

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday, December 15, 2020. Commissioners Carl Schmitz, Randy Thornburg, and Jay Price; Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were in attendance.

C. Schmitz opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Wayne Nall shared a prayer.

MINUTES

J. Price made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2020 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.

TREASURER AND CLERK REPORTS

J. Price made a motion to approve the November Treasurer and October Clerk's report; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

AMBULANCE BIDS

R. Thornburg made a motion to allow County Attorney, Joe Harrison, to open the ambulance bids; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Harrison stated the following three bids were submitted:
Fire Service INC. \$180,427.00
American Response Vehicles \$164,962.00
Osage Ambulance \$172,562.00

J. Price asked if this needs to be awarded at this meeting?
Mrs. Greenwell stated the Commissioners have roughly \$74,000.00 in that line that will roll back into the cash balance of County General at the end of 2020. Mrs. Greenwell stated that an invoice could not be paid in full in the year 2020, but the Commissioners plan to ask Council for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$74,000.00 in 2021 to add to the budget's balance for 2021.

Heather Allyn, Posey County Council President, stated Council is aware of the timeline for the purchase of the ambulance and is expecting the \$74,000.00 additional to be addressed at the January meeting. Mrs. Allyn stated the Council budgeted \$100,000.00 for that line for 2021.

Posey County EMS Director, Chris Neaveill, stated he has looked over the submitted bids and would recommend the low bid of American Response Vehicles.

J. Price made a motion to approve the low bid of \$164,962.00 from American Response Vehicles subject to funding; R. Thornburg seconded. C. Schmitz asked if the County has worked with this Company before. Mr. Neaveill stated this is the same manufacture the County has used in the past, but a different sales company. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

FUEL BIDS

R. Thornburg made a motion to accept the fuel bid submitted by Wabash Valley Fuel; J. Price seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

WORKFORCE ONE REPORT

R. Thornburg gave the following Workforce One Report:

Unemployment Rates:
U.S 6.9%
Indiana 5%
Vanderburgh County 4.6%
Perry County 4.2%

Pike County 3.9%
Knox County 3.8%
Spencer County 3.8%
Gibson County 3.5%
Dubois County 3.3%
Warrick County 3.3%
Posey County 3%

Top five Region 11 Claims:

1. Manufacturing 20.4
2. Food Service 10%
3. Retail 9.8%
4. Administration 9.2%
5. Construction 8.6%

Frequently listed jobs:

1. Production workers
2. First-line supervisors and construction operation
3. RN
4. Customer Service
5. Managers
6. Retail Sales
7. LPN
8. Post-secondary teachers
9. Drivers/Sales
10. Accountant

AREA PLAN

Posey County Area Plan Director, Mindy Bourne, presented a rezoning request to the Commissioners.

Mrs. Bourne stated this property is owned by Mary Bittner Etal and is located in Marris Township on Wilderman Road. Mrs. Bourne stated the request is to rezone one acre from AG to Residential. Mrs. Bourne stated the landowner is seeking to divide the property to allow for a house to be built on the property. Mrs. Bourne stated this request was heard by the Area Plan Commission on December 10, 2020, with an 8-0 yes, vote with no remonstrators.

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

ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT

C. Schmitz read the following November Animal Control Report:

22 Complaints
1 Bite Report

AMERICAN STRUCTURE POINT

Joe Harrison stated that the Commissioners need to sign a letter allowing American Structure Point to communicate with DNR in regards to the design and permitting of the Western Bypass. J. Price made a motion to approve this request; R. Thornburg seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Posey County Highway Superintendent, Steve Schenk, informed the Commissioners that the salt storage building on Wolfinger Road is complete and has salt currently stored. Mr. Schenk stated the attached pole barn is complete but just waiting on doors to be delivered.

Mr. Schenk informed the Commissioner that regarding the issue on St. Phillips road. Mr. Schenk reminded the Commissioners this was a construction company that was tearing up the road. Mr. Schenk stated Mr. Harrison had prepared a letter to send to the construction company for damages done to this road.

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

Jenna Richardt, with Posey County Economic Development Partnership, informed the Commissioners that the Lamont Road project bid was submitted for consideration.

Mrs. Richardt stated the Broadband project is in the engineering phase.

Commissioner Randy Thornburg gave an update on the Posey County Sewer District. Mr. Thornburg stated the project is moving forward in the Wadesville area. Mr. Thornburg stated the Board is moving forward with placing lines, and there will be mandatory testing on current resident's septic systems in the coming months.

Posey County Sheriff, Tom Latham, gave the following inmate report:

120 Total
16 DOC
39 Vanderburgh County
65 Posey County

Taken in by Vanderburgh:
October \$31,640.00
November \$42,560.00

C. Schmitz asked Sheriff Latham if negotiations were still ongoing with Vanderburgh County regarding raising the daily rates. Sheriff Latham stated there had been talk about this, but that is a legislation issue.

Posey County Council President, Heather Allyn, gave the following parting words for Commissioners Jay Price:

"I would like to thank Jay, as today is his last meeting as Commissioner. He has been a pleasure to work with; he has been a Commissioner all four years that I have been on Council. Jay has always been willing to have the conversations needed for whatever we are working on. Posey County is blessed to have Commissioners and Council who can work together for the good of the County. I really appreciate that Jay has always been willing to listen; although we might not always agree on every issue, but that is ok because you can sometimes find a better solution in that disagreement. I want to thank Jay for his four years of service and let him know he will be missed. I have already warned him that just because he is leaving doesn't mean he won't get phone calls from me. Thank you, Jay, for your service to this County, you truly have a servant's heart, and that has not gone unnoticed."

Mrs. Allyn stated the swearing-in for newly elected officials would be held this coming Friday, and due to COVID restrictions, the Courtroom will not be open to the public; however, the ceremonies will be videoed.

Commissioner Jay Price addressed the Commissioners regarding his time as Posey County Commissioner. Mr. Price stated his last four years as a Commissioner has been exciting and challenging. Mr. Price stated he has worked with many wonderful individuals; he thanked everyone who puts time into making Posey County run.

Commissioner Randy Thornburg thanked Commissioner Price for his dedication to the County. Mr. Thornburg stated while they might not have always agreed, he would like to Thank Mr. Price for his time and effort put into Posey County.

Commissioner Carl Schmitz thanked Mr. Price for this time and dedication to Posey County. Mr. Schmitz stated the County would miss Mr. Price.

No other business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned.

Carl A. Schmitz

Carl Schmitz

Jay Price

Randy Thornburg

Randy Thornburg

Maegen L. Greenwell

Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell