

**APRIL 18, 2016**

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, Robert Sims, Freddie Baker, Brad Hazelton, and Pam Stalbaum present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Freddie Baker at 5:50PM. Councilman Dave Pearman and Councilwoman Jennifer Davis were absent. President Baker called for a moment of silence in remembrance of the North Judson Town Marshall and former Councilman, Doug Vessely.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Sims made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21st meeting. Councilwoman Stalbaum seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**HIGHWAY DEPT. REQUEST TO FILL A COMMITTEE**

Highway Superintendent Rik Ritzler appeared before the Board to receive the name of a Council person to serve on a Committee he is forming. He noted the County will be receiving \$890,000.00 from Senate Bill 67, a onetime receipt of tax money in which 75% needs to be spent for roads and bridges. House Bill 1001 is funding for the Highway Department which will work differently than SEA67. But, in order for the Highway to spend that money they will need an Asset Management Plan, which he stated he already has prepared, but the County will need a committee to establish how that money will be spent. He advised the committee will be composed of one Commissioner, one Councilman, an SCEDF Representative and the Auditor. Councilman Cavender volunteered to serve on the committee. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to appoint Councilman Cavender to that committee. Councilwoman Stalbaum seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**STARKE COUNTY YOUTH GROUP UPDATE**

Starke County Youth Group Director Irene Szakonyi appeared before the Board. She advised the benefits of the Youth Group and invited the Board to attend the "Be a Club Hero Radio Day" at the May 6<sup>th</sup> WKVI Radio Day from 10:00AM-4:00PM for the Starke County Youth Group. She advised if they could not attend the radio station they could call in their pledges of support.

**REQUEST TO REDUCE MILEAGE RATE**

Auditor Katherine Chaffins advised the State of Indiana had already reduced their mileage rate from .40/mile to .36/mile. Councilman Sims made a motion to approve the mileage rate reduction to .36. Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**SHERIFF'S REQUEST TO EXPAND THE COMMISSARY FUND**

Sheriff Bill Dulin appeared before the Board to explain the expansion of the Commissary Fund as was presented by the Indiana Sheriff's Association. He read into record the proposed additions which included such items as Haircuts for Indigent Inmates and Trustees; Reimbursement for Expenses of Inmates in Transit; Matching Funds for Grants; Expenses Regarding Special Details and Investigations, and Expenses Associated with Hosting Training Events.

President Baker inquired about the matching funds for grants if those were for jail grants only. The Sheriff stated he believed so. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the Sheriff's request to expand the Commissary Fund. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Auditor Chaffins noted the Board will not know if the Commissary increased the amount of money that is spent since the Board does not receive the information on that account, only if they go to the jail and ask to read it. The Sheriff explained he does not want that Fund discussed at a public meeting, but the accuracy of the fund is verified as it is audited every year.

With there being no public comments and no further business, Councilman Hazelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 6:08PM.

**APRIL 18, 2016**

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Freddie Baker, President

ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Pearman, Vice-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan Cavender

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pam Stalbaum

ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Davis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Sims

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brad Hazelton

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