

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2012

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in regular session at 5:30PM in the Annex meeting room, Knox Indiana and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President Dave Pearman.

Absent again from the meeting were Councilwoman Judy Benninghoff, and Councilman Mark Smith. Present for the meeting were newly elected Councilmen Bryan Cavender, and Freddie Baker.

Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 15th meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman McLaughlin, and passed with all ayes.

RE: APPROPRIATION / TRANSFER REQUESTS

Sheriff Oscar Cowen appeared before the Council to request the appropriation of the Cumulative Capital Fund in order to purchase a new squad car. He advised the Board of Commissioners gave their approval for the purchase up to the amount of \$25,000.00, at their last meeting. He submitted to the Council two price quotes, one from the local Ford dealership in the amount of \$23,085.00; and the other from the Chevrolet dealership, in the amount of \$22,023.41. The Sheriff noted he would like this second vehicle purchase to be a Ford so he would have two vehicles of the same year, and would be able to compare their qualities. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the purchase of one additional squad car up to \$25,000.00, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

Chris Ross, the action Chair of the Drug & Tobacco Free Starke County (DTFSC) appeared before the Council to request the approval of the appropriation of the DTFSC Fund, # 1140 for the following programs: 32005 Knox Middle School Drug Free Rock Concert \$ 2,186.00; 36000 Rural IN Community Enrichment Double Dare \$ 1,600.00; 36000 Rural In Community Enrichment—Meth and Prescription Drug Town hall meetings \$ 1,275.00; 31702 Knox Middle School “Teen Awareness Saturday Challenge” \$ 2,500.00; 31804 Porter Starke Services “Prime for Life” \$ 3,500.00; 37000 Knox City Police “Safe Drug Drop Off” \$ 2,500.00; 37500 Starke County Sheriff Department—“presumptive Drug Analysis Test Kits” \$ 3,500.00.

Councilman Sims made a motion to approve all his appropriation requests, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. The motion passed with all ayes. Mr. Ross advised these appropriations were only for local grant programs, and none of the appropriations would be used to cover any local administrative costs.

County Highway Department Superintendent, Steve Siddall, and Highway Department Clerk, Sue Heims, appeared before the Council to request the transfer of appropriations of \$10,000.00 from account 0702 10804 530, health insurance, to 0702 31305 533 truck repairs. He advised they had a motor go bad that they needed to replace. Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilman Semans. The motion passed with all ayes. Superintendent Siddall advised he is getting bid specs for the purchase of a 2013 truck for the highway department. He advised he will be requesting a transfer from the unexpended health insurance account line. President Pearman advised he would like to see the Council meet at the Highway Garage to review their the condition of their equipment. Commissioner Bridegroom advised December 6, at 1:00PM, might be a good day to hold that meeting and look at the equipment. President Pearman also advised he wants to send out a reminder to all Department Heads to remind everyone to watch for unexpended budget items so that there will be a balance available from County General to transfer to the Rainy Day Fund at the end of the year.

Superintendent Siddall also requested approval for the transfer of \$ 16.86 from the Cumulative Bridge Fund, 0790, 34300, the Bridge 156 account line item, to 35101, 800S/Monon Ditch account line item, in the amount of \$ 10.70, and a transfer of \$ 6.16 to 35102, the 700S/Monon Ditch account item. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

Auditor Chaffins presented a request to transfer \$ 4,763.40 from her deputy auditor account line item, 10200, of the Auditor's budget, to account line 20100, the office supply line account to pay for the cost of creating the payroll document system. The software would allow all county employees to view their pay stubs, reprint any paystubs, or reprint a w-2 statement. She advised she has saved money in her office, since she has consolidated the work of four deputies, which she is budgeted for, down to three deputies. President Pearman advised he knows the Auditor is under budget and under staffed, and sees no problem with this request. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes. The Auditor advised this was a feature they were not ready for at the time of the financial software conversion, and that is why it was not included in the original conversion cost. She also advised she does not foresee any additional costs associated with that software conversion.

2013 SALARY ORDINANCE

Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the 2013 Salary Ordinance as presented by Auditor Chaffins, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. The motion passed with all ayes, and the ordinance was signed.

JAIL PROJECT

Commissioner President Kathy Norem requested the Council consider the Board of Commissioners request to establish an inter-departmental loan, to borrow 1.2 million from the Rainy Day Fund, and receipt it into a newly created Jail Fund to cover all preliminary expenses associated with the County jail project, such as the purchase of property to locate the jail. She advised the County will be receiving proceeds from the increase from the County's CREDIT tax but that it will be awhile before the County receives any monies from the State. Auditor Chaffins advised the advertisement for the public hearing to be held on December 3rd, at 5:30PM, is to be posted in this week's Leader newspaper. She reminded the Council, the approval of the appropriation of the Rainy Day Fund requires a super majority approval from the Council. County Attorney, Marty Lucas, explained if interest is accrued

on the borrowed monies from the Rainy Day Fund, the loan principal can be paid back from the bond issue proceeds, but not any interest. The interest would be an expense cost to the County. President Norem advised currently the Rainy Day Fund has been invested in a 30 day CD earning .4 % interest. Councilman McLaughlin advised the County charging interest to the County would be an absurdity. Councilman Semans made a motion approving Attorney Lucas to prepare the paperwork for the December 3rd meeting with no interest charge. Councilman Radkiewicz seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes.

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

Auditor Chaffins advised, due to a State mandate, the County Fund numbers will be changed to be in compliance with the State Fund numbering system. In doing so, Auditor Chaffins requested permission to transfer the proceeds of the county fund numbers into the newly created State fund numbers. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

County Prosecutor, Nick Bourff, appeared before the Council. He advised Ryan Bratcher had resigned his position as a part time Prosecutor, and now the open position has been posted. One of the duties of Deputy Bratcher was to process the domestic violence grant. He advised, in the meantime, Autumn Ferch, is now processing the grant paperwork, and he would like to see her receive compensation for her additional work. He advised the grant proceeds have not yet been received but would like to have it approved to take place at that time it is received, noting she will be paid from the grant proceeds. Councilman McLaughlin made a motion to approve his request to take place when the grant money is received, seconded by Councilman Semans. The motion passed with all ayes.

David Hyatt, CEO of IU Health—Starke, appeared before the Council to present their 3rd quarter Capital Expenditure Report. Mr. Hyatt answered questions of the Council. (A copy of the report is on file in the Auditor's Office.) President Pearman inquired if the hospital could supply an updated equipment list, showing the serial numbers of the equipment. Also, Attorney Lucas inquired if the hospital could also supply a listing of the depreciation schedule of the equipment, to show its actual book value. Mr. Hyatt advised they could supply that information.

Auditor Chaffins advised she will remind the Council of the public hearing scheduled for Monday, December 3, 2012, at 5:30PM, in regard to the appropriation of the Rainy Day Fund.

With there being no further business, Councilman Semans made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting was adjourned at 6:38PM.

NOVEMBER 19, 2012

Dave Pearman, President

Mitch Semans, Vice President

ABSENT
Judy Benninghoff

Marvin McLaughlin

ABSENT
Mark Smith

Tony Radkiewicz

Robert Sims

Katherine Chaffins,
Starke Co. Auditor & Council Secretary