a Saturday. So anyone working Christmas Eve or the day before Christmas Eve would get the holiday pay but those working on Christmas Day would not. They would like this to be changed. Attorney Lucas asked if they know what the dollar effect would be. Matron McDonald advised they are looking at 4 officers, 4 dispatchers, and 6 jailers being paid. Auditor Oesterreich asked if this would be from 12:00 AM to 12:00 AM. Matron McDonald agreed. After some further discussion Auditor Oesterreich asked if they are looking to pay the individuals that will be working on the actual holiday their regular time plus normal time or are they looking to pay them time and a half for the hours that are considered the holiday. Matron McDonald advised they are requesting it paid like any other holiday. Auditor Oesterreich stated for an example, if the highway department was going out on Christmas day those employees would be making time and a half. Attorney Lucas advised that makes sense and would be consistent with other departments. Sheriff Dulin and Matron McDonald agreed that the employees should be getting time and a half for those hours worked not just their straight time. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to pay employees of the Sheriff's Department, who have to work and actual holiday that is not on the holiday schedule, time and a half. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

AUDITOR BUSINESS

Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the vendor claims docket for a total in the amount of \$1,015,465.70. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to approve the minutes from September 8th, 2020. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Jim Coad, Director of Maintenance came before the Board of Commissioners to request a part time position for his department. He advised he would need a part time individual for at least 6 weeks. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to establish a temporary part time custodial position for the 6 weeks as requested. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

Commissioner Chesak spoke about the court room seating discussion. He believes it would be better to take the old court room seating to the glove factory rather than the highway department. Auditor Oesterreich asked the Board if they will be doing an auction or sealed bid. Commissioner Chesak advised that he would like to hold an auction still this year, he advised the highway department has equipment to sell as well. Auditor Oesterreich advised that she did check into the sealed bids and that will take at least 60 days to complete. It was decided that Commissioner Chesak will check with the auction company and Auditor Oesterreich as well as Attorney Lucas will check IC for the advertising requirements for a county auction.

Attorney Lucas spoke about the Driveway Permit process. He stated it is still being worked on but he has not heard back from Superintendent Ritzler yet and he also understands that Commissioner Cavender does not want a fee associated with the permit. He believes this would work with residential but is wondering if we still need to charge a permit for commercial or a subdivision that was going to be a little bigger. He advised it would be something to think about for the residential and agricultural to be free but then to charge for the commercial properties. Further discussion will be held regarding the driveway permits at future meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Russ Blaze came before the Board of Commissioners to request a bench placement on county property at Bass Lake. He explained that these are the benches that are put on the Prairie Trails by the Prairie Trails Club. The area they are looking at is next to the Marina. He stated there is a 40 foot right-of-way access that goes to the lake and they are looking to put it on the corner. She advised they are very heavy and are made from bottle caps. He stated it would need bolted down on a concrete pad but would not need maintenance from anybody. Attorney Lucas advised that the Board of Commissioners would be the governing body to approve this but he would suggest coordinating this with the Highway Superintendent so he can confirm in his records that where they are placing this is in fact county owned property. Commissioner Chesak advised that he will speak to the Highway Superintendent and then they will discuss this further at their next meeting.

There being no further public comments and no further business, Commissioner Cavender made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Charlie Chesak, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

Rachel Oesterreich, County Auditor
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners