

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in Regular Session Joint Meeting with the Board of Commissioners at 5:30 PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Dave Pearman, Brad Hazelton, Kay Gudeman, Howard Bailey, Don White, Charles Chesak, and Bryan Cavender present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Dave Pearman at 5:30 PM. He began the meeting with a moment of silence for the loss of the son of Councilman Sims.

AUDITOR BUSINESS

Councilman White made a motion to approve the minutes from August 17th, 2020. Councilman Bailey seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes. Councilman White made a motion to approve the minutes from August 31st, 2020. Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

STARKE COUNTY 2021 BUDGET ADOPTION

COUNTY GENERAL FUND 1000:

The County General Fund requested budgets were reviewed by department.

0001 Clerk: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Clerks proposed budget of \$205,417.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0002 Auditor: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Auditors proposed budget of \$192,046.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0003 Treasurer: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Treasurers budget in the amount of \$104,049.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0004 Recorder: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Recorders proposed budget of \$82,719.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0005 Sheriff: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the proposed budget of \$824,750.00, this includes the addition of \$50,000 for Sheriff Retirement, Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0006 Surveyor: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Surveyors proposed budget of \$85,221.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0007 Coroner: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Coroners proposed budget in the amount of \$43,928.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0008 Prosecutor: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the 2021 budget of the Prosecutor in the amount of \$87,211.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0017 Old Jail Building: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the budget in full in the amount of \$12,220.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0018 EMA: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the 2021 Budget of the EMA Department in the amount of \$42,058.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0019 Election: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the 2021 election budget of \$39,776.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0020 EMS: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the EMS budget in the total amount of \$1,449,290.00. Councilman Bailey seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0021 Purdue Extension: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the 2021 budget of the Extension Office in the amount of \$121,401.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0022 Planning Commission: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the proposed budgets of the Planning Commission, Drainage Board and Veteran Service Officer. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. The approved budget is \$119,548.00.

0023 Drainage Board: The approved budget is \$11,100.00.

0024 Veteran Service Officer: The approved budget is \$17,154.00.

0025 Commissioners: Councilwoman Gudeman on made a motion to approve the Commissioners' budget in the total amount of \$2,642,760.00, this includes an \$111,000 increase in Health Insurance, Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0026 Courthouse: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the budget in full of the Courthouse for a total amount of \$85,172.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0027 Jail: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the jail budget in the amount of \$186,406.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

0028 Annex Building: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the budgets in full of the Annex Building, Circuit Court, BZA, Soil & Water, Prosecutor and County Council. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

The approved budget total for the Annex Building was \$80,229.00.

0029 Circuit Court: The approved budget of Circuit Court was \$527,014.00.

0030 BZA: The approved budget of the BZA was \$20,399.00.

0031 Soil & Water: The approved budget of Soil & Water was \$36,319.00.

0032 Prosecutor: The approved budget of the Prosecutor was \$115,735.00.

0033 County Council: The approved budget of the County Council was \$39,023.00.

0035 IT: Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the IT budget in the amount of \$314,664.00 which includes the reduction amount of \$3,550. Councilman White seconded the motion and the motion passed with all ayes.

The total amount of the 2021 Budgets for the County General Fund: \$7,485,609.

OTHER COUNTY BUDGETS

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 1112 CEDIT, \$1,132,826.00, this includes a reduction in the amount of \$120,520.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and the motion was approved with 4 ayes and 1 nay.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve Fund 1122, Starke County Community Corrections, in the amount of \$374,375.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 1135 Cumulative Bridge Budget, in the amount of \$260,007.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 1138 Cumulative Capital Development Budget, in the amount of \$200,000.00 as presented. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 1140, Enhanced Access Fund, in the amount of \$12,400.00 Fund 1156, Firearms Training, in the amount of \$30,000.00 and Fund 1159 Health Dept. Budget, in the amount of \$180,592.00, as presented. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 1168 Local Health Maintenance Budget, in the amount of \$33,139.00, as presented. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 1169 Local Road & Street Budget, in the amount of \$398,000.00 as presented. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Highway Department Fund 1176 in the total amount of \$2,976,805.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the budget of Fund 1188 2015 Reassessment as presented in the amount of \$381,698.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 1217, Elected Officials Training Fund, in the amount of \$3,500.00 and Fund 1222, 911 Budget in the amount of \$496,890.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Fund 2100 Supplemental Adult proposed budget in the amount of \$90,966.00, Fund 4925 in the amount of \$221,531.00, Fund 4997 Public Defender in the amount of \$67,600.00 and the budget of Fund 2105 Supplemental Juvenile in the amount of \$37,269.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the proposed budget of Fund 4006, Buy Drug Money, in the amount of \$5,000.00, Fund 4101, EMS Donations for Education/Supply, in the amount of \$40,000.00, Fund 4110, Farm Fund, in the amount of \$15,000.00, Fund 4902, Auditor Transfer Fee Fund, in the amount of \$11,914, Fund 4907, Pre-Trial Diversion, in the amount of \$135,775.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the budget of Fund 4919 in the total amount of \$413,731.00, Fund 1175 County Corrections in the amount of \$16,000.00, and Fund 1114, Jail CREDIT in the amount of \$2,206,902.00, this includes the reduction of \$70,000. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the budget of Fund 8101 Emergency Management Grant as presented in the amount of \$3,000.00, Fund 8500 DOC Probation in the amount of \$79,388, Fund 9117 IN Crim Just Victims, in the amount of \$36,508.00 Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the proposed budget of Fund 9133, LHMF/Tobacco Settlement in the amount of \$17,495.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the budget of Fund 9167 JDAI 20/21 in the amount of \$41,302.00, Fund 9600 WIC as presented in the amount of \$113,122.00 and Fund 9605 WIC Breastfeeding as presented in the amount of \$7,333.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

NORTH JUDSON SAN PIERRE SCHOOL CORPORATION 2021 BUDGET ADOPTION

Councilman Hazelton made a motion to adopt the North Judson San Pierre School 2021 Budget in the amount of \$13,010,066.00 Councilman Bailey seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

STARKE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY 2021 BUDGET ADOPTION

Councilman Bailey made a motion to adopt the Starke County Airport Authority 2021 Budget in the amount of \$1,370,975.00 Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

STARKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT 2021 BUDGET ADOPTION

Councilman Bailey made a motion to adopt the Starke County Solid Waste 2021 Budget in the amount of \$258,318.00 Councilwoman Gudeman seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

KOONTZ LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT 2021 BUDGET ADOPTION

Councilman Bailey made a motion to adopt the Koontz Lake Conservancy 2021 Budget in the amount of \$262,349.00 Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

STELLAR APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION

Rik Ritzler, Starke County Highway Superintendent and Emily Albaugh with KIRPC came before the Board of Commissioners requesting a matching grant amount toward the Stellar Community Project. Superintendent Ritzler handed out a Stellar Match Data chart to both boards. He explained that the matching grant is a total of \$53,815.00. They one donation in the amount of \$5,000 and a very strong possibility of another donation in the amount of \$5,000 so the potential need is \$43,815.00. However, at this time only \$5,000 has been received so there is a possibility they may need a total of \$48,815.00. He advised this matching portion can be paid from CEDIT Roads and Bridges. Councilman Bailey asked if these were solid prices that he has presented. Superintendent Ritzler stated he can promise anything but they should be pretty solid. Attorney Lucas advised the projects are schematic at this point. He stated they are not designed yet but the design will need to come in at that budget. Commissioner Cavender made motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment with the commitment amount of \$48,815 being paid from CEDIT Roads and Bridges. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

NORTH JUDSON-WAYNE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Kelsie Purcell came before the Starke County Council to continue the discussion requesting an additional appropriation for the repairs of their building. Attorney Lucas advised that this request comes down to one fact that the problem regarding the repairs begins with the windows. The windows were under a 20 year warranty and it is over 20 years. The company did not have any legal responsibility to fix it. There are two options. She could go back to Larson & Danielson, who had just performed repairs on their building. Councilman Pearman asked why Larson & Danielson didn't say something about these window repair initially. Ms. Purcell advised that they did change the windows that had popped their seals but now they are saying that, that was not the problem initially and they were going to do an exploratory thing to try and fix it. This is why they got a second quote from Millwood Roofing/Construction. She presented both quotes to the Starke County Council. She explained that the library board would prefer going with Millwood as they have more faith that they would fix the issue and they would start with a brand new warranty. Councilman Pearman advised that the Millwood Roofing/Construction quote is \$64,754.00 and the Larson & Danielson Quote is \$50,754.00. Ms. Purcell advised that their additional appropriation request is for \$71,229.40 for incidentals. Councilman Pearman advised they do not approve additional appropriations based on incidentals. They would approve the additional appropriation amount based on the quote itself. Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the Millwood Roofing/Construction quote in the amount of \$64,754.00. Councilman White seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

SHERIFF – CLEAN CITIES GRANT

Bill Dulin, Starke County Sheriff came before the Starke County Council and Board of Commissioners to request approval for the Clean Cities grant. He stated he had spoken with Porter County and they advised they had gotten several vehicles that were hybrids from a Clean Cities grant. They made contact with the representatives who are their tonight. He advised the grant is due at the end of September. Don Hadley, Board President for South Shore Clean Cities and the General Manager at Lake Shore Ford introduced himself. He advised he brought information on the hybrids if the boards have any questions about the vehicle itself. Kyle Lesik then introduced himself to the board. He advised he is also with South Shore Clean Cities. They are a Department of Energy Non-Profit who look to reduce emissions and mostly with fleet vehicles and governmental agencies in general. He explained that this grant is not their grant it is actually through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. They are talking about applying for a hybrid vehicle, there is no match to the grant itself. They could apply for one vehicle with no match or apply for two vehicles that would require the government to purchase one of those vehicles. He advised he had completed a fleet assessment of the Sheriff's Department and the

purchase of this vehicle would return its investment within 2.5 years. There may be additional money available on top of the \$50,000 available with this grant.

Councilman Pearman asked about the batteries on these vehicles. Mr. Lesik advised that the batteries have a 8 year, 100,000 mile warranty. Councilman Pearman asked if these are purchased through our local Ford Dealership. Mr. Hadley stated that they could purchase these vehicles through any Ford Dealerships. Councilman Pearman asked how long the grant was open for. Mr. Lesik advised the grant is two years in length and they will complete all the grant reporting requirements. We would be notified by January on whether or not we were awarded the grant and then we have 2 years from that point to purchase the vehicle and add it to our fleet. Councilman Pearman advised that since we would have to purchase the second vehicle all on our own we should get the first vehicle, fully funded by the grant, see how it goes and then possible buy the second vehicle. However, he added, that would be up to the Board of Commissioners. Councilman Bailey asked Sheriff Dulin if this would be adding to his fleet. Sheriff Dulin advised this would be replacing a vehicle not adding. Commissioner Cavender made a motion to apply for the grant and approve the purchase of one hybrid vehicle with the grant money. Commissioner Chesak seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

WIC TRANSFER

A representative from WIC was not present at the meeting. Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to table the WIC Transfer Request. Councilman Bailey seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

SECURITY FUNDING

Auditor Oesterreich advised that the security funding is in the red and they will need additional monies to carry them through the rest of the year. Attorney Lucas advised that the Board of Commissioners can have an executive meeting regarding the security discussion. It was decided for the Board of Commissioners to have an executive session regarding security funding. Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to table the security discussion until their next meeting. Councilman White seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

CLERK E-POLL BOOK

Bernadette Manuel, Starke County Circuit Court Clerk came before the Starke County Council and the Board of Commissioner to demonstrate the use of the new poll books.

WIC TRANSFER REQUEST

Lisa Dunfee appeared for WIC for their transfer request. She advised that the State requested they look at their budgets to see what they could move around as they have all been affected by COVID. They plan on purchasing new chairs that can be wiped down and cleaned between clients. Councilman White made a motion for an additional appropriation in 9500.20100.000.0000 \$1651.42, 9500.30100.000.0000 \$120.00, and 9500.30408.000.0000 \$200.00. With a reduction in the amount of 9500.30204.000.0000 \$1651.42 and 9500.10804.000.0000 \$320.00. Councilman Bailey seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

After having no public comments made Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to adjourn at 6:35PM. Councilman Hazelton seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020
STARKE COUNTY COUNCIL

Dave Pearman, President

Brad Hazelton, Vice-President

Kay Gudeman

Don White

Howard Bailey

Robert Sims

Freddie Baker

Rachel Oesterreich, Starke County Auditor and
Secretary to the County Council

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020
STARKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charlie Chesak, President

Kathryn Norem, Vice-President

Bryan Cavender

Rachel Oesterreich, County Auditor
& Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners