

Monday, August 29, 2016

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Board of Commissioners and meet in Special Session at 6:30PM in the Annex meeting room, Knox, Indiana, with Kent Danford, Don Binkley, and Kathy Norem present and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Don Binkley.

INSURANCE RENEWAL

Carrie Block, of 1st Choice Insurance, appeared before the Board with a renewal of the County's current liability and workers compensation insurance. She explained the booklet she had presented to the Board and advised for the 2016-2017 year the insurance premiums had decreased by a total of \$52,435.00 for all of the coverages. She noted of that decrease \$34,715.00 was a decrease of workers compensation because the last three years have been good. Next year should be showing another decrease in workers comp. Agent Block stated the total premiums due in the New Year will be \$421,547.00. In regard to vehicle coverage she advised she had worked with each department and the Auditor's Office to get the current listing of their equipment. Commissioner Norem made a motion to approve the insurance packet and the premium amounts for the 2016-2017 year. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Agent Block inquired about the renovation project as to when insurance coverage should begin. Commissioner Norem stated there is a meeting scheduled with the Building Corporation on September 12th to approve the bids. She advised coverage should begin on Sept. 13th.

SOLID WASTE AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATIVE BILLING

Commissioner Norem made a motion to adopt the Solid Waste Agreement for Cooperative Billing Form written by County Attorney Marty Lucas for the Solid Waste Department. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

HOSPITAL LEASE EXTENSION

Attorney Lucas advised he had received notice from the Hospital's Attorney requesting the lease renewal to be extended for two months. There was a discussion in regard to their request and also for the need of the County to hold another Executive Session between the Board of Commissioners and the County Council. Commissioner Norem stated they could meet in executive session on September 19th and then mark the extension to end on the 20th. Attorney Lucas advised the extension should end at the end of the month. Then it was decided they could meet with the Council at Executive Session on September 6th prior to the Board of Commissioners' regular meeting. Commissioner Norem made a motion to hold an Executive Session along with the County Council on Tuesday, September 6th at 5:30 followed by the Board of Commissioners Regular Session. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. Commissioner Norem made a motion to extend the lease renewal negotiation until September 30th. Commissioner Danford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Commissioner Norem advised she had received a call from Skillman who advised it would be to the County's advantage to move out the offices who would be most affected by the renovations at the Old Jail Building and the Courthouse. She noted it would be Offices of the Prosecutor, the Health Department and the Extension Office. She stated the Sheriff had offered the Court's Offices at the Jail to the Prosecutor's Department but stated he would not be able to handle the Child Support Division of that Department due to the number of visitors they would have. She advised the Health Nurse Frank Lynch had located office space at a building owned by Dr. Theresa Alexander for \$1,500.00/month. He advised it could accommodate the Extension Office and the Health Department but was not sure if it could hold the portion of the Prosecutor's Office as they are required to be connected with the State. Commissioner Norem stated she had even thought of making the Annex Meeting Room available for them for office space if need be. She would want all meetings scheduled for the Meeting Room to be moved either to the Library and or the Knox Community Center.

During the Public Comment portion of the meeting EMS Director, Keith Emigh advised their Rig 86 had engine problems and was being checked out at Dobson Ford. He advised he would give more detailed information at their regular meeting on Tuesday.

There being no further business, Commissioner Norem made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Dandford seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 7:37PM.

August 29, 2016

Kent Danford, President

Donald Binkley, Vice President

Kathy Norem

Katherine Chaffins, County Auditor
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners