

**Commissioners Meeting
April 17, 2023**

Present: Mark Koors, Jeremy Pasel and Tony Blodgett

President Koors welcomed everyone to the April 17th Commissioner meeting; he then announced Title VI forms are available for anyone who would like to fill out and turn in at the Auditor's office.

Teresa Kovacich led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Pastor Ray Sweet then offered a prayer.

(Meeting minutes, payroll and claims are emailed to each Commissioners, each Thursday before their Monday meeting)

Mr Pasel moved to approve the April 3rd meeting minutes, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel moved to approve payment of the claims, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Pasel moved to approve the April 14th payroll, Mr Blodgett seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Highway Superintendent Todd Houk reported Highway crews are mowing, patching, doing berm work on roads and in-house work on repairing some bridges. **United Consultants** will be out doing the countywide bridge inspections in April and May. Mr Houk has received a letter, for the Commissioners to sign, from **INDOT** agreeing the unofficial detour change: **East Base Road to County Road 350 East to East State Road 46** for the deck replacement on the bridge just past the Highway Garage. Decatur County has been awarded \$999,997 for **INDOT's 2023 Community Crossings Grants**. Mr Pasel made a motion to appoint Todd Houk to sign the agreement to proceed with the **CCG** award. Mr Blodgett seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Blodgett moved to appoint Mr Pasel as the Commissioners' signee for these grants and Mr Koors seconded. **County Attorney Chad Smith** is drafting an ordinance for the school zone speed limit for South Decatur Elementary School on County Road 420 West. Commissioners set 25 miles per hour for the school zone during arrival and departure times. Mr Houk will order 2 sets of signs alerting motorists to the reduced speed limit for the school zone and the 'end' of the speed limit zone.

Mr Pasel moved to approve **Strand and Associates'** Invoice 0196071 for \$14,820 for the Highway Final Design and Construction Services, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Blodgett moved to approve **GM Development's Pay App 7** for \$305,491.22, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred. These will be forwarded to the **County Redevelopment Commission** for their approval and issue payments.

Mr Koors read Kenny Buening's Building Inspector's report for the past 2 weeks: 43 building inspections were completed; issued 19 new building permits and plan reviews, 1 permit renewal and 1 red tag for no permit for construction of a pole building.

Howard Cathey voiced his complaint about vehicles on his neighbor's property- Smith residence. Mr Cathey told Commissioners 5 years ago he informed Building Inspector Kenny Buening about the trash and vehicles at the Smith's residence. Eric Sykes also has issues with the trash, oil from Smith's vehicles coming down the stream to his livestock with heavy rains. County Attorney recommends sending a renewed notice with a deadline to remedy the situation. Mr Blodgett will track this situation himself.

Election Deputy Patricia Louagie announced all of the Deputy Clerks are notaries, offering their service at no charge; also, the Clerk's office will be performing marriages upon request.

Greensburg Mayor Josh Marsh asked Commissioners for a 10-year rent abatement from the County for the \$3,000 which **Arbor Grove Village** annually pays the **Parks and Recreation Department** to rent a building. The City of Greensburg has an opportunity to extend a multi-use walking trail from **Rebekah Park** to the **Greensburg Library** to downtown Greensburg due to **INDOT's** future project on East Main Street from Lincoln Street to the Library, but the City needs to acquire an easement across the nursing home's property. Mayor Marsh did agree to the city contributing one-third of the \$3,000 each year of the 10-year abatement. Mr Pasel made a motion to approve the 10-year rental abatement to Arbor Grove

Village for the building they use and Mr Blodgett seconded the motion. Mr Pasel then made a motion the County Council add \$2,000 to the Parks and Rec's annual budget for the lost revenue, with the city contributing their \$1,000 annually and Mr Blodgett seconded the motion.

County Attorney Smith stated the Jail PODS were sold last December and at some time while still owned by the County, damage to the interior occurred. Mr Pasel moved to enter into an agreement with buyer for the Commissioners to contribute to some of the repair costs so the buyer will release the County for future liability, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. The PODS will be moved out in the near future.

Local resident Roger Fenley asked the Commissioners about the over-inflated schedule of 650 items for the new Highway Garage; items such as office furniture for \$200,000 and a flagpole for \$4,300. He asked about competitive bidding. Mr Koors read the Request for Proposal (RFP) which was advertised in the local newspapers on September 1, 2021, September 10, 2021, September 11, 2021, September 17, 2021 and September 18, 2021 per Indiana Code 5-23-5-1. Mr Koors stated RFP's via email were also acceptable, with a deadline of September 29, 2021. There was only one RFP received and the Commissioners worked for 1 approximately 1 ½ years on the 'scoping period' with that construction team and included multiple project updates at public meetings. The Commissioners, in a public hearing on October 17, 2022 and by Resolution 2022-7, awarded the **Build-Operate-Transfer(BOT) to GM Development Companies LLC** as the developer for the new public works campus project- Highway Garage. The BOT information was available to the public to review on September 9, 2022. The Commissioners followed all legal required procedures. GM Development is currently under the adopted budget of up to \$12 million dollars. Mr Fenley stated he has a problem with elected and appointed people getting these gravy jobs and he will continue to keep digging for information.

Mr Pasel moved to suspend the current meeting in order to open the public hearing for **Shannon McLeod** with **Priority Project Resources Inc**, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Ms McLeod passed around a sign-in sheet for those in the audience. Priority Project Resources is assisting YMCA Director Diane Hart in applying for an **Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA)** grant for a roof rehabilitation project. The current roof has had issues since a building addition in 2021 and is now failing. There is an eligibility requirement of 51% of residents are of the low to moderate income bracket. Mr Pasel moved to close the public hearing to reopen the Commissioners' regular meeting, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Pasel then made a motion to be the sponsor for the YMCA for the OCRA Grant, Mr Blodgett seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Ms McLeod asked for a list of 40,000 residents to randomly select households for the income survey.

Mr Pasel moved to adopt **Resolution 2023-4** to increase the Cumulative Bridge Fund tax levy to \$0.0333 per each \$100 assessed value. Mr Blodgett seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. Mr Blodgett moved to adopt **Resolution 2023-5** to increase the Cumulative Capital Development Fund tax levy to \$0.0333 per each \$100 assessed value. Mr Pasel seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. Monies in the Cumulative Funds accumulate and stay in the respective funds in order to plan for future projects.

Greensburg-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce Director Dawn Lowe gave a short report for Bryan Robbins on the first **RDA** meeting and expects the State to pass the **READI 2.0**. There will be an opportunity expo (similar to a job fair) on May 10th at the Greensburg High School.

Mr Blodgett moved to approve the **Decatur County's Right to Life** request for Use of Facilities to place white crosses on the southwest side of the Courthouse lawn, May 23rd to June 3rd. Mr Pasel seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Blodgett moved to approve **Won Door's** testing of the fire door on the second floor of the Courthouse, Mr Pasel seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

County Sheriff Bill Meyerrose gave Commissioners the Annual Jail Inspection Report.

Technology Network Engineer Josh Tressler told Commissioners the County's email upgrade will cost \$52,000. Mr Blodgett asked Mr Tressler if he knows what each office is already spending on email security. Mr Tressler plans to ask the County Council what funds are available for this expense since it not in his 2023 budget.

The Commissioners next meeting will be at 8:00 am on May 1st, 2023.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Pasel made the motion to recess, Mr Blodgett seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. Meeting recessed.

Attest: _____

Date: _____