

**STARKE COUNTY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council at 4:30 PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Dave Pearman, Brad Hazelton, Kay Gudeman, Howard Bailey, Don Binkley, Don White, Todd Leinbach present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Dave Pearman at 4:30 PM for the Starke County Council Regular Session.

**AUDITOR BUSINESS**

Councilwoman Gudeman made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Councilman White seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

**SHERIFF – BODY CAM GRANT/DISPATCHER POSITION**

Sheriff Bill Dulin, Matron Pam McDonald, and Chief Dispatcher Stacy Noonan came before the Starke County Council to discuss a grant for body cameras and a new dispatcher position. Matron McDonald advised the Body Cam grant is due on February 18<sup>th</sup> and it is through IDHS which is Homeland Security. She advised that this is a matching grant, the grant is available for 25% and the county would have to come up with the remaining 75%. Sheriff Dulin explained that through the federal government and then down to the local government to invest in body cameras for more accountability within the department. He explained they are allowing them to go this routes with grants before it becomes mandated. Sheriff Dulin presented one quote from Body Worn for a body cam with in-car video bundle in the amount of \$226,680.00 and also one quote from Body Warn for body cam only with no in-car bundle in the amount of \$156,336.00. Sheriff Dulin explained that on the uniforms these would be placed and how they fit into the uniforms. He also explained how the cameras would work in the deputy vehicles. Councilman Pearman asked what the warranty period would be for these. Matron McDonald advised there would be a 5 year warranty and there are no limitations to the warranty. Councilman Bailey asked about the matching grant and how that works. Sheriff Dulin stated that basically they will match 25% of the costs.

Councilman Binkley asked if they could get a third bid. Matron Mcdonald advised they are trying to get a hold of Axon to have them give her a bid as well. She also stated that they would not have to supply the storage. The company provides the storage through their own web services. Councilman Bailey asked if he did purchase this equipment would it be mandatory to be worn by the officers. Sheriff Dulin stated that it would be mandatory in their job description that this equipment be worn. Councilman Leinbach asked if the company wants all the money at once. Matron McDonald stated no, they could pay it over a period of 5 years interest free. Councilman Pearman asked Sheriff Dulin if he would be able to match any of the money from their commissary funds. Sheriff Dulin advised Matron McDonald and himself will be discussing that further and will be able to present a number at a later time. Councilman Binkley made a motion to have the Sheriff move forward with applying for the grant, to see what the Sheriff can contribute with toward the grant, and to see if the amount of warranty service can be increased. Councilwoman Gudeman seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

Councilman Pearman advised as they move into the dispatcher discussion he wanted to point out the the dispatcher area when managing holidays, vacation, sick time, and etc. is sometimes difficult to manage. Councilman Pearman advised they met with Chief Dispatcher Noonan the other day and she would like to create a floater position, that's a full time position to be able to alleviate the overtime money that is being spent right now as it is hard to find someone who will work part time. Sheriff Dulin stated they are not allowed to run with one dispatcher, they must have two on staff at all times. The floater position would have the same pay as the other dispatchers and would cover all vacation, sick time, holidays, and call offs. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the creation of the position of a dispatcher that is a floater. Councilman Binkley seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes. Councilman Pearman advised that several years ago they warned all the surrounding municipalities that they will start help paying for the 911 system in future years. They will be asking for this beginning Calendar year 2023. Chief Dispatcher Noonan provided the Board information on the call volume they have for each police department and fire department. Further discussion was held regarding how many calls are received by each department and were those calls are located within the county.

**IT – MULTIFACTOR AUTHENTICATION**

Richard Franks, It Director, came before the Starke County Council to discuss adding the Multifactor Authentication to our infrastructure. Carrie Block with 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Insurance advised that the Cyber Liability policy renews February 21<sup>st</sup>. Councilman Pearman asked if we have to have Cyber Insurance. Carrie advised that no the county is not required to have cyber insurance and does not help with insurance liability premium rates. She stated that this cover is specifically for 1<sup>st</sup> party or 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability claims that may arise for ransom ware type situations. Carrie explained that of the 5 important protections the underwriters of cyber insurance what to see in place we have 4 of them. The multifactor authentication has come at us very fast and this is a newer factor that many underwriters are requiring to be in place. Carrie advised that last year the cyber liability cost to the county was \$7,200. This year the quote has come in at \$15,000. She explained the insurance company will not offer the renewable without having this in place. Councilman Pearman advised that since the cost of the multifactor authentication could possibly cost \$30,000 per year this should go to bid. Councilman Pearman asked Richard to get at least 3 quotes for the set up and start of the multifactor authentication system. Further discussion was held on what other companies provide this service and the types of security the county currently has set up. Carrie advised that the \$15,000 quote if for a sublimit of \$500,000. The quote for what we have now, which is \$1 million with a \$50,000 deductible, is a little over \$17,000.

**ATTORNEY SCHRAMM – ERA DISCUSSION**

Attorney Justin Schramm came before the Starke County County to discussion the ERA for the Mammoth solar project. He advised what they have in front of them is a preliminary resolution which established an Economic Revitalization Area. In order to give tax abatements the council must establish an Economic Revitalization Area. The council has already signed a Memorandum of Understanding a year ago with Mammoth basically saying they were going to pay \$2500 per megawatt hour which is about \$1 million per year. This has to be itemized in an economic development agreement which talks about all the incentives the county will be getting. The ERA just states this is the area that is going to be subject to Economic Revitalization, and the exhibits presented specifically describe the boundaries and legal descriptions of all the properties that would be in this program. Attorney Schramm explained the process the council will have to go through to have this set up along with the Economic Development Agreement. Councilman Hazelton made a motion to approve the Preliminary Resolution for the Establishment of an Economic Revitalization Area for the Starke Solar LLC Project. Councilwoman Gudeman seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

With no other business or public comment to come before the Starke County Council, Councilman Leinbach made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 PM. Councilwoman Gudeman seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all ayes.

**FEBRUARY 15, 2022  
STARKE COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Dave Pearman, President

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Brad Hazelton, Vice-President

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Kay Gudeman

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Don White

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Howard Bailey

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Don Binkley

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Todd Leinbach

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