

November 18, 2013

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 Dave Pearman, Mitch Semans, Tony Radkiewicz, Marvin McLaughlin, Robert Sims, Bryan Cavender, and Freddie Baker present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

President Pearman called the meeting to order. Councilman Baker made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 21st meeting, seconded by Councilman Cavendar. The motion passed with all ayes.

County Coroner, Kris Rannells, appeared before the Council to request transfers of his budget’s appropriations: \$214.00 from office supplies, \$694.00 from morgue supplies, and \$225.00 from coroner’s seminars, a total of \$1,133.00 to be transferred into the autopsy fees budget line item. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes. Coroner Rannells advised due to the increase in the need for autopsies he would need to transfer an additional \$3,000.00 into the autopsy fees, and requested it be transferred from the Auditor’s budget, Deputy Auditor line item, as was offered by the Auditor. Auditor Chaffins also requested \$1,000.00 be transferred from the Deputy Auditor line item, into the Auditor’s office supply line item. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

President Pearman advised he would like to see a Committee formed to address the future status of the Office of Coroner. Board of Commissioner President, Kathy Norem, volunteered to be on the committee along with President Pearman and advised the other former coroners, funeral home directors, be also invited to participate on this committee.

Highway Department Superintendent, Rik Ritzler, appeared before the Board to request a transfer of \$4,275.00 from the utility line item, into the superintendent’s pay line item. He advised, if the appropriations are not increased, the pay line item would be expended before the end of the year due to paying the former superintendent his vacation pay when his employment was terminated. There was a discussion in regard to the County’s policy of allowing the vacation pay to a terminated employee but not their accumulated sick days. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes.

County Veterans’ Service Officer, Terry Turner, appeared before the Board to request \$500.00 be transferred from the service officer school line item, into the office supplies line item in order to purchase a new printer for his department. He advised he would be able to purchase a printer for \$250.00, and also advised he could possibly be attending a conference before the end of the year. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfer of only \$250.00 from the service officer school line item into the office supplies line item. The motion was seconded by Councilman McLaughlin and passed with all ayes. President Pearman advised him to have the IT Director approve the printer prior to purchasing.

Jeff Messer, of Umbaugh Financial appeared before the Board to discuss the investment of the Jail Bond proceeds for the County since the bond trustee, US Bank is only currently investing the proceeds in a low interest bearing money market account. Attorney Lucas advised he had reviewed the documents that were forwarded by Umbaugh, two resolutions and an ordinance and noted he has several questions. He also noted the Board of Commissioners, in County government, is the entity to approve the ordinance, and not the Council. President Norem suggested the creation of a working group to meet and discuss the plan for the County’s bond investments. The meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 25th, and will consist of Jeff Messer, President Pearman, Councilman Semans, Councilman McLaughlin, Commissioner Davis, Attorney Lucas, and Auditor Chaffins.

President Pearman advised, in order to pay the balance of the 2013 County Police Pension contribution, an appropriation of the CAGIT Certified Shares Fund was suggested in the amount of \$65,800.00. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the appropriation, seconded by Councilman Cavender. The motion passed with all ayes. President Pearman advised the 2014 County Police Pension contribution would only be approximately \$118,000.00.

Since Attorney Lucas had not been able to address the modification to the County’s Innkeeper’s Tax Ordinance, Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to table the issue until the December meeting. Councilman McLaughlin seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. President Pearman gave an update of the status of the County’s need to purchase an ambulance for the EMS Department. He advised due to a new program that was implemented the County is eligible to receive reimbursement of portion of Medicaid claims not previously received. Auditor Chaffins advised the paperwork for the reimbursement has been submitted and the amount of reimbursement for the fiscal years of 2011 and 2012 will amount to approximately \$60,000.00 each year. President Pearman also reminded the Board of the transfer from County General into the Rainy Day Fund at the end of 2012 that was earmarked for the purchase of an ambulance, but it would require the super-majority approval of the Council to pay for it out of that fund. President Pearman advised they presently have three options for the purchase of a replacement ambulance: to purchase a new ambulance with an estimated cost between \$140,000.00-150,000.00; to purchase a new chassis with a refurbished box unit, for a total estimated cost of \$88,000.00; or to purchase a slightly used vehicle, one that had been used as a demonstrator model, with an estimated cost of \$108,000.00. He stated the ambulance purchased last year would be replacing either Medic1 or Medic 5; and the new rig will be placed at Medic 3 and also noted the EMS Base door would need to be widened. Attorney Lucas advised since the purchase cost will be under \$150,000.00 they would not have to advertise for bidders, but would need to invite at least three vendors to submit price quotes. Commissioner Norem also requested price quotes to be obtained on the cost of the modification to the base garage door. She asked that the quotes be presented at the Commissioners’ December 2nd meeting.

President Pearman advised their next regular meeting will be December 16th and would like to schedule a meeting on December 30th to discuss the end of year funds transfer.

Attorney Lucas thanked the Board for their cooperation in the jail bond process.

With there being no further business, Councilman Sims made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Baker. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting was adjourned at 6:47PM.

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<div>Dave Pearman, President</div>	<div>Mitch Semans, Vice President</div>
<div>Bryan Cavender</div>	<div>Marvin McLaughlin</div>
<div>Tony Radkiewicz</div>	<div>Robert Sims</div>
<div>Freddie Baker</div>	<div>Katherine Chaffins, Auditor & County Council Secretary</div>