

AUGUST 20, 2018

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in a Combined Session with the Board of Commissioners at 5:30PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Bryan Cavender, Freddie Baker, Brad Hazelton, Robert Sims, Dave Pearman, Nancy Dembowski and Pam Stalbaum present, and Board of Commissioners Kathy Norem, Don Binkley, and Charlie Chesak also present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Brad Hazelton at 5:30PM. Councilman Baker made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 16th meeting and the 8-6-18 Budget Workshop. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

SHERIFF BILL DULIN'S REQUEST FOR AMENDED BUDGETS

Sheriff Bill Dulin and Office Manager Pam McDonald appeared before the Board. They advised they were there to make changes to his approved budgets of the Therapeutic Community Fund 4919 and the Jail CEDIT Fund 1114 which were approved at the Budget Workshop on 8-6-18. He advised since his County General Dept. 005 Budget has been cut so badly he needed to include the following items into the 4919 and 1114 budgets. The proposed changes to Fund 4919 are: Add two Jailers, \$75,000.00; Move Prisoner Meals to Fund 1114 and add \$20,000.00 which will total \$90,000.00; Move Repair & Maintenance to Fund 1114, \$35,000.00; Move the Jail Warden to Fund 1114, \$47,270.00; the balance in Misc. Expenditures will now be \$40,000.00; Move Gas, Oil and Lube from 1000.0005 to 4919 and add in an additional amount of \$45,000.00 to total \$90,000.00; add one patrolman, was moved from 1000.0005; and laundry stays the same.

In Fund 1114 he advised the Part Time Maintenance Person would stay the same at \$36,720.00; Kitchen will remain the same, \$55,950.00; Part Time Jailers add \$32,500.00 which will now total \$212,500.00; Utilities remain the same at \$200,000.00; Nurse remains the same at \$160,000.00; Overtime was increased by \$25,000.00; Courthouse Security Officers remain the same; Garage and Motor moved \$15,000.00 from 1000.0005 and added \$12,500.00 totaling \$27,500.00; Extra Help remains the same at \$10,000.00; Overtime moved from 1000.0005 of \$25,000.00 and increased it by \$14,000.00 totaling \$39,000.00; Moved Warden from 4919, \$47,270.00; moved Repair & Maintenance to this budget from 4919, and added \$22,000.00; Moved Prisoner Meals from 4919 with the extra \$20,000.00 to allow for rising costs; Mitsubishi will remain the same and Inmate Medical will remain the same. The Council advised the Sheriff would need to get the Commissioners approval on adding any new or additional personnel to his department first before they can provide funding for it. The Sheriff advised that is why the Combined Meeting with the Board of Commissioners was posted. Commissioner Norem stated she would like to see these requests posted in a spreadsheet so she can follow the changes more easily. She also noted she would like to receive the Sheriff's emails sooner than he has been sending them out. She said the email concerning his budgets was received at Midnight the night before the Budget Workshop which began at 8:00AM and today's email was received this afternoon. She stated she would like to see the email by the Wednesday before the meeting. Sheriff Dulin stated he was still upset that he never received a phone call from the Council to come to the Budget Workshop and they instead just cut through his proposed County General budget without any say so from him. Commissioner Norem advised they think the Sheriff is doing a great job. The Sheriff advised he will present those changes in a spreadsheet and will appear before the Board of Commissioners at their next meeting to ask about the additional personnel he was requesting.

EMS REQUEST TO PURCHASE AN AMBULANCE; REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR NEW DEPARTMENT SOFTWARE; REQUEST TO PURCHASE LAPTOPS FOR AMBULANCES

EMS Director Travis Clary and EMS Clerk MaryLynn Richie appeared before the Board. Director Clary stated he has three price quotes for the purchase of a new ambulance which is a 2019 E450 with a gas engine and they were: Osage Ambulance \$126,995.00; Demers Ambulance \$131,602.00; and Medwerks/Crossroads Ambulance with a re-mounted box \$115,287.00. Councilman Pearman stated he was against purchasing a gas engine ambulance but he will see how it operates; and maintains the winter idling. Councilman Pearman asked if they will be selling an older ambulance and Director Clary advised they would like to turn one of them into a transfer ambulance. He noted they are working on a contract with the Starke Hospital to see if they could receive the majority of the transfers out of that hospital. The Board of Commissioners advised they were in favor of both the purchase of a new ambulance and also the transfer agreement, pending a discussion with the hospital. Clerk Richie advised they are looking at possibly at least 70 transfers within a month's time. Councilman Pearman advised if they didn't use an ambulance strictly for transfers he would hope they would sell the old ambulance and

not just scrap it out since it still has value. Councilman Hazelton advised he would rather purchase an ambulance with a new box, not a remounted box. Director Clary advised he preferred the ambulance from Osage as they are located closer than the others and the salesman was a great guy to deal with. Councilman Pearman made a motion to approve the purchase of the Osage Ambulance and if 3308 does not become a transfer vehicle it should be sold and not scrapped. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem reminded them that the ambulance will be paid out of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. Auditor Chaffins advised the Board of Commissioners that the Sheriff had not yet purchased a squad car and he does have it in this year's budget of Fund 1114 for the purchase. Commissioner Norem stated she couldn't believe the Council had approved that since it is a capital expense.

Councilman Pearman asked about the transfer agreement and wanted to know if the hospital will agree to the agreement. They advised they will be meeting with the hospital soon.

Director Clary advised the State has required them to purchase new EMS Software because their software was extremely outdated. The quote they received was for five years of \$9,792.00. Clerk Richie inquired if that should be in the EMS Budget or the IT Budget. The Council advised it should be in the EMS Budget. (The amount of \$9,792.00 for the purchase of Software has been added to the EMS 2019 Budget.)

Director Clary then presented the Board with price quotes on the purchase of rugged laptop computers. The quotes are as follows: Dell \$8,779.75; Panasonic \$11,544.45; and another model from Dell \$9,011.70. He advised the laptops will be used in each ambulance, will be cloud based, and with touchscreens. He advised they can become paperless and the patients could sign the screens. He said now he has to go around to all three bases and collect the information for billing on a thumb drive and then Clerk Richie can do the billings. He noted with the laptops the information will be transmitted internally for billing. Councilman Pearman stated the laptops should be purchased out of the Rainy Day Fund. Auditor Chaffins advised it would be easier if they were purchased out of the Regular CREDIT Fund, # 1112, because the Rainy Day Fund requires advertising and a super-majority. Councilman Baker made a motion to approve the purchase of laptops and to pay it out of the CREDIT Fund. Councilwoman Dembowski seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

SCEDF MONTHLY REPORT; REPORT ON SCILL AND A REQUEST FOR TAX ABATEMENT

Starke County Economic Development Foundation Director Larry Wickert and Ron Gifford, Special Projects Coordinator, appeared before the Board. Director Wickert distributed copies of his monthly report. Ron Gifford gave a brief presentation on the SCILL Center talking about its welding classes which will be beginning its 19th class this fall. He noted Andy Odle has retired and Justin Miller from JW Hicks will be teaching the class. So far a total of 150 individuals have taken the class. He also spoke about the Adult Automation Robotics Class and the Basic Electricity Class being held in Knox also.

Mr. Gifford then advised of Kemin Foods which is located south of North Judson along SR39. He advised they had opened in 2012 and a different group is now running the company. In 2016 they added to the building, doubled its size and added another microwave. They didn't know that Kemin had filed for a tax abatement when they first opened and didn't apply for one in 2016. Now they are asking if they can apply for one and know that they will be losing out on the first couple years of that abatement. He noted they will need to complete a "Statement of Benefits" form showing the \$4,000,000.00 that was spent. He also advised he will need to schedule the Public Hearing for the tax abatement at the next Council meeting. He stated he is working with Attorney Lucas on this issue.

Councilman Pearman spoke of the railroad blocking road crossings for hours at a time and wanted to know what could be done about that. Director Wickert advised he will look into it for him.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Auditor Chaffins advised the money had come in from the Riverboat and had been distributed. She stated the money had been sent to Morgan Stanley for the retirement of the Sheriff's Department. Councilman Pearman suggested contacting Stan Brown to see what the status is for this year on the Sheriff's Retirement Fund.

Councilman Hazelton then advised he is on the Hamlet Fire Department and received a call last night of a house on fire with six children inside the house. He stated he had no radio contact with his department at all during that call. They could not reach dispatch or communicate to each other on their radios. There were others in the audience from other fire departments in the County, Andy Lawrence of Koontz Lake, Eric Wappel of North Judson, Andy Tilleras, San Pierre, and Ted Bombagetti of the Knox Fire

Deaprtment. There was a lengthy discussion in regard to the radios either broadcasting noise, or not receiving anything, and the problem with having dead areas to the radios. Ted Bombagetti stated a radio committee should be established to handle these problems. Commissioner Norem stated she didn’t believe the County had an existing contract with J & K but the IT Director Richard Franks advised he will contact J & K in the morning to see if there is a valid contract. Director Franks advised he has been working with J & K on this issue but so far nothing definite has been established. A meeting was set up with the IT Director, a Commissioner, and members of various County wide Fire Departments. This meeting took place the next day, 8-21-18 at 1PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With there being no public comment and no further business, Councilman Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Pearman. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 7:31PM.

AUGUST 20, 2018

Brad Hazelton, President

Dave Pearman, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

Pam Stalbaum

Nancy Dembowski

Robert Sims

Freddie Baker

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