

## Commissioners Meeting

August 21, 2017 8:00 a.m.

**Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors**

**President Nobbe** called the August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 Board of Commissioners meeting in session

The August 7<sup>th</sup> minutes were reviewed and approved as amended. Mr Koors moved to approve the accounts payable and payroll claims. Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

**Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr** reported County Road 1100 South was reopened August 18<sup>th</sup> after two culverts were replaced; the signage is in place for this Saturday's **On Eagles Wings run** and barricades are ready to be put in place on Millhousen Road; **United Consultants** will be sending a buyer to meet with the property owner transferring land for right-of way for the Bridge 168 project- due to the negotiating with the property owner, this project will be on the April 2018 letting; the highway crews are completing 'prep work' in anticipation of receiving some **Community Crossings Grant monies**. Mr Mohr asked for permission to display a local resident's **Lego** project which won honors at the recent **Indiana State Fair**. The project is a model of the **Decatur County Courthouse** done entirely in **Lego** blocks. Commissioners agreed it should be displayed behind the Security Desk in the north lobby area. **County Surveyor Andy Scholle** presented an ordinance to vacate an alley in Kingston so the property owner, Matthew Rennekamp, could combine three lots to sell. He explained the **Tech Review committee** has reviewed the petition to vacate and they approved the request. Mr Scholle stated the County will still have right-of-way for utility work along County Roads 300 North and 80 Northeast. Mr Buening moved to close the unimproved alley between Lots 2 and 3. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. Mr Nobbe confirmed with Area Plan Director Duvall she is aware and agrees with this petition.

Mr Nobbe said he has received several phone calls concerning trains traveling in the evening do not have any 'reflective signs or markings' for motorists to see the last car of the train, especially since there aren't any railroad crossings lights/signals/arms to warn motorists. Also, the railroad companies are not keeping the brush and trees cleared near or at the railroad crossings thus reducing sight distance. Mr Mohr stated he, as well as Mr Nobbe, has spoken to State Representative Randy Frye on this matter who agreed 'lights and gates' need to be put in sooner than later.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** didn't have anything to report.

Mr Mohr reviewed three 'detour agreements for State Road 3' and asks the Commissioners to sign off on them.

**Area Plan Building Inspector Kenny Buening** reported he did 41 building inspections in the last two weeks and issued 14 new building permits. Six complaints have been filed with Mr Buening's office- he has sent four letters out- two of which are to properties on Montgomery Road behind **Stier Heating and Cooling**. He plans to visit a recent complaint concerning a home in the Letts area. Mr Nobbe requested a list of complaints be included in the Commissioners' meeting packets so they could stay current.

**Decatur County Parks and Recreation Director Bob Barker** requested financial assistance to pay for repairs to the Parks Dept's main tractor, which is used for snow removal, tills the ball diamonds and soccer fields. The clutch 'is out' and repairs are quoted to be about \$4,000. The tractor is twenty-two years old and valued at approximately \$6,000. Mr Koors stated the 'homemade pallet fork' is a liability, so he recommends getting an attachment made for lifting items off of a truck. The Commissioners agreed to help pay for repairing the clutch on the tractor; so Mr Barker should submit the invoice/bill to the Auditor's office to be paid from the 'snow removal' appropriation in the Commissioners' budget.

**Main Street Greensburg Director Wendy Blake** presented her mid-year report. Several communities have visited Greensburg this summer to 'scope out' our Farmers Market to see how we 'do things'. She has been putting in extra hours on the **Stellar Community Grant** committee. The Commissioners thanked Ms Blake and her group for all of their efforts in Main Street's programs.

**Steve Doerger of Verdin Bells and Clocks** presented options for the historic preservation of the bronze bell recently removed from the clock tower of the Courthouse. He stated the bell weighs approximately one thousand pounds and is thirty-six inches across the lower part of the bell. The Commissioners certainly want to maintain and display the bell. They will meet with Mr Doerger once they decide where the bell will be displayed.

Mr Koors moved to approve and adopt **Ordinance 2017-16**, establishing fees the County Recorder may charge for bulk copies requested by a bulk user. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

**County Attorney Ken Bass** reported he gave **Area Plan's attorney, Melissa Scholl, information to Duke Energy** regarding their easements. He also has met with **newly appointed County Treasurer Brenda Dwenger** to draft documents for accepting late property tax payments in order to 'keep a property off of a tax sale'. The current forms being used do not meet Indiana Code. Mr Bass mailed five letters to property owners at Lake McCoy and has not received any responses. The letters were to inform those property owners, adjacent to the county owned Lots 1 and 18, the Commissioners are offering to sell those two lots as statute permits. Mr Nobbe will get two quotes for removing the structures on those two lots; once the structures are down, then Commissioners will auction those lots to adjacent property owners.

Mr Nobbe read a letter drafted at the **Economic Development Commission's** request stating the Commissioners' support for the site recertification for the **Adams Rail Park**. Mr Buening moved to approve **Ordinance 2017-15**, establishing and adopting a conflict of interest policy. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred. The **State Board of Accounts** has strongly recommended having a policy in place setting a dollar threshold of what is considered substantial gift value.

Mr Nobbe stated any department head/elected official needs to attend the next Commissioners meeting to discuss the proposed **Credit Card/Store Card Policy**.

Mr Buening moved to approve the **Decatur County Capital Improvement Plan Identifying uses for the Economic Development Income Tax**. Mr Koors seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

**Greensburg Mayor Dan Manus** listed the various entities who have pledged financial support for the **Stellar Community Program**. He stated the **Greensburg City Council** agreed to put in \$2,000,000 over the next five years while **Visitors, Recreation and Tourism** agreed to put in \$200,000. The Commissioners agreed they would put in \$60,000 a year for the next five years if the city receives this designation. Mayor Manus believes these programs will improve the quality of life in Greensburg. On October 3<sup>rd</sup> a final interview will be held in Greensburg by the stellar committee of the **Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs** who will announce winners sometime in November.

Mr Buening stated the **Courthouse Masonry Project** loan modification approved at the Commissioners last meeting extended the 'closing date' to May 6, 2018.

With nothing else to come before the commissioners Mr Koors moved to recess, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

The next Commissioners meeting will be September 5th, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

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Richard J Nobbe, President

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Attest \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

