

## **POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon, on Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Commissioners Bill Collins, Bryan Schorr, and Greg Newman were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell was also in attendance.

Sheriff Latham lead the Commissioners in prayer.

### **MINUTES**

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the September 6, 2023, Commissioners meeting minutes; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **CLAIMS**

G. Newman made a motion to approve the claims as presented; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the August Treasurer's report; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **HAINES ROAD NUISANCE VIOLATION**

B. Schorr made a motion to table the nuisance violation on Haines Road; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **PARKING LOT EXPANSION**

B. Collins stated the Commissioners received the following three quotes regarding the need for asphaltting and the expansion of the Courthouse parking lot:

David Enterprises: \$77,130.00

J.H. Rudolph & Co.: \$70,625.00 with possibly more included

E&B Paving: \$59,966.00

B. Collins requested that Posey County Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk examine the bids.

Mr. Schenk stated that E&B has a stipulation of the paving being completed this year. B. Schorr made a motion to accept the E&B Paving Bid in the amount of \$59,966.00 for the asphaltting and expansion to the Courthouse parking lot; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **COURTHOUSE ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION**

B. Collins stated that the Courthouse Elevator Modernization has been requested to be locked in on a price and is set to be completed in 2024. Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that the price would be \$76,000 and \$77,000 per elevator instead of the \$200,000 estimated per elevator. G. Newman made a motion to approve the contract; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **COURTHOUSE ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that removing the weekends and nights clause in the current maintenance contract will save Posey County several thousands of dollars. Mrs. Greenwell stated that the update had already been made to the Coliseum. County Attorney Joe Harrison stated that this updated contract will save Posey County \$249.71 per month. B. Collins stated that the contract is effective for sixty months and starts on the date the contract is executed. G. Newman made a motion to approve the courthouse elevator maintenance contract; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **WESTERN BYPASS LAND ACQUISITION**

B. Collins stated that this acquisition is for Parcel 35. B. Collins stated that the Commissioners and landowner have agreed to the last offer of \$125,000.00. G. Newman made a motion to approve the acquisition of Parcel 35; B. Collins seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 2-1. With B. Schorr opposing.

### **SURPLUS TRUCKS**

B. Collins stated that the Animal Control Officer's truck had been replaced, and the Commissioners needed to declare the old truck as surplus. Posey County Auditor, Maegen Greenwell, stated that the previous truck is a 2016 Dodge Ram 1500.

B. Collins stated that the Building Commission Truck has been replaced. The previous truck for the Building Commission has been transferred to the Maintenance department. The previous Maintenance truck will be going for surplus. Mrs. Greenwell stated that the previous truck is a 2011 Ford F-150.

Posey County Attorney Joe Harrison stated that the serial numbers will be needed for record in the future. B. Schorr made a motion to surplus the 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 and the 2011 Ford F-150; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **COUNTY PURCHASE POLICY ORDINANCE**

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that Posey County Attorney Joe Harrison had prepared a new purchase policy ordinance. Mrs. Greenwell stated that the State Board of Accounts requested the wording to be updated. Mr. Harrison stated that a provision to wave the final reading was added to the ordinance. B. Schorr made a motion to wave the final reading of the Purchase Policy and for the new County Purchase Policy Ordinance to be approved; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **REZONE REQUEST**

Area Plan Director Mindy Bourne, addressed the Commissioners regarding a rezoning request at 7301 Wassmer Road, Poseyville, IN, 47633. Mrs. Bourne stated that the petitioner is David W. Wassmer, and the owners of the property are Robert and Juana Sue Wassmer. Mrs. Bourne stated that the petitioner is requesting to rezone 1.01 and 1.00 acres. Mrs. Bourne stated that the property is being petitioned to move from Agricultural Property to Residential Single Family. Mrs. Bourne stated that the petitioner and owners wanted to create a minor subdivision with the parcel. Mrs. Bourne stated that the property will be split into two different lots of 1.01 and 1.00 acres. Mrs. Bourne stated that the Area Plan Commission heard this proposal on September 14, 2023, and it was recommended for approval with a vote of 7-0. Mrs. Bourne stated that 1.01 parcel has an existing home. B. Schorr questioned if septic can be done on one acre. Mrs. Bourne stated that the septic can be done on the 1.01 acre that does not have an existing home as long as the soil is adequate. Mrs. Bourne stated that the minimum acreage requirement for adding a septic is one acre. Mrs. Bourne stated that if the request is approved today, the petitioner and owners will have to file a minor subdivision plat with the plan commission and receive approval. G. Newman made a motion to approve the rezoning request; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **GIS LIMITED USE AGREEMENT**

Matt Schriefer, E-REP Representative, presented an agreement that would be used for the development of the I-69 Corridor Planning Project. Mr. Schriefer stated that E-REP needs the Commissioner's approval to use GIS in order to search for land ownership. B. Schorr made a motion to approve the GIS Limited Use Agreement with E-REP; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **HAFER DESIGNS**

B. Collins stated that Hafer Designs was hired to give Posey County an estimate on a remodel project for the probation offices in the Coliseum. B. Collins stated that the price is more than what is in the budget. B. Collins is requesting approval to approach the County Council and ask for an additional \$200,000. B. Collins stated that this would be for getting approval to spend the money if Posey County decided to move forward with a bid that was received. Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell questioned where the Commissioners want the money to come from. B. Collins stated that the Cumulative Cap Fund is where he would ask for the money to come

from. G. Newman made a motion to approach the Council to ask for an additional appropriation of \$200,000; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **J & K**

Posey County E-911 Director Jamie Bradford stated that the Commissioners had been emailed the final quote for the full tower and microwave project as well as the two fiber connections at the two different sites. J&K Employee Tommy Simmons stated that Posey County has the option of having fiber connected at each site or to have a robust microwave solution. Mr. Simmons stated that either option could be used in order to have a reliable public safety system. Mr. Simmons stated that all sites need to have a fiber connection. B. Schorr questioned if the wireless option would be impacted during storms or the atmosphere. Mr. Simmons stated that, to his knowledge, the only problems that arise with the wireless option are caused by the provider. B. Schorr questioned if the dead zones that Posey County currently has would be fixed by using the microwave option. Mr. Simmons stated that the dead zones would be fixed by adding the tower site and upgrading to the microwave. B. Schorr questioned what would happen if Posey County went with the microwave option and the dead zones were not corrected. Mr. Simmons stated that J&K would return and correct the issue. Mrs. Bradwell stated that the total cost for the new tower site and the microwaves would be \$809,340.34. Mrs. Bradford stated that the cost for the Poseyville fiber would be \$1,099 per month for a sixty-month term using Spectrum. Mrs. Bradford stated that she would have to return with the cost for the New Harmony fiber site. Mrs. Bradford stated that the fiber option would be paid in monthly installments. Mrs. Bradwell stated that the antennas can be raised higher at almost all tower sites to help. B. Schorr stated that the New Harmony fiber site is \$1,797 per month with no installation cost for AT&T. B. Collins questioned the life expectancy of the microwave option. Mr. Simmons stated that he believes the life expectancy of the microwave option is fifteen to twenty years with no unexpected damage. Mr. Simmons stated that he would have to check to be certain. B. Schorr questioned if a maintenance contract was included. Mr. Simmons stated that there could be a maintenance contract for a new microwave. Mr. Simmons stated that most upgrades included in the first one to three years. B. Schorr questioned what a typical upgrade would cost without being covered under a maintenance contract. Mr. Simmons stated that he is uncertain but will find out. Mr. Simmons estimated that maintenance is needed once per year after being questioned by B. Schorr. B. Collins questioned if fiber could be run to all the towers. Mrs. Bradford stated that she would ask what the options are at all sites. G. Newman questioned the time frame for the options. Mr. Simmons stated that it would be estimated for two to three weeks for the microwave option, around three weeks to get the tower crew scheduled, and about two days after that for the fiber option. Mrs. Bradford stated that for Spectrum, there is a minimum of ninety days and up to one hundred and twenty days for installation. Mrs. Bradford stated that the invoice is sent after the job is completed. G. Newman made a motion that the Commissioners approach the Council to request an additional appropriation of \$809,340.34 for a new tower and the new microwaves; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **AMBULANCE REMOUNT**

Posey County EMS Director Paul Micheletti, stated that we will be receiving 090 from Crossroads within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Micheletti stated that we have a new ambulance ordered for the beginning of 2024. Mr. Micheletti stated that as long as there are no problems with vehicles, we probably do not need to do a remount at this time. Mr. Micheletti stated that if we end up needing a remount and we are not in line for a remount, we will be waiting over a year. Mr. Micheletti stated that Posey County wouldn't be committed to the remount until the chassis is ordered in around one year. Mr. Micheletti recommends that Posey County accept a bid on remounts in case a remount is needed. Mr. Micheletti stated that we are able to cancel before the chassis is ordered. Mr. Micheletti stated that he recommends the lower bid that was given by ARV. B. Schorr questioned the difference in price for a new ambulance versus a remount. Mr. Micheletti stated that he is currently not sure. Mr. Micheletti stated that it is in writing that Posey County is about to cancel at any time before the chassis is ordered. B. Schorr made a motion to approve the APV remount bid of \$206,352.27 contingent upon new bids; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

### **PUMP GRINDER**

B. Collins stated recently the Council addressed the need for grinder pumps to be installed at the jail facility to aid in septic issues that they are having. B. Collins questioned Sheriff Latham if there was a set price for a new pump grinder. Sheriff Latham stated that we have not received a quote. B. Collins questioned if there was an engineer needed. Sheriff Latham stated that he was



unsure. Sheriff Latham stated that a pump grinder was suggested to be used during the construction of the new jail. Sheriff Latham stated that jail staff employees clean out clogged sewer lines around twelve to fifteen times daily. Sheriff Latham stated there were over one thousand instances from January to June. County Attorney Joe Harrison suggested declaring the issue an emergency to bypass having to accept bids. B. Schorr made a motion to declare an emergency in purchasing and installing a pump grinder in the jail; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

B. Collins suggested asking DeBra-Kuempel if Posey County needs to hire a company with more expertise in pump grinders. B. Schorr stated that Alstadt Hoffman Plumbing has been installing grinder pumps for the Regional Sewer District.

#### JAIL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Sheriff Latham stated that the Jail Maintenance Contract with DeBra-Kuempel needs to be renewed. Sheriff Latham stated that the revised contract is \$20,018 annually for a three-year renewal. G. Newman made a motion to approve the jail maintenance renewal contract with DeBra-Kuempel for three years at \$20,018 annually; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

#### DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Sheriff Tom Latham gave the following housing update:

28 DOC

39 Vanderburgh County

115 Posey County

182 total

\$43,012.50 from Vanderburgh County in July

\$37,000.00 from Vanderburgh County in August

Posey County Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk stated that Blankerberger Brothers are starting on Bridge 211 next week. Mr. Schenk stated that Rudolph finished three roads last week and has one more round to go in early October for the yearly paving bid. Mr. Schenk stated that Jerry David has started in Griffin for Community Crossing.

Cody Simpson, with Morely, updated the Commissioners regarding sections one, two, and eight of the broadband projects. Mr. Simpson stated that sections two and eight were sent to Mainstream last week. Mr. Simpson stated that sections three and four are almost complete. Mr. Simpson stated that three sections are currently in progress, and section nine has been permitted. Mr. Simpson stated that Mainstream has requested the state to extend the contract timeline until January 2024. Mr. Simpson stated that anyone can go to the [msfiber.net](http://msfiber.net) website and click the check availability tab to see if the service has been extended to a particular area.

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

*Maegen L. Greenwell*

*Bill Collins*

Bill Collins

*Bryan Schorr*

Bryan Schorr

*Greg Newman*

Greg Newman

Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell