

**July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in regular session at 5:00 p.m. in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Bruce Fingerhut and Dan Awald absent, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

**IN RE: MINUTES**

Judy Benninghoff moved to approve the June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009, minutes seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

**IN RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #2009-13**

The commissioners requested \$4,000 for attorney fees. Chuck Estok moved to approve seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Judy Benninghoff moved to approve \$42,400 for Jail Dispatchers in county general with a reduction of \$20,920 in Sheriff's patrolmen and a reduction in Jailers of \$21,480 seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to approve \$1,850 out of county general for Circuit Court for the chief probation officer with the \$1,850 coming from the adult probation fund to back up the additional seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to approve the Judge's request for \$14,000 out of the Supplemental Public Defender fund seconded by Jennifer Davis with 5 ayes.

Bill Dulin moved to approve the highway's \$3,000 request for unemployment seconded by Jennifer Davis with 5 ayes.

Judy Benninghoff moved to approve the highway's \$3,400 request out of Cum. Bridge seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Judy Benninghoff moved to approve the commissioners' request of \$6,467 out of Cum. Capital Development for jail repairs seconded by Chuck Estok with 5 ayes.

Jennifer Davis moved to approve \$7,500 for the commissioners' unemployment which was tabled from the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to approve the Sheriff's request of \$13,000 out of Cum. Capital Development for a new patrol car, ½ of which is being paid by an insurance reimbursement from a wrecked patrol car seconded by Judy Benninghoff with 5 ayes.

Bill Dulin moved to approve \$2,400 out of Cum. Capital Development for an E-911 recorder in order to receive additional channels seconded by Jennifer Davis with 5 ayes.

**IN RE: NEW PHONE SYSTEM**

Bob Smith, I.T. Coordinator, spoke to the council regarding a new phone system. The funds requested for this were tabled from previous meetings--\$90,000 from the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting and \$60,000 from the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Larry with CDWG spoke regarding the system he proposed.

Bob stated that we have an antiquated system and parts are no longer available. Our system has already gone out once and we lucked out with a part. We won't be so lucky again. The new system will upgrade and allow for additional things such as video arraignment—to name one. It would also upgrade the panic buttons as well as much more. The overall cost is \$61,000, to run the fiber optics across the road about \$20,000 and \$8,300 per year for software & system maintenance.

The commissioners and council discussed setting up a committee to discuss details with Bob within the next 30 days so a decision can be made at the next meeting. The committee would also include the sheriff and someone from circuit court. Bob is to get hold of the city of Knox to see if they want to get in on this.

Mark Smith, Bill Dulin, Chuck Estok, Dan Bridegroom and Kathy Norem are the council and commissioners that will be part of the committee.

#### **IN RE: TRANSFER RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE # 2009-014**

Chuck Estok moved to approve the jail transfers of \$1,088 from various line items to Institutional and Medical seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

The highway department requested a transfer of \$1,525.26 from Mechanics to Clerk to pay the clerk for the increase in hours from 35 hours per week to 40 hours per week and to amend the salary ordinance accordingly. Judy Benninghoff moved to deny seconded by Jennifer Davis with 5 ayes. The council said it could be discussed at budget time.

Chuck Estok moved to approve a transfer for E-911 of \$1,053 from social security to unemployment seconded by Judy Benninghoff with 5 ayes.

#### **IN RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF “UNSAFE BUILDING FUND”**

Bruce Williams, Planning Commission Director, requested the council to establish an “Unsafe Building Fund”. Bill Dulin moved to approve the establishment of the “Unsafe Building Fund” pursuant to IC 36-7-9-14a seconded by Jennifer Davis with 5 ayes.

#### **IN RE: CAPITAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Gerry White from O.C.R.A. along with Edwin Buswell and Randy Mitchell from K.I.R.P.C. appeared before the council and the commissioners regarding a Capital Management Plan grant. Kathy Norem submitted O.C.R.A. guidelines for Strategic Economic Development Plans.

There is a grant available for this study with the county contributing a 10% match. The 2003 plan is in the Planning Commission Office and as far as Kathy Norem knows, no one is monitoring it. Dan Bridegroom would like to get other entities involved.

Kathy wants to define the general scope so that we can move forward and to include some council member, the cities and towns and Charles Weaver with the Development Foundation. Mark Smith and Jennifer Davis volunteered to be the council representatives.

The first meeting will be held July 31<sup>st</sup> and 1 pm C.S.T. in the meeting room of the County Annex Building.

#### **IN RE: PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE SPACE**

Kathy Norem submitted options for the Prosecutor's Office and discussed the options briefly. The options are on file in the Auditor's Office.

Chuck Estok moved to adjourn seconded by Bill Dulin with 5 ayes.

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Mark Smith, President

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Chuck Estok, Vice President

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Bill Dulin

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Jennifer Davis

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Judy Benninghoff

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ABSENT  
Bruce Fingerhut

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ABSENT  
Dan Awald

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Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor and Secretary

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