

**December 29, 2014**

Pursuant to adjournment comes now the Starke County Council and meet in special session at 4:30PM in the Annex Building Meeting Room, Knox, Indiana, with Dave Pearman, Mitch Semans, Marvin McLaughlin, Bryan Cavender, Robert Sims and Freddie Baker present, and the following proceedings were held to wit:

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Pearman. Councilman Tony Radkiewicz was absent.

Craig Felty of IU Health-Starke appeared before the Board to answer inquiries in regard to his third quarter Capital Asset report that he presented to the Board on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Suggestions were made in regard to listing an asset along with any additional costs together on the report by asset number so the report is easier to follow. County Attorney Marty Lucas inquired as to how many of the listed assets were actually functional and in use, and not in storage somewhere, and also how obsolete items are listed on the report. Also asked is when the last time the hospital had taken a physical inventory of their assets. Attorney Lucas suggested a graph be prepared showing the trending of the book value and book basis of the assets as it may make it easier to visualize as a whole.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER REQUESTS**

EMS Director Keith Emigh appeared before the Board to request the following transfer into the County General EMS Department 020 Budget: transfer \$4,585.00 into 20205, Building Maintenance, to be taken out of: \$1,185.00 from 10124, EMS Director, and \$3,400.00 from 10704, Part Time Staff. He advised the transfer was necessary due to the furnace problems at one of the bases. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilman Baker. The motion passed with all ayes.

The second request was to transfer the following: \$11,739.55 into County General, Commissioners' Department, 025, account 30101, tax sale costs; \$28,353.23, into Department 025, account 31500, legal fees; and \$6,655.69, Department 026, Courthouse, account 30601, courthouse utilities; from Department 025--\$6,655.69 from account 10903, Unemployment; \$24,692.21 from account 10701, PERF; \$11,743.95 from account 12500, FICA; and \$3,646.62, Juvenile Detention. Auditor Chaffins advised the transfer would be to clear up the balances of those budget lines. Councilman Semans made a motion to approve the transfer requests, seconded by Councilman McLaughlin. The motion passed with all ayes.

#### **TRANSFER FROM COUNTY GENERAL INTO THE RAINY DAY FUND**

President Pearman advised the unexpended balance of the County General Fund Budget was \$313,388.50 and the present Cash Balance of the County General Fund was \$685,614.26. He reminded the board of their past year's transferring of a portion of the unexpended budget balance of the County General Fund. He noted though the County has been experiencing some issues with the cash flow in the County General Fund and asked for the Auditor's opinion as to the amount of the transfer. Auditor Chaffins advised she would be comfortable with a total transfer of only \$50,000.00 this year since in 2014 they needed to borrow cash from the CEDIT Fund to cover the transactions out of County General throughout the year so that there was a sufficient cash balance in the County General Fund. President Pearman advised he also agreed with the \$50,000.00 limit on the transfer amount. Councilman Semans noted he was taking the advice of both the President and the Auditor, and he made a motion to transfer \$50,000.00 from the County General Fund and receipt it into the Rainy Day Fund. Councilman Cavender seconded the motion, and it passed with all ayes.

#### **REQUEST TO PURCHASE A COUNTY BLANKET BOND**

Auditor Chaffins requested the Council authorize the purchase of a Blanket Bond instead of individual bonds per elected official. She advised, per the SBOA, a County Blanket Bond would cover the bond requirements of the following elected offices: Auditor, Recorder, Sheriff, Coroner, Assessor, Clerk and Surveyor. She noted a minimum coverage of \$15,000.00 is required per office, and each position and name of each elected official is required to be listed on the bond. Councilman Semans made a motion to authorize the purchase of a blanket bond, seconded by Councilman Sims. The motion passed with all ayes.

#### **UPDATE ON THE EXPENDITURES OF THE DARE DONATIONS FUND**

President Pearman advised he had spoken with the Sheriff and was advised the DARE Donations Fund had provided the funding for the purchase of the K-9 dog for the County. Auditor Chaffins advised she has the report listing the expenditures of the Fund and it did not include the purchase of the dog. She advised the funding was used to purchase office supplies and uniforms for the police department. Auditor Chaffins advised the DARE Donations Fund was one of the funds which were on a list of funds that were considered to be Dormant Funds, which is a fund that does not have any transactions for a period of time of over three years. She also noted she had documentation from Tammy White of the SBOA which stated that a dormant fund from donations could be spent by a department but a dormant fund as the result of grant funding would require the granting agency be contacted to determine as to how to handle the remaining grant funds. As the DARE Donations Fund was from donations the Sheriff's Department decided to utilize it for expenses.

#### **IN OTHER BUSINESS**

After a brief discussion it was decided to hold the organizational meeting of the Council on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30PM. Besides the organization of the Board, at that time the Council would also make the Board appointments.

President Pearman updated the Board on the State's Bicentennial Celebration and his volunteering to Chair Starke County's Bi-Centennial Committee.

President Pearman thanked Councilmen Semans, Radkiewicz, and McLaughlin for their years of service on the Board, noting it was a good team, and they did good work together. Councilman McLaughlin thanked the President for all his extra work and thanked his colleagues for his having a pleasant term. He stated he felt politics never entered into the picture and he appreciated it.

Councilman Semans congratulated the newly elected Council members who were in attendance for the meeting, Pam Stalbaum, Brad Hazelton, and Jennifer Davis.

With there being no further business, Councilman Semans made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Baker. The motion passed with all ayes and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM.

**December 29, 2014**

Dave Pearman, President

Mitch Semans, Vice President

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Bryan Cavender

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marvin McLaughlin

ABSENT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Radkiewicz

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Robert Sims

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Freddie Baker

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