

**JULY 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, Dave Pearman, and Pam Stalbaum present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Freddie Baker at 5:30PM.

## **MINUTES**

Councilwoman Stalbaum made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20th meeting. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

## **OTES ABATEMENT**

Attorney Anthony Novak and Pam Wellman owner of OTES, Outstanding Tradeshow Exhibit Services, were present at the Meeting. President Baker opened the Public Hearing portion of the meeting at 5:32PM. Starke County Economic Director Charlie Weaver spoke in support of OTES and their future operation from the Thermo Products Building outside of North Judson. Attorney Novak noted he had added the Fall Back addition to the proposed Abatements forms. He also advised the abatement time frame for the personal property would be 7 years and for the real property, 10 years. Councilman Sims made a motion to close the Public Hearing portion of the meeting. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The Public Hearing closed at 5:38PM. Councilwoman Stalbaum made a motion to approve the abatement for the personal property and the abatement for the real property. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Councilman Sims made a motion to approve the confirmation of that parcel of real estate in North Judson to be designated as an Economic Revitalization Area (ERA). Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The abatement paperwork was signed by the Board.

## **2017 COUNTY BUDGETS**

Auditor Katherine Chaffins explained an encumbrance as the carrying forward of a portion of last year's budget to pay this year for any items that were ordered or purchased in the previous year but paid for this year. She advised for the DLGF Budget Workshop that will be held next week she needs to have a Council signed resolution stating all the Encumbrances on the funds controlled by the State. The Encumbrance Resolution listed the following Funds and total encumbrances: Fund 1000 \$142,673.92; Fund 1138 \$1,395.50; Fund 1159 \$1,351.80; Fund 1176 \$89,567.82; and Fund 1188 \$13,910.11. Councilwoman Stalbaum made a motion to approve the Encumbrance Resolution. Councilman Pearman seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

In regard to the scheduling of the 2017 budget process Auditor Chaffins stated the Budget Public Hearing could be set for their regular September Meeting which would take place on September 19<sup>th</sup> and then the Budget Adoption could take place at their regular October Meeting which would be October 17<sup>th</sup>. She advised all they would need to schedule was their Budget Workshop and it could be sometime in the month of August. The consensus of the Board was to schedule a Budget Workshop for Monday August 8<sup>th</sup> until Councilman Sims stated he was leaving for a two week vacation on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Then the Budget Workshop was scheduled for Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, beginning at 8AM. Councilman Cavender expressed his concern over the budget for the Cumulative Bridge Fund.

## **SHERIFF'S REQUEST TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS**

Sheriff Dulin appeared before the Board to discuss additional funding for his Jail. President Baker advised a couple of Councilmen and Commissioner Binkley had met with the Sheriff to discuss his budgets. Commissioner Binkley suggested the following: From Fund 1113, CEDIT Legislation: 10805 Cook an additional \$25,000.00; 11602 Part Time Jailers add in \$50,453.61 to cover the amount over-expended and an additional \$85,000.00; 30600 Utilities, Add \$23,613.45 to cover the amount over-expended and add \$110,000.00 to the budget. The total amount for the CEDIT Budget was \$294,067.06.

In regard to Fund 4919, that was created from the Therapeutic Community Program Commissioner Binkley read the following: 11500 Jail Nurse add \$70,000.00; 10502 Jailers, Add \$75,000.00 for two additional full time jailers; 11400 Overtime, add \$5,000.00; 20202 Repair and Maintenance add an additional \$13,000.00; 20208 Laundry & Cleaning an additional \$5,400.00; 30804 Prisoner Meals an additional \$67,000.00 thus making the total Fund 4919 appropriations of \$235,400.00.

Councilman Pearman stressed the question in regard to why are there both a Jail Warden and a Jail Commander. The Sheriff advised the Warden is required for the Therapeutic Community Program. The

Sheriff was asked if he hires two additional full time jailers would he still need the full funding for the part time jailers. He advised yes he would as they aren't currently operating with a full staff between 2AM-8AM. Auditor Chaffins suggested the Board review all of the Sheriff's Budgets again in November to see how they are operating. Councilman Sims made a motion to approve the jail budget increases in both the CEDIT Fund and the new Fund 4919 that were read by Commissioner Binkley. Councilman Pearman seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The Sheriff stated he has the priority to run a properly staffed jail. He noted the public deserves it. Councilman Pearman stated at budget workshop this year every department needs to get their budget leaner than this year's budget.

#### **IN OTHER BUSINESS**

Auditor Chaffins advised she had just received a notice from the State that they are increasing the mileage rate from .36 to .38 effective August 1<sup>st</sup> and she asked the Board to make the same move for Starke County. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to increase the mileage rate from .36 to .38 effective August 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilwoman Stalbaum seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

With there being no further public comments and no further business, Councilman Sims made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Stalbaum. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 6:23PM.

**JULY 18, 2016**

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Freddie Baker, President

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Dave Pearman, Vice-President

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

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

ABSENT

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

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

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

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