

POSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024.

The Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the Hovey House, 330 Walnut Street, in Mt. Vernon, on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. Commissioners Bill Collins, Greg Newman, and Bryan Schorr were in attendance. Auditor Maegen Greenwell and County Attorney Joe Harrison were also in attendance.

Pastor Rick Sellers led the Commissioners in prayer.

MINUTES

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the March 5, 2024, Commissioners meeting minutes; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

G. Newman made a motion to approve the executive session minutes from February 27, 2024; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

CLAIMS

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

CLERK'S REPORT

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

BROADBAND PROJECT UPDATE

Cody Simpson, with Morley, addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing broadband project with Mainstream. Mr. Simpson stated he met with Mainstream, and they cleared several sections and punch lists. Mr. Simpson stated they have one more section they are waiting to review with Mainstream, and after that is cleared, they will be done.

B. Schorr stated he would like to have a meeting with Mainstream regarding ongoing issues that have been brought to the Commissioner's attention regarding pole placement. Mr. Simpson stated that these complaints are most likely coming from the lateral buildout. Mr. Simpson stated that he would help facilitate a meeting with the County and Mainstream. B. Schorr asked if Mainstream has engineering plans for the buildout. Mr. Simpson stated he believed so, and they had been sent to the Highway Department for permitting, but he had not seen them himself. Mr. Schorr stated he would like to see a copy of those.

B. Collins stated he would like Zach with Mainstream to come to the next meeting.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Posey County Interim Area Plan Director Dave Ripple addressed the Commissioners regarding the new Comprehensive Plan that has been drafted. Mr. Ripple stated that the Area Plan held the required two public forums and a public meeting, and the Area Plan adopted the plan at their last meeting unanimously, with no remonstrators.

B. Collins opened the public commenting portion of this meeting.

B. Collins, seeing no one to speak for or against, closed the public commenting portion of this meeting.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the resolution to adopt the 2024 Posey County Comprehensive Plan; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

B. Collins thanked everyone involved in this process.

PAY-NOW COUNTY ORDINANCE

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell addressed the Commissioners with the need to update the current ordinance on how the Auditor's office handles pay-now claims that are submitted.

Mrs. Greenwell explained that a pay-now claim is a claim that can be paid through the Auditor's office without having to be included in the claims process for the Commissioners. Mrs.

Greenwell stated that the following items were added to the ordinance:

- Credit cards and lines of credit
- Placemen of liens from a County office
- Conference fees
- Per-diem
- Payments to the drug taskforce
- Postage

G. Newman made a motion to waive the final reading of this ordinance; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

G. Newman moved to approve this ordinance, which B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

OLIVER ROAD UNSAFE BUILDING COMPLAINT

Ed Batteiger, Posey County Building Commissioner, addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing unsafe building on Oliver Road. Mr. Batteiger stated he has spoken with the new owners at this location, and he was informed that they are planning to get the cleanup started soon, and the goal is to remove what is left of the house.

B. Collins asked if the Commissioners should place a timeline on this.

B. Schorr stated they have had the property since November of 2023, and he would like to move forward with a fine at this time.

County Attorney Joe Harrison stated that the Commissioners should first send a letter asking that it be cleaned by a certain date and then proceed with the fine process after an initial contact letter has been sent.

B. Schorr made a motion to send a letter, giving the landowners until the April 16, 2024, meeting for progress; G. Newman seconded. B. Collins asked that the letter include a request for the landowners to appear at the April 16, 2024, meeting. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

HIGHWAY BID AWARDS

Posey County Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk recommended the Commissioners approve the following bids from the asphalt bidding process that was tabled at the last Commissioner's meeting:

Section VII:

Hot Mix for Patching: Jerry David

Chip and Seal Paving: Sections B, C, and D: J.H Rudolph

Hot mix patching only: E&B Paving

Section VII:

Hot Mix Paving: Jerry David

Back up for Hot Paving: J.H Rudolph

B. Schorr made a motion to approve these recommendations; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

REZONE REQUEST

Posey County Interim Area Plan Director Dave Ripple presented the Commissioners with a rezoning request at 4010 Land Road. Mr. Ripple stated that the owners, Cameron, and Kennady Maier, are requesting to rezone 7.5 acres from AG to B2 (commercial general) to be used as an event/wedding venue.

Mr. Ripple stated that this request was heard at the Area Plan meeting, with no remonstrators, and was approved unanimously.

The landowner, Mrs. Maier, addressed the Commissioners regarding noise mitigation. Mrs. Maier stated that the hours of operation will be Monday through Friday, 12 pm-4 pm, and Saturday, 8 am-12 am. Mr. Ripple stated that if this is approved, it will still go through the site plan review process.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve this request; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

TAX SALE PROPERTIES

G. Newman made a motion to table this discussion; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

POST-ACCIDENT TESTING

Posey County Auditor Maegen Greenwell stated that per a discussion with the County insurance carrier, it was discussed, the Commissioners should add post-accident testing to the employee handbook. Mrs. Greenwell stated the proposed wording would be that the employee would have to advise their supervisor within thirty minutes of an accident, and testing would have to occur within two hours.

Country Attorney Joe Harrison stated this would relate to any accident in a County vehicle, personal vehicle on County time, County machinery/equipment, machinery/equipment on County time, or if private or public property is damaged with County equipment/machinery or personal vehicle on County time.

B. Collins asked if two hours was enough time and where the test would have to take place. Mr. Harrison stated that this would be for the County to decide. Chief Deputy for the Sheriff's Office, Jeremy Fortune, stated that per Indiana code, the Sheriff's deputies have three hours to complete the needed test.

G. Newman stated he would support a three-hour time limit to be consistent with the Sheriff's office.

Posey County Highway Superintendent Steve Schenk stated that the Highway Department employees who hold CDLs are subject to similar rules and are required to take their test at a certain facility.

B. Schorr made a motion to waive the final reading of this ordinance; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve the amendments to the personnel handbook with changing to a three-hour limit to test; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

EREP UPDATE

Pat Hickey, with EREP, addressed the Commissioners with an upcoming opportunity for Posey County to participate in an upcoming OCRA program called the Stellar Pathway Program. Mr. Hickey stated that the County has the opportunity to apply to this program, which would build capacity and identify financial capital for projects for rural counties. Mr. Hickey stated there are several layers of money that will be awarded, and if the County is interested they would work together with EREP to begin this process. The Commissioners agreed to work with EREP on a plan.

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCE MITIGATION INVOICE

B. Collins stated he received an invoice from DNR for a wetland mitigation credit that the Commissioners would need to address. Mr. Collins stated that this is in connection with the Western By-Pass. Mr. Collins stated that this invoice would be paid with the current bonds for this project. G. Newman made a motion to approve this request; B. Schorr seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Jamie Bradford with Posey County Dispatch informed the Commissioners that the department received a \$2,500.00 donation from Marathon for the ongoing radio project. Mrs. Bradford stated she is working with the Sheriff's office and deputies to address their ongoing radio issues and she is passing that information along to J&K.

Paul Micheletti, Posey County EMS Director, gave the following report for February:
\$168,098.88 received.

235 Requests

172 Transports

Mr. Micheletti stated that recently, the dryer at Medic 2 went out and was replaced. Mr. Micheletti is requesting that the funds come from the Commissioner's furniture line.

B. Schorr made a motion to approve this request; G. Newman seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Micheletti stated that the rear-ended ambulance last year was thought to have frame damage, but on further inspection, it is a rear axle issue, not a bent frame. Mr. Collins asked if this would be covered under the other person's insurance. Mr. Micheletti stated yes.

Mr. Micheletti stated that the County will be receiving \$40,000.00 from the Indiana Department of Health to help supplement the Community Paramedic Grant.

Chief Sheriff Deputy Jeremy Fortune gave the following housing report:

34 Vanderburgh Inmates

43 DOC

78 Posey County Inmates

155 total

\$38,625.00 from Vanderburgh for February.

Chief Fortune stated that the Office swore in two new deputies this week and will send them to the academy as soon as possible.

Donnie Martin with the Posey County Health Department addressed the Commissioners regarding the ongoing process with the State regarding the ongoing trailer park issues. Mr. Martin stated that his office, the Commissioners, and the City have a meeting scheduled soon with the State to discuss options.

Posey County Building Commissioner Ed Batteiger stated that he would like the Commissioners to consider adding an ordinance requiring third-party testing of field dirt under structures.

Mr. Batteiger stated there is currently no ordinance that requires this.

G. Newman asked if this would be addressed as an Area Plan ordinance. Mr. Batteiger stated no, this would be more of a building commissioner ordinance.

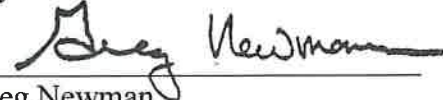
Mr. Batteiger stated that the Building Commissioners office is utilizing the new software that will allow the public to do the permitting process online.



Bill Collins



Bryan Schorr



Greg Newman



Attest: Maegen L. Greenwell