

COUNTY OF STARK



STARK COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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GENERAL OFFICE
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JAMES D. OWENS
STATE'S ATTORNEY

June 15, 2017

via email

Chairwoman Coleen R. Magnussen
email: tcmmm91@mchsi.com
Mr. Fulvio Zerla
email: coolplaces@zerlaproperties.com
Mr. Al Curry
email: acurry1246@gmail.com
Mr. J. Thomas Howes
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Mr. Lynn Newton
email: lynn-newton@hotmail.com
Ms. Melissa Shipp
email: mshipp.starkcountyboard@gmail.com

RE: Special meeting of the Stark County Board on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at 7:35 p.m.

Dear Members of the Stark County Board:

This letter will serve as an update and discussion of the special meeting of the County Board tonight at 7:35 p.m. in the cafeteria at the Stark County Junior High School.

This morning, the school district will present to this Office (Ashley) two (2) security cards for access to the junior high school and the cafeteria. One (1) card will be presented to the Sheriff's Office and the second card will be presented to Linda on behalf of the County Board. Signs will be printed in this Office, taken to the junior high school and posted to assist the public in finding the cafeteria.

At 1:00 p.m., Mr. Curry will be at the school to assist Ms. Patty Wilkinson in setting up and testing the sound system. Austin [Austin King, summer intern, senior at Monmouth College] and I will set up chairs and address the tables where the County Board members will sit.

Public access to the building will begin at 6:30 p.m..

Attached is a copy of the Agenda for tonight.

It is my understanding that Chairwoman Magnussen and Mr. Zerla will not be in attendance this evening. Chairwoman Magnussen has a family commitment and Mr. Zerla has previously scheduled business meetings which will run the entire day and another board meeting out of the area.

Assuming the remaining members of the County Board are available tonight, there will be six (6) members in the cafeteria at 7:35 p.m. to begin the meeting. These six (6) members constitute a quorum which will permit the meeting to proceed.

In the absence of Chairwoman Magnussen and Vice Chairman Mr. Zerla, a Chairperson pro tem must be elected for the meeting tonight. Factually, this is similar to the meeting every two (2) years when a new Chairman and Vice Chairman are elected.

My recommendations for the election of the Temporary Chairman pro tem are as follows:

1. Linda shall call for nominations for Temporary Chairman.
2. After nominations have been received and seconded, Linda shall take a roll call vote, and the person receiving the most votes shall be Temporary Chairman. In case of a tie, a Temporary Chairman shall be chosen by lot. The Temporary Chairman shall take the Chair immediately upon election.

The Temporary Chairman takes the Chair and the meeting is called to order.

This first material issue on the Agenda is RECOGNIZE PUBLIC ATTENDEES & PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTES PER PERSON). Thirteen (13) citizens filed the required paperwork in the County Clerk's Office to address the County Board tonight.

	Name	Topic
1.	Barbara Allen	Concern over actions of county board
2.	Chad Allen	Sheriff
3.	Pamela K. Baker	Citizen concerns over the problematic issues
4.	Heather Bauer	We are giving a donation to the Stark County Sheriff's Dept. in memory of Chief Bill Bauer. The donation will go

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| | | towards county officers education or for special classes they can offer the officers |
| 5. | Crystal Bishop | Police Budget, And general concerns with the county board |
| 6. | Jennifer Davis | Sheriff's Department |
| 7. | Charles Demetreon | Letter that was delivered to me on June 8 th |
| 8. | Paula King | Sheriffs Dept. |
| 9. | Shannon McDermott | Concern over the conditions of our county roads, and if the salary pd. to the County Engineer could be reduced, since he isn't fixing roads, and appropriate that money elsewhere |
| 10. | Deanna L. Musselman | Board Actions |
| 11. | Ron Musselman | Board Chairman Actions & Treatments of Others |
| 12. | [Sheriff] Steve Sloan | The Chairmans Conduct
Lindner's experience
Melissa Shipps Bio
Sheriff's Budget |
| 13. | Wes Wilkinson | County Board Actions |

The issue which should be addressed by the County Board in open session is the following:

Will all thirteen (13) citizens be allowed to speak tonight?

There are three (3) options which should be considered by the Board when this Agenda item is brought forward:

1. Strict compliance: the maximum period of three (3) minutes per person will be granted until the allotted fifteen (15) minutes is completed. This may permit five (5) of thirteen (13) people to speak.
2. Make a motion to set aside the public comment rules for the meeting tonight entirely. Anyone can speak for any length of time. In effect, an open microphone for anyone present.

3. Make a motion to waive the fifteen (15) minute limitation. This would (i) permit those signed up to speak and (ii) permit that person to speak for up to three (3) minutes – a person who signed up pursuant to the County Board's Rules will not be denied their right [pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act] to address the County Board on a technicality. The additional twenty four (24) minutes eliminates accusations of impropriety and the statement "I wasn't allowed to speak even though I signed up."

If time permits, it may be prudent to contact each of the thirteen (13) people today via email or telephone with the following message on behalf of the County Board:

Dear (name here): Thank you for your interest in addressing the County Board during the meeting tonight at 7:35 p.m. in the cafeteria at Stark County Junior High School at 418 Franklin Street in Toulon. Each presentation tonight must be in consonance with good taste and decorum befitting the occasion and the dignity of the meeting. Shouting, loud statements, threats, name calling, offensive personal references or other improper conduct are strictly forbidden. We look forward to seeing you tonight.

If the decision is not to send this communication today, the latter portion of the statement above should be read prior to beginning the public comments.

Regarding how to address a public comment, the Henry County [IL] Board has posted the following on their website:

It shall be the decision of the Board if it is appropriate to respond to a question and which Board member will respond [emphasis added].

Public comments are just that: a comment. Each comment does not begin a dialogue nor require a response from any member of the Board. The Chairman may direct a particular comment to a Board Member who expresses an interest in the issue. The Temporary Chairman may also direct that comment/issue to the appropriate committee.

The Agenda includes the Court Services Fee Resolution to be presented on behalf of the Sheriff's Office. To my knowledge, this Resolution needs a sponsor.

This is how a meeting may be concluded quickly:

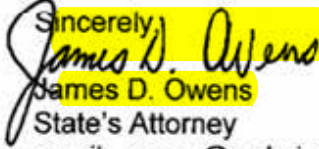
1. A motion to adjourn is made/discussion follows;
2. That motion is seconded;
3. A roll call vote is taken;
4. The meeting is adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Stark County Board is Tuesday, July 11, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Stark County Courthouse.

SUMMARY: The meeting tonight begins at 7:35 p.m.. Familiarity with the procedure to elect a Temporary Chairman and how to address the public comments will expedite the meeting.

Please contact me or Ashley [scsao16@outlook.com] should you have any questions.

See you tonight. (Mr. Curry, at 1:00 p.m.).

Sincerely,

James D. Owens
State's Attorney
email: scsao@mchsi.com

Attach: Copy of Agenda for June 15, 2017 (1 page)

cc: Linda K. Pyell, Stark County Clerk & Recorder
Ashley A. Meyer, Administrative Assistant