

**October 21, 2013**

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 Dave Pearman, Tony Radkiewicz, Robert Sims, Marvin McLaughlin, Bryan Cavender, and Freddie Baker present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Dave Pearman. Councilman Mitch Semans was absent.

Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Councilman Cavender. The motion passed with all ayes.

President Pearman advised he had been contacted by Chris Smith of the Sheriff's Department requesting they be the first item on the agenda. Sheriff Oscar Cowen, Office Manager Chris Smith, and Cook/Jailer Lori Tolson appeared before the Board to request a transfer in appropriations of the jail budget, moving \$15,000.00 from budget line item 11500, jail nurse, to 30804, prisoner meals. President Pearman advised he was dis-satisfied with the situation, this request to increase the prisoner meals appropriation. A discussion followed as to why there is a need to increase the original amount budgeted, \$50,000.00. Ms. Smith advised they could possibly make due with an increase of \$10,000.00 but felt it would be safer to increase it to \$15,000.00. Councilman McLaughlin questioned their asking for the larger amount of \$15,000.00 in appropriations, if they could get by with \$10,000.00. Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to approve the appropriation transfer, seconded by Councilman Baker. The motion passed with all ayes.

In regard to the transfer requests submitted by Courthouse Custodian Carl Goodrich, Councilman McLaughlin made a motion to table the request until he is present to appear before the Board to answer any questions. Councilman Radkiewicz seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes. President Pearman noted he had personally advised the Coroner he would not have to be present in order for his request of transfer to be addressed by the Board. Councilman Sims made a motion to table this request also pending the personal appearance of the Department Head presenting the transfer request. Councilman Radkiewicz seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

**RE: IU HEALTH STARKE, 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER REPORTING OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

Linda Satkowski and Craig Felte of IU Health appeared before the Board to present IU Health-Starke's 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Capital Expenditures Report. Mr. Felte advised they only had three capital expenditures during the third quarter of 2013 and the items purchased were a replacement generator \$78,476.00, endoscopy equipment \$989.00, and nuclear medicine equipment \$4,624.00. President Pearman inquired if County Attorney, Marty Lucas ever received the additional financial information he had requested from IU-Health at previous meetings. Attorney Lucas advised he has not. Mr. Felte requested Attorney Lucas put his request in writing, and they will supply the information.

**RE: REPORT FROM UмбаUGH FINANCIAL SERVICES, STATUS OF NEW JAIL PROJECT**

Todd Samuelson and Jeff Messer of Umbaugh Financial Services appeared before the Board to review the finances involved in the new County Detention Center Project. Mr. Samuelson reviewed the proposed numbers of the project: the bond issue that will be released for bids on October 29<sup>th</sup> is in the amount of \$14,000,000.00; the total jail project cost is approximately \$18,000,000.00; and the project will be paid from the CEDIT special legislation .65 tax the County has been receiving as of January 1 2013. In 2013 the County receives \$180,000.00 monthly, and in 2014 the County will be receiving \$190,000.00 monthly. He advised as of May 2013 the balance in that fund, the CEDIT Special Legislation Fund # 1213, was \$900,000.00. He advised in 2014 the County will begin paying lease rental payments of \$200,000.00 due January 15<sup>th</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup> of that year. He noted, at the end of the project an estimated balance of the CEDIT revenue in the amount of 1.8 million will be available to be used to possibly renovate the old jail. He noted his projected documentation does not reflect any negotiated bond bid pricing. He advised the bond rating will be provided by Standard & Poor by the end of the week. He then introduced his associated Jeff Messer, who is an investor at Umbaugh. Mr. Messer gave a presentation on how the county could benefit by allowing Umbaugh to invest the proceeds of the bond issue instead of the Trust Fund Bank, which in this case is US Bank. He noted the Trust Bank normally invests only in low interest money market funds. Mr. Messer advised the County could net approximately \$20,000.00 annually, and his yearly investing fee would be approximately \$3,500.00 or 5 points annually.

President Pearman asked the issue of investing the bond proceeds be placed on the agenda for the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, since the sale of the County bonds was first going to take place. Councilman Baker made a motion to take this under advisement, seconded by Councilman Cavender. The motion passed with all ayes.

**RE: ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE SALARY OF THE OFFICE OF SHERIFF**

Attorney Lucas advised he was asked to draft an ordinance documenting the action taken by the Council at their September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting which was to set the salary of the County Sheriff at \$87,500.00 to begin on January 1, 2015. President Pearman read the ordinance for the record. Councilman Sims inquired if the Sheriff will still be receiving a portion of tax warrants collected. Attorney Lucas advised the Sheriff will that is not included in that base pay. Councilman Sims stated he would like to know the dollar amount of tax warrants collected. Councilman McLaughlin made a motion to adopt and sign the proposed ordinance. The motion passed with four ayes and one nay (Radkiewicz). The ordinance was signed by the Board.

**RE: CREATION OF A PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD COMMITTEE**

There was a brief discussion as to the creation of a committee to assess the need for the County to create a Parks and Recreation Board. Councilman Radkiewicz volunteered to Chair the committee and Councilman McLaughlin volunteered be a member of the committee. Board of Commissioners President Kathy Norem also volunteered to be a member of the committee and the consensus of the Board was to have Attorney Lucas on the committee also, and at first have only County officials on the committee with the possibility of opening it up to the public for committee members at a later date. Councilman Radkiewicz made a motion to establish a Parks and Recreation Committee, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes. Councilman Radkiewicz stated he will set a date for their first meeting.

President Pearman disbursed the required health insurance information and each councilman was asked to sign the document showing they had received the insurance information.

Commissioner Davis advised the Jail Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00AM to 11:00AM and the Board is welcome to attend. She also advised there will be three Community Healthcare Forum meetings: on November 13<sup>th</sup> at the NJSP School; on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Knox School; and on November 20<sup>th</sup> at the O-D School; and a meeting for healthcare providers on November 6<sup>th</sup>, but that meeting is by invitation only.

President Pearman advised they had received a notice from Knox City Mayor, Rick Chambers, asking for the Council to modify their Innkeepers Tax Ordinance, 2007-13. The request includes the collection of the tax locally by the County Treasurer instead of by the State, and adds a penalty for late submission of the tax report. Attorney Lucas advised the modification requires publication before changing, and would like to have time to research the request. President Pearman asked the issue to be placed on the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda. Councilman McLaughlin advised he would like the Board to decide on the amount of the penalty before the proposed amendment to the ordinance is publicized.

President Pearman gave a brief report on the status of the County's Police Pension. He advised contrary to what the County has always heard from a previous agent, the County's Police Pension is in good shape, is 83% funded, and noted the balance to be paid on the pension in 2013 is \$65,800.98 and the total amount due in 2014 is \$118,769.00 which is considerably lower than in previous years. President Pearman advised he would like this issue also be added to the agenda of the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, and the possibility of approving an appropriation of the CAGIT Certified Shares fund to pay the 2013 balance.

President Pearman also noted he had met with Starke County Community Corrections Director, Bob Hinojosa, to discuss the pay for a part time compliance officer. He advised the current rate was between \$10.00-11.00 an hour and would like to increase the pay range to be \$11.00-15.00, since the County is presently paying the jailers at \$13.00/hour and he would like to stay competitive with the County. President Pearman noted the Council doesn't have authority over that Department, and this was for the Board's information only. He advised the next meeting of the SCCC will be on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

With there being no further business, Councilman Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 6:59PM.

---

Dave Pearman, President

ABSENT  

---

Mitch Semans, Vice President

---

Bryan Cavender

---

Marvin McLaughlin

---

Tony Radkiewicz

---

Robert Sims

---

Freddie Baker

---

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