

JUNE 18, 2012

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in regular session at 6:00pm in the Annex meeting room, Knox Indiana and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President Dave Pearman, at 6:00PM.

Absent from the meeting was Councilman Marvin McLaughlin.

MINUTES

Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21st meeting, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes.

The final minutes of the April 16th and May 14th, 2012 meetings were then signed.

AMENDMENT TO THE SAVE THE HOSPITAL FUND ORDINANCE

Attorney Lucas re-read the proposed amendment to the Save the Hospital Fund reminding the Council a super majority of five Council members is required in order for the amendment to pass. President Pearman reminded the Council that the Board of Commissioners had unanimously approved the passage of this amendment. President Pearman called for a vote of that proposed amendment, or another motion. Councilwoman Bennighoff advised the Board that Councilman McLaughlin was not in favor of passing this motion at this time. After a brief discussion, Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the amendment as read by Attorney Lucas, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion received five ayes, and one nay (Benninghoff), since five ayes is a supermajority of the Council, the motion passed. Commissioner Dan Bridegroom noted he will be giving updates of the Hospital Advisory Committee at future meetings.

RE: TRANSFER REQUESTS

County Assessor, Rhonda Milner, appeared before the Board to request an additional appropriation in her 2012 budget for line item, 0847 009-3000.11, re-assessment fees, in the amount of \$60,000.00. She stated her 2012 budget had been reduced by the State at the beginning of the year, in that same amount. This request for additional appropriation will require the State's approval. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the additional appropriation request, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

President Pearman advised the Council's budget, line item 033-3000.04 doesn't have an adequate appropriation balance to pay County Attorney, Marty Lucas' last invoice. They will need to find a way to increase the appropriation for that line item. In the meantime, Commissioner President, Kathy Norem, advised the Commissioners will be willing to pay Attorney Lucas' latest two billings out of the Commissioner portion of the CREDIT Fund, which was greatly appreciated by the Council.

Chris Smith, Office Manager for the County Sheriff's Department, and Rick Culiver, of Lieberman Technologies, appeared before the Board to request approval for the additional appropriation to the Sheriff's budget, in the amount of \$8,000.00 in order to purchase financial software. The software would enable the Sheriff's Cash Book be processed electronically, instead of the manual process they are currently using, and also the software would assist the Sheriff's Department in the processing of tax warrants. Mr. Culiver noted fifty seven Indiana Counties are currently using the Lieberman software in their Sheriff's Departments. He advised the revenue the county will receive in the collection of the tax warrants would cover the cost of the software. He added though, since the Dept. of Revenue does not release the information of outstanding tax warrants, it would be difficult to predict the amount of definite revenue the county could expect to receive. Councilman Sims noted the amount the county has received in the collection of tax warrants has been minimal in the last seven years. Councilman Smith inquired what the cost of the software would be if they only received the software for the Cash Book. Mr. Culiver stated that cost would be \$6000.00 for the software, and the maintenance fees would be reduced to one half of the price they had been quoted. He also noted the tax warrant program could be added at a later date. Councilman Sims inquired as to the balance in the Sheriff's Commissary Fund, and Ms. Smith advised the balance was \$14,500.00. Councilman Smith stated a possibility could be the initial cost of the software program for the Cash Book to be paid out of the Commissary Fund, and then the maintenance fees to be incorporated into their future budgets. President Pearman stated he would like to receive information from other counties as to their tax warrant collection procedures. Councilman Sims inquired as to the Misdemeanor Fund, if the County Corrections is not in the need for additional funding, why the Sheriff's Department is not allowed to spend all of that Fund's proceeds. Councilman Smith made a motion to table this request until the next meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Bennighoff. The motion passed with all ayes.

Commissioner President Norem, gave an update in regard to the total population of the jail, how the maximum capacity of the jail is sixty two, and the Sheriff has negotiated a verbal agreement with the Pulaski County Sheriff to house the excess number, over the sixty two number, at the Pulaski County Jail for the amount of \$20.00 a day/ per inmate. She noted that fee would also include the medical care of those inmates. She stated initially they are planning on paying the costs out of the Commissioner's CREDIT Fund, but since an estimated cost projection using that program, could run into costs exceeding \$50,000.00 she would like to see the future expense be paid out of the Rainy Day Fund. She also added that it is still unknown at this time, as to what the future of the jail situation will be, noting DLZ will be advising the County soon as to the results of their study. Councilman Smith stated he would like to see any claims submitted to be paid out of the Rainy Day Fund, be approved not just by the Commissioners, but that the Council also be involved in the approval process. President Norem noted the County has not yet received any billing from Pulaski County. Councilman Sims made a motion to table a motion until the County can see any billings and can research the procedure for the use of the Rainy Day Funds. Councilman Smith seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes. A discussion followed in regard to the maintaining the number of inmates to

below the sixty two number population.

Chris Smith then inquired about the Sheriff's request for the additional appropriation in the 911 Fund, (1156), in the overtime-holiday pay line. The Council advised they would like to see the actual numbers of what monthly revenue the County will be receiving from the State after the 911 funding changes go into effect on July 1, 2012. Auditor Chaffins advised the State is requiring a Statewide 911 Fund be established and the balances of the budget appropriations, as of June 30th, are transferred to the newly created fund. Councilman Semans made a motion to create the new 911 fund, seconded by Councilman Smith. The motion passed with all ayes. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfer of the budget appropriations of the current 911 fund (1156) to the newly created fund. Councilman Smith seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes. Councilman Smith asked the issue of the 911 funding be placed on the next month's meeting agenda.

Chief Sheriff's Deputy, Bill Dulin, appeared before the Board and submitted price quotes he had received from Best Ford, of Knox, in regard to the pricing of new police vehicles. He advised he had requested a quote from Cambe but they declined to participate. Councilman Smith noted the reason why the County always purchased vehicles out of the County was so they could purchase the vehicle at the state's fleet pricing. Officer Dulin advised the local dealers are now participating in that same program. A discussion followed in regard to the advertisement for price quotes and the minimum bid amount in order to require the advertisement.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

In regard to the County's Travel Policy Amendment, Attorney Lucas advised he will present the paperwork at the next Council meeting, in July. Councilman Smith made a motion to table the amendment to the next meeting, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

Auditor Chaffins requested permission to name one of her deputies as her 1st Deputy, and to give that Deputy a one hundred dollar pay increase for the remaining thirteen pay periods of 2012. She advised she had terminated the employment of her Payroll Deputy at the end of April and isn't certain, at this time, if that position will be filled. The Auditor noted currently she is processing the payroll herself, and the Deputy she wants to appoint as her 1st Deputy has taken on the added responsibility of working with the employment benefits portion of payroll (health and disability insurance, etc.). Attorney Lucas cited the state statute, IC 36-2-16-4, which enables certain county offices to appoint first deputies, such as the Auditor's Office. President Norem advised they would like to have all positions reevaluated and create different pay levels based on the job descriptions and responsibilities of their positions, instead of the current system. Councilwoman Benninghoff made a motion to deny the Auditor's request, stating the time for that request would be at budget time and not in the middle of the year. Councilman Semans seconded the motion and it passed with four ayes. The two nays were Pearman and ? .

Auditor Chaffins then inquired if, in the preparation of the 2013 budget, the maintenance department be split into two different departments, one for the Courthouse Building and the other for the Annex Building. Currently the two share the same department's budget but each have their own expense line items. The Council agreed to that division of departments.

Mike Litner, of Marshall-Starke Development Center appeared before the Council and presented their 2011 Annual Report. A copy of the Annual Report is on file in the Auditor's Office.

Councilman Sims restated his request to have the appropriation of the Misdemeanant Fund be moved back to the Sheriff instead of Community Corrections. Councilman Smith noted they should have Community Corrections discuss their portion of the appropriations with the Sheriff. President Pearman stated he will talk to Starke County Community Corrections before the next Council meeting.

Commissioner, Dan Bridegroom, requested the Council consider starting their meetings earlier than 6:00PM, since the meetings have been running late, and is causing the Commissioners' meeting to start late. He noted he would like to see the Council and the Board of Commissioners continue meeting on the same evening. Councilman Semans made a motion to change the starting time on the Council meetings to 5:30PM instead of 6:00PM, seconded by Councilman Radkiewicz. The motion passed with all ayes.

With there being no further business, Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Semans. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.

June 18, 2012

Dave Pearman, President

Mitch Semans, Vice President

Judy Benninghoff

ABSENT
Marvin McLaughlin

Mark Smith

Tony Radkiewicz

Robert Sims

Katherine Chaffins,
Starke Co. Auditor & Council Secretary

