

DECEMBER 5, 2016

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and met in a Special Session at 5:30PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Bryan Cavender, Freddie Baker, Brad Hazelton, Robert Sims, Dave Pearman, Nancy Dembowski and Pam Stalbaum present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Freddie Baker at 5:30PM. Nancy Dembowski was caucused into the Council by her Party to replace Councilwoman Jennifer Davis. President Baker advised this was a special meeting held for the North Judson-San Pierre School who was advised by the DLGF to change a 2016 Budget Appropriation.

NORTH JUDSON-SAN PIERRE 2016/2017 BUDGET APPROPRIATION REDUCTION

Guy Richie, Treasurer of the North Judson-San Pierre Schools appeared before the Board. He advised he was notified by Michelle Rogers of the DLGF who is reviewing their 2017 Budget that the School would need to reduce the appropriation in 2016 of their Rainy Day Fund. If they didn't reduce the appropriation requested it would lower the amount of the Rainy Day budget for 2017. Councilman Pearman inquired if the DLGF stated anything about using the Rainy Day Fund. Mr. Richie advised no they had not asked. Councilman Pearman inquired as to what happens to their Rainy Day Fund after it is expended. Mr. Richie advised he wasn't sure what they will be looking at. He is anticipating a totally smaller budget for the next year. Since the NJSP Schools have been dealing with decreased enrollment and therefore decreased State funding, Councilman Pearman stated he felt it may be time for all three County Schools to start talking about consolidation if this type of funding continues. Councilman Pearman made a motion to approve the reduction to the 2016 appropriation of the Rainy Day Fund. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

DIRECTOR OF SCEDF REQUESTS SIGNATURE OF A NON-COMMITTAL LETTER

Charlie Weaver, Director of the Starke County Economic Development Foundation appeared before the Board to request the signature of a non-committal letter. He advised a company is in the early stages of looking at setting up a business in the old Stelerema Building. He advised the company would have 135 employees who would earn at least \$16.00/hour. He stated he was asking for their signature on a letter which would show local community support of the new company coming in. He advised they have a backup site in Gary. President Baker signed the letter with no motion of approval. County Attorney Marty Lucas stated a policy should be created so that a meeting would not be necessary the next time there would be need for a supporting letter. That way the President could just sign it. Director Weaver stated he was draft a policy proposal. He also advised the Stelerema Building was the last available building in the County for new business and they would like to move forward with building a 50,000 square foot shell building.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With there being no public comments and no further business, Councilman Sims made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Stalbaum. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting adjourned at 5:50PM.

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Freddie Baker, President

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