

September 8th, 2008

Pursuant to call, comes now the Starke County Council and meet in special session at 8:00 a.m. in the Auditor's Office of the Starke County Government Building (Annex), Knox, Indiana. Comes now the Auditor, , and reads the call to the Council and shows that due and legal notice of the meeting has been given.

IN RE: MINUTES

Jennifer Davis moved to approve the 8/25/2008 minutes, seconded by Bruce Fingerhut, with 6 ayes. (Mark Smith had not arrived at the meeting yet.)

IN RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2008-13

Chuck Estok moved to approve the highway's request to re-appropriate \$40,000 for gas, oil & lube. Dan Awald seconded the motion and it passed with 6 ayes.

Chuck Estok moved to approve the additional request for \$5,200 for the CR 600 North & Range Rd. Project. William Dulin seconded, and it passed with 6 ayes.

Mark Smith arrived.

Douglas J Vessely moved to approve the \$36,370 appropriation request for Drug Free Starke County. This is grant money that must be broken into four categories: drug prevention, treatment and intervention, justice and law enforcement, and operation. Chuck Estok seconded the motion and it passed with seven ayes.

IN RE: TRANSFER RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE #2008-14

The Highway Department requested to transfer \$50,000 from Calcium Chloride & Gas, Oil & Lube to Workman's Compensation and Group Health Insurance. Bruce Fingerhut seconded the motion and it passed with seven ayes.

IN RE: 2009 BUDGETS

The following Taxing Units' budgets have been received:

- California Township
- Center Township
- North Bend Township
- Railroad Township
- Knox Corporation
- Town of North Judson
- North Judson Library
- Starke County Airport Authority
- Davis Township
- Town of Hamlet

Rhonda Milner met with the council with the Reassessment budget. The council wants Rhonda to bring her budget down to \$358,000 total. They asked her to look it over and come back later in the day with suggestions.

Judge Hall and Eric Fritz met with the council with the Supplemental Juvenile Probation, Adult Probation and Jury Pay budgets. Douglas J Vessely moved to approve \$8,000 in the Juvenile Probation fund, \$58,225 in Adult Probation and \$15,000 in Jury Pay. Chuck Estok seconded the motion and it passed with seven ayes.

Sheriff Oscar Cowen met with the council with the Emergency 911 budget. Bruce Fingerhut moved to approve the budget at \$507,020 including two new positions for dispatchers, seconded by William Dulin with seven ayes.

There was much discussion about the Highway Department budget. Kevin Kroft appeared on behalf of the department. They talked about not filling one vacant truck driver position and laying off two other truck drivers. After much discussion, Douglas J Vessely moved to approve the highway budget of \$1,788,266 and Local Road & Street budget at \$400,000. Chuck Estok seconded the motion and it passed with seven ayes.

Rhonda returned with the Reassessment budget request at \$344,023. Douglas J Vessely moved to approve the budget, seconded by Bruce Fingerhut with seven ayes.

The Food Sanitarian position was discussed.

There being no further business to come before the board, Bruce Fingerhut moved to recess the budget hearings until the October 13th meeting time at 7pm, seconded by Dan Awald, with seven ayes.

Mark C. Smith, President

Douglas J. Vessely, Vice President

Bruce Fingerhut

Chuck Estok

Jennifer Davis

Daniel Awald

William A. Dulin

Michaelene J. Houston, Auditor of
Starke County and Secretary to the
County Council