

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners & Starke County Council and meet in a Special Session at 5:30PM in the Annex Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Commissioners Kent Danford, Kathy Norem, and Donald Binkley present along with Council Members Jennifer Davis, Pam Stalbaum, Freddie Baker, Robert Sims, Dave Pearman, Brad Hazelton and Bryan Cavender and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The Starke County Board of Commissioners and the Starke County Council met in a Combined Special Session on Monday, December 14, at 5:30PM. Present were Commissioners Kent Danford, Kathy Norem and Don Binkley; and Council Members Jennifer Davis, Pam Stalbaum, Freddie Baker, Robert Sims, Dave Pearman, Bryan Cavender and Brad Hazelton. The purpose of the called meeting was to discuss the proposed 2016 capital expenditures.

Council President Freddie Baker called the meeting to order. He advised the boards that Auditor Chaffins had received the 1782 Budget Notice that afternoon from the DLGF in regard to their 2016 budgets and stated they have a lot of cuts that will need to be made. The 2016 Council Approved Budget of the County General Fund in the amount of \$6,326,698.00 was approved by the DLGF in the amount of \$5,760,157.00 a reduction of \$566,541.00. The 2016 Council Approved Budget of the Reassessment Fund in the amount of \$379,376.00 was approved by the DLGF in the amount of \$208,816.00, a reduction of \$170,560. The Highway Dept. and the Local Road & Street 2016 Council Approved Budgets were approved in full by the DLGF. The 2016 Council Approved Budget for the Cumulative Bridge Fund in the amount of \$270,563.00 was approved by the DLGF in the amount of \$225,629., a reduction of \$44,934.00. The 2016 Council Approved Budget of the Health Dept. in the amount of \$150,134.00 was approved by the DLGF in the amount of \$139,367., a reduction of \$10,767.00 and the 2016 Council Approved Budget of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund in the amount of \$106,000.00 was approved by the DLGF in the amount of \$91,985., a reduction of \$14,015. President Baker

suggested they meet in a special session to review the budgets and determine how the cuts will be made. Councilwoman Davis suggested the Auditor contact all Department Heads to see how they would propose cuts to their budgets. Councilman Pearman suggested they ask Auditor Chaffins to take the input from the department heads and come up with her recommendations as how to cut the 2016 budgets. Auditor Chaffins advised she would send out the information to the boards prior to their meeting.

President Baker stated the purpose of the original meeting was to look at the proposed 2016 capital expenditures and review the funding that will be available in 2016. He stated there has been a request to purchase squad cars, computer servers, new ambulance, projects of the SCEDF, and the renovations to the courthouse and the old jail building. He advised there is a balance of \$128,000.00 available in the CCD Fund, and the funding in both the regular CREDIT and the jail CREDIT funds. He noted they did receive a pledge from SCCC in the amount of \$100,000.00 but it came with a caveat that they will need all the space in the garage area and would not be able to share it with the County Coroner. He noted a suggestion for the location of the Coroner's Office would be to enclose the old recreation area of the old jail. A discussion followed as to whether the cost to move the Coroner's Office would be more expensive than the amount pledged by the SCCC. Prosecutor Nick Bourff advised he could pledge \$10,000.00 from the Pre Trial Diversion Fund and possible \$15,000.00 from a Title IVD Fund if it is approved by the State. Commissioner Norem stated she would contact DLZ for an estimate on the cost of enclosing the old jail recreation area. She also noted Auditor Chaffins had gone through the current 2015 IT Budget and was able to find the majority of funding in order to purchase two new computer servers and noted the remaining balance could be paid out of the CCD Fund. Charlie Weaver of the SCEDF voiced his support of the use of the regular CREDIT for the proposed renovations of the Courthouse but he did note he would like to request the Council approve the appropriation of \$60,000.00 of CREDIT to pave the roadway into the North Judson Industrial Park. Councilman Pearman stated he didn't feel they have the available funding at this time in which to purchase a new ambulance and suggested instead they receive price quotes to replace the engine in rig # 86, the 6.0L diesel engine. EMS Director Emigh noted the existing engine has two dead cylinders, and a bad head gasket, and the engine has 145,000 miles. But he also noted the box on rig # 86 is also shot. Councilman Pearman stated they had two options, limp along now with the current equipment or look into replacing the engine in rig 86 and get it back on the road because there will not be any money in 2016 in which to purchase a new ambulance. President Baker stated they should look at their current EMS budget for the funding for the engine. Commissioner Norem asked they obtain price quotes for their next meeting.

RE: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS' THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Sheriff Dulin appeared before both boards to discuss the Drug Therapeutic Community. He advised the Starke County Jail has been chosen to house the program, the only County Jail to host such a program. He noted the program will begin on February 1st but will increase in inmate numbers slowly until they reach the maximum capacity of fifty inmates. He noted he would like the boards to approve the funding and creation of a new position: Warden/Program Coordinator as the County will need to fund the expense of the position from February through June, and grant funding would begin in July. He noted he would also want a part time cook position changed into a full time cook; and there is a possibility he may need to increase the part time nurse into a full time nurse. The Sheriff stated he would really like to stay away from the grant funding as he believes it would make the job description to be more restrictive as to what the position could do. He advised he would like the pay of the Warden Position to be \$45,000.-50,000.00. The Sheriff presented a job description of that position. Commissioner Norem stated the Sheriff shouldn't discount the opportunity for the grant funding and advised SCCC Director Hinojosa would be completing the grant. The Sheriff advised he has his own grant writer. Commissioner Norem noted the revenue received from the DOC, the reimbursement of expenses, will need to be receipted into County General, as that is the source of the Jail Budget. The Sheriff stated that wasn't the way he understood how the revenue would be receipted. Auditor Chaffins inquired as to how the County would receive the revenue from the State. The Sheriff advised a report will be submitted to the DOC following the end of the month as to who participated and the number of days per inmate. Auditor Chaffins inquired how his department is doing with the regular DOC billings since he had missed some of the new deadlines the State set up this year. Attorney Lucas advised he will look into the current issue with the DOC billings. Councilman Sims made a motion to fund the position of Warden/Program Coordinator in the amount of \$45,000.00-50,000.00 and for the position to be funded out of the CAGIT Certified Shares Fund, which is to be reimbursed with the DOC program revenue. Councilman Pearman seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem noted the full time cook position is not required right away as long as the full time cook is in place when the program actually begins and there are the extra inmates incarcerated. She noted the Sheriff could return at a later date to request the funding for the full time cook.

President Baker brought up the issue of the proposed auger at the Jail at the estimated cost of \$500,000.00. He stated the problem was Skillman's as they had dropped the ball. Councilman Hazelton stated that was incorrect, noting it was the City of Knox who caused the problem. The system that was installed was the system the City of Knox Sewer Department had requested. President Baker stated the proposed \$500,000.00 auger expense was not going to happen. In regard to proposed 2016 capital expenditures, the Sheriff advised he would like to replace the current department's pickup truck but he would like to replace it with a Ford Taurus with AWD and not a pickup truck. The Sheriff advised he would be checking on the mileage of his other vehicles also to see if there are any others needing to be replaced.

IT REQUEST TO PURCHASE SERVERS

IT Director Brian Pinson appeared before the Boards to request approval to purchase new servers to replace the current County servers. He advised they have been experiencing issues with the current servers and they could go down at any time. He submitted three price quotes ranging in price from \$23,137.00 each to \$16,417.00 each. Attorney Lucas, who is familiar with the latest technology, advised the best server of the three was the Dell Server from Goldentech at a cost of \$23,137.00 each. Director Pinson advised that Auditor Chaffins had reviewed his current 2015 budget and was able to find a total of \$41,979.71 in available appropriations which could be used to purchase the two servers. A transfer request is needed and would require Council approval. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the purchase of two Dell Servers to be paid out of the IT Budget with the balance to be paid out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the transfer requested by Director Pinson, a total of \$41,979.71 in misc. budget lines of the IT 2015 budget, to be transferred into the 1000.43400.000.0035 budget line, county servers. Councilwoman Stalbaum seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Norem advised, in regard to any appropriation requests to the regular CEDIT Fund, to table it for now. She stated the Board has to decide if they want to move forward with the proposed projects on the County Courthouse and the old County Jail. They will also need to receive a price quote on moving the Coroner's Department out of the old Jail Garage. Councilwoman Davis made a motion to approve the \$60,000.00 appropriation that was requested by SCEDF Director Weaver to pave the road leading into the North Judson Industrial Park. Councilman Sims suggested they should table for now the whole issue of that road. Director Weaver stated they would need to know now so that would make

a difference with the balance of the CEDIT Fund available for the Courthouse renovations. Superintendent Ritzler explained currently the NJ Industrial roadway is not in the County’s inventory but they would be willing to consider it after the road has been updated and paved. He noted the \$60,000.00 proposed is just an estimated cost. Commissioner Norem stated it could possibly be completed for around \$35,000.00 and the \$60,000.00 cost includes also the future year costs. Councilman Sims withdrew his motion to table the issue. Councilman Pearman made a motion to appropriate \$35,000.00 for the NJ Industrial Park Roadway, seconded by Councilman Hazelton. The motion passed with all ayes. Auditor Chaffins advised the balance of the available CEDIT Funding for the Courthouse renovation would then become \$947,489.00 instead of the \$982,489.00 as shown in the meeting’s documentation.

Judge Kim Hall asked if he could address the Boards. He advised the majority of the work of law enforcement and prosecutors, and the numbers of inmates are mostly all drug related. He advised the County needs this type of drug treatment program the State is proposing and he stated he would like to see if the Sheriff were to ask for more staffing for that program the Boards would approve his request. The Judge noted the State will be providing the Drug Therapists.

Following a brief discussion, a joint meeting of both Boards was scheduled for Monday, December 21st to determine the budget cuts of the 2016 State Approved, County budgets.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no further public comment and no further business, Councilman Hazelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Norem seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 7:24PM.

DECEMBER 14, 2015

Kent Danford, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice-President

Donald Binkley

Katherine Chaffins, County Auditor
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Freddie Baker, President

Dave Pearman, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

Pam Stalbaum

Jennifer Davis

Robert Sims

Brad Hazelton

Katherine Chaffins, County Auditor
& Secretary to the County Council