

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. Commissioners Carl Schmitz, Randy Thornburg, and Jay Price; Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were in attendance.

Pastor Naal opened the meeting with a prayer.

MINUTES

J. Price made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2020, regular meeting; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve the claims as presented; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

TAX SALE AGREEMENT

C. Schmitz stated this agreement is the standard agreement that the Commissioners sign every year. Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, stated the Tax Sale would take place on September 17, 2020. J. Price made a motion to approve this agreement; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

WTH AGREEMENT

C. Schmitz stated this agreement is to allow WTH to share the County's GIS data with CoreLogic, and in return, the County would receive a check in the amount of \$250.00. J. Price made a motion to approve this agreement; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

FAIR HOUSING AGREEMENT

C. Schmitz stated this agreement is to update the current Fair Housing Agreement to allow the County to move forward with the grant that the County is seeking to help area businesses recover from COVID-19 related issues. Mr. Schmitz stated this grant is \$250,000.00 and would provide business with a max of \$10,000.00 in relief funds. Joe Harrison, Posey County Commissioner Attorney, stated this is the first reading of this ordinance and will be heard again at the next Commissioners meeting.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this ordinance; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

C. Schmitz stated the County should know by August 27th if they were awarded the grant.

POCO WIND ORDINANCE

Erin Bauer, Attorney at Barber and Bauer, representing POCO and GIBCO Wind, addressed the Commissioners regarding the POCO Wind Ordinance. Mrs. Bauer stated she is before the Commissioners on behalf of members of POCO Wind seeking for the Commissioners to amend the current wind ordinance to reduce the potential impact that installation of wind turbines would have on the NexRad Doppler system that is housed in Owensville. Mrs. Bauer stated when the existing ordinance passed, it was determined more information was needed regarding the impact on the radar system. Mrs. Bauer stated that information is now available and was mailed to the Commissioners in advance of this meeting.

Mrs. Bauer explained the NOAA has come up with four different zones to describe the impact on Doppler radars. Mrs. Bauer stated those zones are no-build zone, mitigation zone, consultation zone, and notification zone. Mrs. Bauer stated the current ordinance prevents the building of wind turbines in the no-build zone, but due to current studies, the members of POCO Wind do not feel that is adequate. The members of POCO Wind are asking the Commissioners to amend the current ordinance (156-123 E) to include prohibiting the installation of a wind turbine within the no-build zone, the mitigation zone, or the consultation zone. Mrs. Bauer stated they are seeking the following wording:

“Coordinate siting to mitigate radar interference or any other interference. No wind turbines shall be installed in the no-build, mitigation, or consultation zone as determined by NOAA.”

R. Thornburg stated there are three schools within seven to ten miles of this radar.

R. Thornburg made a motion to bring this issue before the board for discussion. C. Schmitz stated that the board could discuss this matter, but they cannot vote on it until the Area Plan Commission sends it back to the Commissioners.

Mr. Harrison stated per IC Code 36-74-6.02 states if the Commissioners decide to make a change, it would then go to Area Plan for consideration and eventually back to the Commissioners.

R. Thornburg made a motion to bring this issue before the Board; C. Schmitz seconded. C. Schmitz made a motion to send this to Area Plan for recommendation; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Harrison stated he would prepare an amendment for consideration at the next Commissioners meeting to be sent to Area Plan.

WADE SUBDIVISION DISCUSSION

C. Schmitz stated the Commissioners had received a letter from a Posey County Resident in the Wade Park Subdivision regarding concerns drainage issues. Mr. Thornburg stated that he along with Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, inspected that area and concluded this is a private property issued due to the fact that the County does not have the same easement guidelines in a subdivision that it has along a County Road. Mr. Thornburg stated he drafted a letter to send to the resident stating what they found. J. Price made a motion to approve sending the letter as written; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

C. Schmitz stated that the Coliseum roof would be patched by Skanska beginning tomorrow.

C. Schmitz stated the Coroners building is experiencing black mold due to moisture in the building due to high humidity. C. Schmitz stated the Coroner is gathering estimates to move the condenser to the outside of the building to help remedy this. C. Schmitz stated H and F refrigeration quoted \$7,580.00, and Beuligmann Heating & Air Conditioning quoted \$12,041.00. J. Price made a motion to award this project to H and F Refrigeration; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

C. Schmitz stated the dome on the Courthouse is still leaking and needs to be addressed ASAP. J. Price stated the cost estimate was \$130,000.00. Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, asked if the Commissioners want the dome painted or if they want the rubber coating applied as well. R. Thornburg stated the need the rubber coating also.

R. Thornburg gave the following Workforce Development report:

U.S Unemployment Rate 11.1%

Indiana 11.2%

Vanderburg County 11%

Perry County 10.5%

Knox County 9.3%

Pike County 9.1%

Gibson 9%

Warrick 8.3%

Spencer 7.8%

Posey 7.5%

Doubois 7.1%

Top Five Industries:

Manufacturing 19.1%

Food Service 16.3%

Retail 10.3%

Administrative Waste Management 7.9%

Construction 7.6%

Frequently Listed Jobs:

1. Farm Workers and Laborers

2. Production Workers

3. RN
4. Taxi Drivers
5. Customer Service Rep
6. Secondary Teachers
7. First-Line Supervisors
8. Nurse Assistant
9. Location Nurse
10. Postal Service Mail Carriers

Posey County Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, stated two years ago, the Commissioners approved the quote from Koester Masonry to build a salt storage building in the Marrs Township area. Mr. Schenk stated at that time, the Commissioners did not have the land to place the building on but were in need to purchase the kit for the building. Mr. Schenk stated the price at that time was 67,638.00 for the kit. Mr. Schenk stated the highway department funded \$22,542 toward this project, leaving a balance of \$45,096.00. Mr. Schenk stated in the two years since the price of concrete, steel, and labor has increased, and the new remaining cost is \$55,096.00. Mr. Schenk stated this does not include the concrete floor. Mr. Schenk stated that would be another \$10,00.00 with the total project costing \$56,096.00.

R. Thornburg made a motion to approve this project to be funded from the Cum. Capital Development fund; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Schenk stated the Highway Department is in need of a storage building. Mr. Schenk stated he would be getting quotes for the next meeting.

Mr. Schenk stated the Highway Department must comply with providing this information to contend for the Community Crossing Grant. Mr. Schenk proved the report from BLN to the Commissioners. Mr. Schenk stated he had not received the bill for this service at this time, but the work has been done. Mr. Schenk stated he uses this information when deciding what road to place on the paving list every year.

J. Price made a motion to accept this report; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Schenk stated due to the weather; paving will be pushed back.

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, gave the following report regarding housing:

DOC: 5

Vanderburgh County: 43

Posey County: 83

131 Total

Sheriff Latham stated he has been receiving complaints regarding the radio system again. Sheriff Latham stated he is not sure what the problem is, but he has spoken with Dispatch Director, Jason Knowles, about this.

Posey County Health Department gave the following update:

152 positive cases

30 active cases

132 recovered cases

Free testing will begin on the first of September at 232 Second Street. Hours are not known at this time.

No further business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Carl G. Schmitz

Carl Schmitz

Jay Price

Jay Price

Randy Thornburg

Randy Thornburg

Maegen L. Greenwell

Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell