

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in special session, along with the North Judson Town Board, in the North Judson Community Center (the old fire station), North Judson, Indiana, with Kathy Norem and Dan Bridegroom present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by North Judson Town Board Member, Tim Cummins, at 4:00PM. In attendance at the meeting were North Judson Town Board—Wendy Hoppe, Jane Ellen Felchuk, and Tim Cummins, Donna Henry-NJ Town Clerk, Jennifer Vanek-NJ Town Clerk Assistant, Marshall Horstman—NJ Town Superintendent, Starke County Commissioners-Kathy Norem and Dan Bridegroom, Starke County Auditor-Katherine Chaffins, Charlie Weaver and Larry Wickert—Starke County Economic Development Foundation, and Nathan Origer-Pulaski County Economic Development Foundation.

Larry Wickert gave a brief update on information regarding the Industrial Park of North Judson. He noted over 140 loads of stone were removed from the property. He believes the stone was residue from when Lee Friedl operated a stone business at that site several years ago. He also advised the low water pressure issue has been addressed. Marshall Horstman advised not all of the water valves that carry water to that area of town had not been completely opened. Charlie Weaver advised he will have the water pressure checked by an engineering company to see if it is adequate for a sprinkler system. Tim Cummins inquired if it was feasible to move the water tower to that area, which is now located at Thermo Products, west of North Judson. Larry Wickert brought up the subject of installing a new road access to the industrial park. Dan Bridegroom passed out a report stating the estimated cost for such a road could be as high as 4.5 million dollars. He also noted that a State policy is that an entity is responsible for the south and east road boundaries on their territory and therefore the road would be owned by the Town of North Judson. Mr. Wickert noted if the Town could receive a grant to finance the project they would need approximately 20% of the projects cost, or an estimated \$900,000.00. Kathy Norem advised they should consider it a three to five year project. Mr. Bridegroom advised they might want to see if that is a viable project or maybe they could find a different location for the Town's Industrial Park. Mr. Weaver noted the property originally was a 57 acre parcel, but now is only a little over 40 acres. He advised he would like to see what alternatives there are to relocate the Park, stating they should look for an 80 acre piece of property. Auditor Chaffins was asked to research the amount of CEDIT funds North Judson will be receiving in the next few years. A suggestion was made by Wendy Hoppe that a possibility could be to run a road into the Park along the old railroad bed that crossed CR500S northwest of Town, approximately ½ mile west of SR39.

Tim Cummins suggested the group research some of the ideas/concerns addressed at the meeting and then meet again in the future. The issues are: the water pressure at the Industrial Park; expanding the amount of acreage at the site, or relocating the Park to a new location; determining which NJ roads/streets are considered major collectors; and the future amount of revenue for the Town and the County from CEDIT funds.

Jane Ellen Felchuk made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tim Cummins. The motion passed with all ayes, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:10PM.

July 12, 2012

Kathy Norem, President

Dan Bridegroom, Vice-President

ABSENT _____
Jennifer Davis

Katherine Chaffins, Auditor &
Secretary to the Board of Commissioners