

MONDAY, MAY 20th, 2019

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 Dave Pearman, Kay Gudeman, Freddie Baker, Brad Hazelton, Robert Sims, Don White and Howard Bailey present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Dave Pearman at 5:30PM. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2019 meeting. Councilman Baker seconded the motion, the motion passed with all ayes.

FIRE CONTROL PANEL UPGRADE

Jim Coad, Director of Maintenance came before the board for approval of the fire control panel upgrades. He advised he went to the Board of Commissioners at their April 15, 2019 meeting. He advised that if the current fire control panel were to go down he would not be able to get parts for it as it is now obsolete. He advised he received a quote from Johnson Controls for the Annex panel upgrade in the amount of \$10,973.00. He advised he also received a quote from Koorsen Fire Security for the warehouse, this quote came in at \$6,465.66. He stated that Koorsen advised the warehouse would need some electrical work done as well, he asked Koorsen if the county could use their own vendor for the electrical work. Koorsen agreed to this and the quote Director Coad received on electrical work was from Warner's Electric in the amount of \$776.50. Due to the fact that the county was able to use their own vendor on electrical work the quote for the warehouse from Koorsen decreased to \$3,998.99. He is asking for a total amount of \$15,748.49 to complete the work in both buildings. Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve the low bids of the fire control panel upgrades, totaling \$15,748.49. Commissioner Hazelton seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

CREDIT CARD REQUEST

Councilman Pearman advised the council that the credit card request is mainly coming up because of employees having to use their own credit card for conference room reservations. He suggested to the council that the county has a corporate credit card to be used for this purpose and to be managed by the Auditor's Office. He explained that this would give other departments an opportunity to use the card to reserve rooms for their conferences. Auditor Oesterreich suggested a policy be put in place to spell out what this card can and cannot be used for. Councilman Pearman asked Attorney Lucas if he could draft a Credit Card Use Policy. Commissioner Hazelton made a motion to approve a corporate credit card that will be maintained by the Auditor's Office and Attorney Lucas to draw up a policy for use of the corporate credit card. Councilman White seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes. Councilman Pearman requested that the Auditor choose a credit card that has the best rate for the county.

ASSESSOR COMPUTER PURCHASES

Assessor Michelle Schouten appeared before the Starke County Council to request funding for six new computer purchases. She advised after consulting with the IT Director about one computer that had been crashing all the time the IT Director informed her that all of her computers are still on Windows 7 which will become obsolete after December 31st of this year. She is requesting to purchase six computers but her office has eight computers total. She has decided to eliminate one computer and use one old computer that is in the best condition as the public computer. Assessor Schouten presented the council a quote from Dell for six computers in the amount of \$3943.50. She also presented the council a quote from Microsoft for six office licenses in the amount of \$1,847.46. After further discussion about where to take the funds from to pay for this purchase Councilman Baker made a motion to pay half of this purchase out of the Assessor's budget and half out of CEDIT. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

IT Director Richard Frank came before the Starke County Council to give an update about the infrastructure grant he has applied for. He advised he has been researching with Dell on pricing regarding upgrades, these upgrades include combined server licenses, exchange upgrades, server

upgrades, and storage upgrades. He stated all of these upgrades would cost the county about \$118,000.00. He advised he had worked with the EMA Director and they have applied for an IDHS Grant. This grant is a fit for our infrastructure as it deals with security and data security. There is a possibility that the county could receive up to \$150,000.00 with this grant. He advised this was not a matching grant this is a straight reimbursement grant.

OTHER BUSINESS

County Mental Health Appropriation

Mary, the Chief Financial Officer from Porter-Starke Services came before the Starke County Council to explain the increase to the county mental health appropriation for 2019. She advised Starke County has always done a good job in paying the county mental health levy, not all counties do this even though the amounts are legislated by the government. She explained that the mental health services organization and the DLGF have been working together on how to get this cleaned up. The DLGF came up with a new calculation and what is presented tonight is the difference in the new calculation. Based on the new DLGF calculation they are requesting an additional amount of \$3,845.00 bringing the 2019 total for the maximum mental health appropriation to \$124,143.00. She stated that for future years they will be paid based on the growth quotient for Starke County. Councilman Bailey made a motion to satisfy the additional monies for the mental health appropriation. Councilwomen Gudeman seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes. This additional money is to be paid from regular CREDIT.

EMS Purchase Correction

Originally the additional monies that EMS needed to stock their new ambulance was approved to come from Cum Cap and money was transferred from Rainy Day to Cum Cap. However, Councilman Pearman explained to the council that if money is taken from Rainy Day Fund it needs to be paid back and a loan agreement would have to be completed. He believes it would be beneficial to just spend out of the Rainy Day Fund rather than completing a loan agreement. Councilman Hazelton made the motion to spend from the Rainy Day Fund for the equipment EMS needs to stock their new ambulance as previously approved. Councilwoman Gudeman seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

Therapeutic Communities Fund

Councilman Pearman advised that they have been looking into and reviewing the fund balances and transactions of the therapeutic community's fund. They found that it has been steadily in the red this year. The council would like to address this and requests that the Auditor notifies the Sheriff about the additional discussion regarding therapeutic communities during the budget workshop. Another item that will be addressed is the use of miscellaneous line items. This will go for all departments not just in regards to the therapeutic community's fund.

Surveyor's Fund Correction/Inquiry

Councilman Pearman address the reimbursement monies that were previously approved for the Surveyor. He advised he had made a mistake in what they thought the reimbursement monies were being accredited to. He wants to make it clear for all department's that the council will not be increasing the budget's during the 2019 budget year. He explained that additional appropriations are taken into account during the configuration of the 2020 budget process. After further discussion regarding additional appropriations and how they affect your future budget years the council asked that all departments always consult with the Board of Commissioners for larger purchases and that the Surveyor works with the Board of Commissioners before he spends the remainder of the additional appropriations that were approved.

Councilman White handed out an activities report to the Starke County Council members for the Starke County Economic Development Foundation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

With there being no public comments Councilman Baker made a motion to adjourn at 6:17PM. Councilman White seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

MAY 20, 2019

Dave Pearman, President

Brad Hazelton, Vice-President

Kay Gudeman

Don White

Howard Bailey

Robert Sims

Freddie Baker

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