

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

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 Bryan Cavender, Freddie Baker, Brad Hazelton, Robert Sims, Dave Pearman, Nancy Dembowski and Pam Stalbaum present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Brad Hazelton at 5:30PM. Councilman Baker made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16th meeting. Councilman Cavender seconded the claim and it passed with all ayes.

2018 STARKE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION APPROPRIATION REQUESTS

SCEDF Interim-Director Larry Wickert appeared before the Board to present his request for Appropriations of the CEDIT Fund, # 1112. He requested appropriations of \$180,000.00 for the SCEDF Consulting Contract; \$80,000.00 for the SCILL Center; and \$15,000.00 for Maintenance and Utilities of the Hamlet Fire Well. This involved into a discussion of the SCEDF and Starke County Existing Contract. County Attorney Marty Lucas advised a termination notice has been sent to the SCEDF to terminate the existing contract but the release takes a year. In the meantime, he advised, a new contract is being drafting and the County will work with the SCEDF for its passage. Attorney Lucas advised this year’s appropriation will not be effected by the work on the contract. Councilman Pearman made a motion to approve the appropriations, for a total of \$275,000.00. Councilwoman Stalbaum seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Director Wickert then presented his request for the appropriation of \$10,000.00 for the US 30 Coalition Assessment which is an annual charge. He advised in the past the SCEDF has paid the fee but this year the Board of Commissioners had approved it at their meeting on 1-16-18 that the County would pay that expense. It would be paid out of the CEDIT Fund, # 1112. Councilman Pearman inquired as to why LaPorte County has not been paying into this Coalition. Director Wickert stated he was not certain as to why LaPorte County does not pay, but he noted all the other Counties do pay. Attorney Lucas stated the \$10,000.00 fee is the same amount for each County and is not based on the County’s population. Councilman Pearman stated he doesn’t feel Starke County will be benefiting from this change to US30; that the County would not be getting their fair share of the number of interchanges. He stated they will be benefiting the other Counties more than Starke County. Councilman Pearman made a motion to table the request for the appropriation until they receive more information. Councilman Baker seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Director Wickert stated he would ask for a Scope of Work of the Consultant on that Committee and then see if he could have a discussion with Councilman Pearman.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

President Hazelton stated he was signing the 2018 KIRPC Certification of Appointment. The appointment had already been completed and now the Board needs to sign this certification.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Pearman stated he still has the Bison from the Indiana Bicentennial Celebration and it is currently in his barn. He stated he would like to see it primered and painted and then placed in the Starke County Courthouse on display. But he is having difficulty finding someone to do the body work and paint it.

With there being no further public comments and no further business, Councilman Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Cavender. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 6:00PM.

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Brad Hazelton, President

Dave Pearman, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

Pam Stalbaum

Nancy Dembowski

Robert Sims

Freddie Baker

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

