

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in a Regular Session at 5:30PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Freddie Baker, Dave Pearman, Bryan Cavender, Brad Hazelton, Pam Stalbaum and Nancy Dembowski present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Freddie Baker. Absent from the meeting was Councilman Robert Sims. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 18th, 2017 meeting and the October 2nd, 2017 Special Session. Councilwoman Stalbaum seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

STARKE COUNTY 2018 BUDGETS, PUBLIC HEARING; STARKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT 2018 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING STARKE COUNTY AIRPORT 2018 BUDGET ADOPTION

President Freddie Baker opened the Public Hearing for the Starke County 2018 Budgets. Since there was no response from the Public Councilman Hazelton made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Councilman Pearman seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes and the Public Hearing closed at 5:33PM. President Baker then opened the Public Hearing for the Starke County 2018 Solid Waste Budget. Since there was no response from the Public Councilman Hazelton made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Councilman Pearman seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes and the Public Hearing closed at 5:35PM.

Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the adoption of the 2018 Starke County Airport Budget. Councilwoman Dembowski seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The Budget Adoption Form was signed by the Council.

APPROPRIATION TRANSFER REQUEST

County Extension Officer Julia Miller appeared before the Board with a transfer request. She requested to transfer \$550.00 into 1000.10204.000.0021, Clerical Assistant from 1000.30404.000.0021, Computer Contract, \$205.00; and \$350.00 from 1000.30600.000.0021, Utilities.

She also requested a transfer of \$480.72 to 1000.20202.000.0021, repair & maintenance from 1000.10200.000.0002 Auditor's Deputy from the Auditor's Budget.

Councilman Pearman made a motion to approve the transfers requested. Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

APPROPRIATION APPROVAL REQUEST

Starke County Economic Development Director Charlie Weaver appeared before the Board to request approval of the appropriation of 1112.30606 SCILL Center in the amount of \$40,000.00. He advised this would be the second payment of the year for the total of \$80,000.00. He also noted the Board of Commissioners has already approved the request. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the appropriation request. Councilman Pearman seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

STARKE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION'S MONTHLY REPORT

Director Weaver presented a brief monthly report advising that Manufacturing Day was held recently and there were 88 people present. He advised it was a Job Fair for 6 Companies. He noted that the quantity and the quality of people present were much improved over last year. Director Weaver stated the next night was the Student Night.

Councilman Hazelton inquired as to the status of the Stelerema Building. Director Weaver advised the Popcorn Company will only be using the new portion of the building. He noted they have a request from Baileys looking for storage in a different part of the building. He stated they are looking for someone to use the office space area.

CORONER REQUEST TO INCREASE PAY IN 2018

Coroner Danny Hoffer appeared before the Board to discuss his request for a pay increase in 2018. He advised he had presented it to the Board of Commissioners and they had suggested raising his pay to \$9,000.00. He advised he has made 38 calls so far this year. The Coroner advised he was told by a Commissioner that he should not be driving his Coroner vehicle so when he gets a call he has to go to the Coroner Building and get his vehicle and then return it back there when he is finished with the call. He also noted he does not have a County radio to use. Councilman Hazelton stated he thought the Coroner should be able to drive the Coroner vehicle to cut down time when he does receive a call. Councilman Pearman also stated he felt the Coroner should have access to a County radio to monitor the calls. They also talked about his reimbursement for his personal cell phone usage. Councilman

Pearman made a motion to table the Coroner's request until he can get it clarified with the Board of Commissioners. Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

OTHER BUSINESS

President Baker advised he had received word from the Board of Commissioners that they have returned the EMA Director position to full time status. They advised they have filled the position and the new Director will begin employment on October 17th. She will be earning \$33,000.00 annually with a possible \$1,000.00 increase after 90 days and a favorable job evaluation, and an additional \$1,000.00 after 6 months and a favorable evaluation.

Sheriff Bill Dulin appeared before the Board to discuss a recent issue they had with a dog call. Each Council Member along with the Sheriff had received a complaint of dogs and the complaint stated that the wild dogs had damaged their livestock and the police department won't respond to the calls. Sheriff Dulin advised he received the complaint and two reports were handled that same day and he had it documented. He also advised the dogs have been put down.

Councilman Pearman advised they had met with the Hospital that morning and they advised they will work with the County in regard to transfers. He also noted he had heard that Porter County Commissioners are upset that there is a Porter County rig and staff sitting here in Starke County all day leaving Porter County short.

Auditor Chaffins advised the Council will have a Special Session Meeting to adopt the County Budgets on Thursday, October 26th, at 5:30PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With there being no public comments and no further business, Councilman Cavender made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Dembowski. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 6:37PM.

OCTOBER 16, 2017

Freddie Baker, President

Dave Pearman, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

Pam Stalbaum

Nancy Dembowski

ABSENT
Robert Sims

Brad Hazelton

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