

OCTOBER 19, 2015

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, Bryan Cavender, Pam Stalbaum, and Jennifer Davis present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Councilman President Freddie Baker. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 21st meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cavender and seconded with all ayes.

PUBLIC HEARING –AN OCRA, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION

Ed Buswell, of KIRPC, and Starke County Economic Development Director, Charlie Weaver, appeared before the Board to present the request for Starke County to apply to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs for a grant from the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Workforce Development Program. The program is funded by Title I of the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The funds are to be used for a community development project that will include the following activities: development of an Equipment Maintenance and Automation Technology Training Program. The total amount of the CDBG funds to be requested is \$250,000.00. Mr. Buswell advised a public hearing is scheduled for this meeting. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to open the public hearing portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Stalbaum. The motion passed with all ayes, and the hearing was opened at 5:32PM. There being no public questions or comments, Councilwoman Davis made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilwoman Stalbaum. The motion passed with all ayes and the hearing was closed at 5:33PM.

2016 BUDGET ADOPTIONS

Councilwoman Davis made a motion to adopt the 2016 Budget of the Starke County Airport, Ordinance 75-101915B, in the total amount of \$816,599.00. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The budget ordinance was signed by those board members present. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to adopt the 2016 Budget of the Starke County Solid Waste Management District, Ordinance 75-101915A, in the total amount of \$344,000.00. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The budget ordinance was signed by those board members present. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to adopt the 2016 Starke County Budgets for the following funds: County General, Reassessment, Highway, Local Road & Street, Cumulative Bridge, Health, and Cumulative Capital Development, Ordinance 75-101915, in the total amount of \$ 9,818,586.00. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The budget ordinance was signed by those board members present.

PRICE QUOTES TO PURCHASE NEW COUNTY EMS AMBULANCE & EMS TRANSFER REQUEST

EMS Director Keith Emigh and Clerk Marylynn Richie appeared before the Board with price quotes for the purchase of a new ambulance, as he was asked to submit at the Board of Commissioners' October 5th meeting. He advised he had contacted five different vendors and had received four price quotes at that time with the 5th one pending. He advised the two lowest quotes were as follows: Medix Specialty Vehicles, of Elkhart, IN., a 2016 Ford E450XL with a 6.8L gas engine, for a total price of \$ 126,760.00; and PL Custom Body & Equipment, of Manasquan, NJ, a 2015 Ford E450 Super Duty, with a 6.8L gas engine, for a total price of \$125,644.00. He noted the cost of the decals, approximately \$2,000-2,500.00, would not be included in the price quotes. He stated if either one of these rigs were ordered there would be approximately a six weeks production time before they would receive it. There was a discussion as to the source of funding for the purchase of a new ambulance. Auditor Chaffins advised the best source would be the Rainy Day Fund since the Cumulative Capital Development Fund does not have that much funding available, but to appropriate the Rainy Day Fund would require a super majority of the County Council. Commissioner Norem advised they would like to look at the future needs of the County for the next year in regard to capital expenditures. President Baker noted he would also like to table this discussion until the Council's November meeting and they have more members in attendance. Councilwoman Davis advised this issue should be addressed by the Board of Commissioners also.

Director Emigh requested a transfer of \$8,000.00 from the EMS Director budget line, 1000.10124.000.0020 into the ambulance repair budget line, item number 1000.20302.000.0020. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilman Cavender. The motion passed with all ayes.

DRUG & TOBACCO FREE STARKE COUNTY GRANT APPROPRIATION REQUEST

Wendy Elam and Linda Molinda from Drug and Tobacco Free Starke County appeared before the board to request appropriation of their State Grant Revenue with the following appropriation requests: Starke County Youth Club, \$2,000.00; DTFSC Botvin Like Skills Training, \$3,000.00; CADA \$2,500.00; Moving Starke County Forward, \$1,492.49; Porter Starke Services, \$950.00; Starke County Community Corrections, \$205.00; DTFSC Training for Certified Substance Abuse Therapist, \$1,089.00; SCCC Initiative Pilot Program, \$726.86; and the Starke County Sheriff's Department, K-9 Unit, \$6,821.83. The total amount of the ICJI grant proceeds: \$18,785.18. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to approve the appropriation requests, seconded by Councilwoman Stalbaum. The motion passed with all ayes.

AMMENDMENT TO 2015 SALARY ORDINANCE

Auditor Chaffins advised the salary of the IT Director had been decreased following the resignation of former IT Director Joe Short. The salary of the IT Director, Brian Pinson, is beginning at \$40,000.00 was an additional \$1,250.00 after 6 months and a good performance evaluation; an additional \$1,250.00 after 12 months and a good performance evaluation; and an additional \$2,500.00 upon completion of an Associate's Degree. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to approve the amended salary ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cavender and passed with all ayes.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CEDIT APPROPRIATION REQUEST

Commissioner Norem advised earlier in the year when the SCEDF Director asked for the appropriations of the CEDIT Fund the Commissioners elected not to request any appropriations of their CEDIT portion until now. She noted they are asking for a total appropriation of line 1112.30506.000.0000 in the amount of \$50,000.00 to cover the expense of the landfill gas monitoring and other required expenses of the old County landfill site. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to approve the appropriation request in the amount of \$50,000.00, seconded by Councilman Cavender. The motion passed with all ayes.

MERIT BOARD AND ATTORNEY EXPENSES

Ed Troike, President of the Sheriff's Merit Board, and Sheriff Bill Dulin appeared before the Board to discuss the expense of an attorney to represent the Merit Board. Mr. Troike noted when a County Officer sues the County and the Sheriff the Merit Board is also sued. Mr. Troike advised they aren't asking for the Council to approve the hiring of an attorney on retainer as it would be too costly, however they do occasionally have the need to consult an attorney as they did recently in an issue with a Sheriff's Deputy. Mainly he just wanted to thank the Council for helping them through the situation and for covering that expense; and he advised if they would need an attorney in the future it will be on a case by case basis and they would not need to have an attorney on retainer. Attorney Lucas advised it would be a conflict for the County Attorney to represent both the County and the Merit Board in an Officer's disciplinary hearings and other related matters. Auditor Chaffins advised she had distributed to the Board copies of the Sheriff's Commissary Report for the 1st half of 2015 and inquired if the report was sufficient for the Board. President Baker asked the Sheriff for a reporting of who the check is payable to and for what. The Sheriff stated he did not want to provide that information since he did not want that discussed at a public meeting and advised the information is available to whomever would like to look at it, but what he reported is all he is required by the State to report. The Sheriff provided an explanation of what the Commissary Fund is and noted the contract with the Stellar Company has expired and they will be handling the Commissary Fund themselves. He noted the Stellar Company had taken 65% of the Commissary Fund's proceeds as their commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With there being no public comments and no further business, Councilman Cavender made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Stalbaum. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 6:15PM.

OCTOBER 19, 2015

_____ Freddie Baker, President	ABSENT _____ Dave Pearman
_____ Bryan Cavender	_____ Pam Stalbaum
_____ Jennifer Davis	ABSENT _____ Robert Sims
ABSENT _____ Brad Hazelton	_____ Katherine Chaffins, Starke County Auditor and Secretary to the County Council