

## **MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2017**

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 Freddie Baker, Robert Sims, Bryan Cavender, Brad Hazelton, Pam Stalbaum and Nancy Dembowski present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Freddie Baker. Absent from the meeting was Councilman Dave Pearman. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting and the August 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 Budget Workshop. Councilwoman Stalbaum seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

### **RESOLUTIONS APPROVED**

President Baker read aloud the Resolution 2017-0717, A Resolution of the Starke County Council Creating and Providing Initial Funding for the Courthouse Elevator Sustainability Fund. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve this Resolution. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. This resolution was actually approved at the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting but was not written until recently by County Attorney Marty Lucas. The Fund has been created, # 4993, and the \$5,000.00 was deposited into that Fund from the CEDIT Fund, as was requested by the Elevator Grant application. The Council signed the Resolution upon passage.

President Baker then read aloud the Resolution 2017-0821, A Resolution of the Starke County Council Creating a Special Non-Reverting Parks and Recreation Fund. Attorney Lucas noted any claims submitted on this Fund must be signed and approved by the Park Board President and the Park Board Secretary. The Fund created is Fund # 4962. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The Council signed the Resolution upon passage.

### **PUBLIC HEARING, NJSP 2018 BUDGET**

North Judson-San Pierre Superintendent Annette Zupin and Treasurer Guy Richie appeared before the Council for the Public Hearing of the NJSP's 2018 Budget. The Public Hearing opened at 5:39PM. Guy Richie advised he had begun this year in good financial shape, with \$559,000.00 cash balance compared to last year beginning the school year with a cash balance of only \$182,000.00. He stated they only had a budget for last year of seven million but only spent 6.6 million. Superintendent Zupin stated they have made a number of reductions to prepare for this in the last couple years. She advised it was too early in the school year yet to look at the total number of students enrolled in the school system. The Public Hearing closed at 5:41PM. Councilwoman Stalbaum made a motion approving the 2018 budget. Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

### **SHERIFF DULIN'S REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATIONS**

Sheriff Bill Dulin appeared before the Board to request approval of appropriations as follows: Requested to appropriate the \$16,349.99 in County Corrections Fund, 1175 and requested to appropriate the Riverboat revenue, \$101,222.03. The Riverboat money is sent to the Sheriff's Department's Pension Plan. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve both requested appropriations. Councilwoman Dembowski seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

### **STARKE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION'S MONTHLY REPORT**

Starke County Economic Development Foundation Director Charlie Weaver appeared before the Board to present his monthly departmental report. He advised he had recently spoken to Jim Hicks who advised he wants to begin work on his next addition. He also advised he has recently spoken to the owners of OTIS in North Judson and he stated they are very happy with the County and the Town of North Judson. He also stated the SYSCO property has all been listed for sale in the Hamlet area.

### **CORONER'S AUTOPSIES; 2018 PAY**

County Coroner Dannie Hoffer appeared before the Board to discuss the number of autopsies that have been completed this year. Coroner Hoffer went through a listing of the deceased from this year and stated if they did or did not need an autopsy. He advised when he receives the invoices for completed autopsies he will be over his budgeted amount. The Board advised they will wait until the billings come in. He then discussed his pay for 2018 and asked the Board to look at it again. He had requested a thousand dollar raise in his proposed 2018 budget but during the Council's Budget Workshop they had taken away the whole increase. The Council is still deciding on a 1, 2 or 3% increase for 2018. Coroner Hoffer stated he is the lowest paid Coroner in the State. President Baker then advised the Coroner to set

up an office in his new Coroner Building instead of using his personal office to conduct Coroner business. President Baker advised it was not a good idea to conduct business work on a personal computer.

### SETTING PAY FOR PART TIME EMA DIRECTOR

The position of EMA Director is now a Part Time position, working 20 hours a week. Commissioner Norem spoke of the process the Board of Commissioners used when they had hired Jacob Lippner as the last full time Director and set the amount of pay for that position. She stated they had a budget that was Ted Bombagetti's and was calculated as the max for that position. She stated if someone with at least ten years' experience and a Bachelor's Degree could possibly earn the maximum amount. No experience and no education would earn you the lowest amount. With a little experience and an Associate's Degree would earn slightly above the lowest amount. Councilman Hazelton advised they have a pay of \$15.50 - \$18.50 and that would work with the 20 hours per week. The more education and experience the hired applicant has the more pay he could earn. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to establish the pay for the position of EMA Director would be \$15.50 to \$18.50 depending on the amount of education and experience, and to make this an amendment to the 2017 Salary Ordinance. Councilwoman Dembowski seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Binkley advised the Part Time EMA Director would also have a vehicle to drive but it is not a take home vehicle.

### IN OTHER BUSINESS

Councilman Hazelton made a motion to appoint Jennifer Borman, a resident of Davis Township to the Starke County Library Board, a vacancy on the Board due to the resignation of Talia Reed. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Carolla Heilstedt appeared before the Board and asked them to approve the budget of the CVC Fund. She advised she had sent this information out to the Board prior to this meeting but forgot to notify the Auditor to place this on the meeting's agenda. In her proposed budget she listed the revenue as being the amount received in 2017 as \$12,500.00 and the amount of expenditures needed as \$12,430.00. She advised a total of \$7,500.00 has already been spent. President Baker asked her where that amount of revenue would be coming from and how much has been collected so far this year. Ms. Heilstedt advised she did not know for sure and Auditor Chaffins advised she did not know this was going to be presented at this meeting and she didn't print out that information. The present balance of the Innkeeper's Tax Fund was not known either. Ms. Heilstedt advised she needed to pay back the Chamber of Commerce as the CVC Fund was not current with their contract. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to table this issue until their next regular meeting. Councilman Sims seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. They advised Ms. Heilstedt to also bring in a copy of the contract between the Chamber of Commerce and the CVC Board to their next meeting. Attorney Lucas stated the contract does not have any expiration date on it.

With there being no public comments and no further business, Councilman Hazelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Cavender. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 6:37PM.

**AUGUST 21, 2017**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Freddie Baker, President

ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Pearman, Vice-President

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Dembowski

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katherine Chaffins, Starke County Auditor and  
Secretary to the County Council