

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in Regular Session at 6:00PM in the Annex Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Kathy Norem and Donald Binkley present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner President Don Binkley at 6:50PM due to the lateness of the Starke County Council meeting. Commissioner Charles Chesak was absent from the meeting.

OPENING OF REASSESSMENT BIDS

Assessor Michelle Snowdon appeared before the Board for the opening of the bids for Assessment for the years 2019-2022. She advised she had advertised for bids, and had personally submitted the request to three companies. Only one bid had been submitted. County Attorney Marty Lucas verified the bid was received prior to the cut off time, which was today at 4PM. Auditor Chaffins advised it was received on time. Attorney Lucas opened the bid and advised the bid was from Accurate Assessment of Fort Wayne, IN and the price was \$143,950.00 per year for a total of \$575,800.00 for the four years. Attorney Lucas advised Assessor Snowdon to check the bid for compliance with the terms advertised. He advised she could reject the bid and ask for a rebid. Commissioner Norem stated if the bid was too much money it could be marked as unacceptable and then the request for bids could be done again. Assessor Snowdon stated she doesn't have that much time. She stated she will review the bid and will return to the Board of Commissioners meeting on April 2nd for the approval of the bid.

SCEDF MONTHLY REPORT

Starke County Economic Development Foundation Director Larry Wickert appeared before the Board and distributed a hard copy of their monthly report. He advised he had distributed the monthly report via email prior to the meeting. Director Wickert asked the Board if anyone would be attending the SCEDF Retreat that will take place on Tuesday at the SCEDF Office. Both members on the Board stated they would be unable to attend.

PARK BOARD FUNDS CREATED

Commissioner Norem advised she thought it would be a good idea to create a Fund for Park Board donations. She stated the fund would only be for parks in Starke County and would not include the parks in any of the cities or towns within the County (Fund 4962 has been created for Park Board donations). Auditor Chaffins advised she had created funds for the two grants the Park Board had received. She advised the Park Board had received a grant in the amount of \$15,200.00 for the Starke County Forest (Fund 9153) and a grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the Bass Lake Beach (Fund 9161). She advised the Bass Lake Beach grant was from Starke County Community Foundation. Attorney Lucas advised the Forest grant was from the James Hardesty/Starke County Community Foundation. Commissioner Norem stated she is pleased the Park Board has been moving ahead and getting their own financing. She advised the donations could be used as grant matching. She also suggested the Park Board have some fund raisers to earn extra funding. Commissioner Norem stated the Park Board will be able to accept any tax deductible donations.

AUDITOR'S BUSINESS: MINUTES, VENDOR CLAIMS DOCKET, PAYROLL DOCKET

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 5th meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the Vendor Claims Docket in the total gross amount of \$301,009.57. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the Payroll Claims Docket for the pay period ending on 3/10/18 with a pay date of 3/16/18 for the total gross amount of \$245,019.44. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

Attorney Lucas reviewed the contract received from the Paul Davis Company in reference to the repairs needed due to the leakage of the fire sprinkler system in the Annex Building. He stated that was an excellent contract and approved it for passage. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Norem stated she was pleased to see the response from IU in regard to their request for GIS files in response to the contact from Auditor Chaffins. She stated they had advised they are doing research on the legal drains in Indiana as they would like to better understand historic water dynamics and to be able to predict future changes. She also noted they will be happy to share the research with Starke County when they are completed with the study. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the request from Indiana University. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. There will be no charge from the County for IU's request.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kenny Wallace asked if a donation was given to the Park Board would any of the money go to any city or town park. Commissioner Norem advised no it would not; it would only be going to the Starke County owned parks.

Anita Goodan, of WKVI, asked about the damage to the Annex Building. She was advised the fire sprinkler system pipe had water in it that had frozen and broken the pipe. The water was leaking into the Auditor’s Office and then started pouring into the Office. The amount of damage was to the drywall, ceiling tiles, carpeting, and the floor boards. Water had also leaked down into the Treasurer’s Office.

There being no further public comment and no further business, Commissioner Norem made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Binkley seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 7:10PM.

MARCH 19, 2018

Donald Binkley, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice President

ABSENT

Charles Chesak

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