

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in a joint session with the Starke County Board of Commissioners at 5:30PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Dave Pearman (via Zoom and In-Person), Brad Hazelton (via Zoom), Don White (via Zoom), Howard Bailey (via Zoom), Freddie Baker (via Zoom), Kay Gudeman (via Zoom), Charles Chesak (via Zoom) , Kathryn Norem (via Zoom), and Bryan Cavender (via Zoom and In-Person), present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Dave Pearman at 9:00AM.

APPROVAL OF SERIES 2020 NORTH JUDSON SAN PIERRE SCHOOLS

Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the resolution regarding the Series 2020 North Judson San Pierre Schools. Councilman Baker seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

SHERIFF- DRUG BUY MONEY FUND DISTRIBUTION

Sheriff Dulin advised that a few years ago they had funded the drug buy money out of the TC funds. The way that the COVID is going now he is preparing for a possible shortage in that fund. He advised he has done some research on this and in the plea bargaining and sentencing the defendant has to pay a drug interdiction fee of \$187 and also a fee of \$63 that goes towards the drug buy money. They looked up several cases and none of the cases have paid these fees. He would like to know if these individuals can be taken to small claims court or different avenues to try and collect that money and get it paid. Attorney Lucas advised the first thing we need to do is ask the Judge what his position is on that as he is the one who had entered the order. He is not sure if we could do an independent action to collect this money or not. It was discussed that Sheriff Dulin would reach out to the Judge in regards to the payment of fees in criminal cases. President Pearman asked that now this program has been in place a couple of years how much it required annually to support the drug buy money program. Sheriff Dulin asked that last year they had put in \$5,000. President Pearman advised that some other counties fund this through seizure of property that is sold. He asked if we would be able to do this in Starke County. Sheriff Dulin advised they have done this but in the last year or so they have not done this very much. He stated it is something that they could try doing and will speak with the prosecutor about doing this.

OTHER BUSINESS

President Pearman stated one thing everyone needs to keep in mind is our revenue stream. A lot of what we have here is funded by income tax, there are things that are not going to affect us this year but preparing for the pain of it in 2021 and 2022 we need to start looking at that now. He advised there should be no misunderstanding on why we want the departments to cut and they need to cut as deep as possible.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

After having no public comments made Councilman Baker made a motion to adjourn at 9:10AM. Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

**MAY 18, 2020
STARKE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Dave Pearman, President

Brad Hazelton, Vice-President

Kay Gudeman

Don White

ABSENT

Howard Bailey

Robert Sims

Freddie Baker

Rachel Oesterreich, Starke County Auditor and
Secretary to the County Council

MAY 18, 2020
STARKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charlie Chesak, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

Rachel Oesterreich, County Auditor
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners