

**Commissioners Meeting  
June 19, 2023**

**Present: Mark Koors, Jeremy Pasel and Tony Blodgett**

President Koors opened the June 19th, 2023, Commissioner meeting by welcoming everyone; he then announced Title VI forms are available for anyone who would like to fill out and turn in at the Auditor's office.

Commissioner Mark Koors led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; Pastor Greg Redd then offered a prayer.

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

Mr. Blodgett moved to **approve the June 5th meeting minutes** Mr. Pasel seconded and Mr. Koors concurred.

Mr. Pasel stated there were a couple of claims again for coffee. He does not think this sort of items should be paid from County General. Mr. Blodgett also mentioned office decorations and a couple of meal reimbursements. Commissioners decided to make setting a policy for these types of claims a priority. Mr. Blodgett made a motion to **approve claims** minus the ones in question. Mr. Pasel seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred.

Mr. Blodgett moved to **approve Payroll**, Mr. Pasel seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred.

**Highway Superintendent Todd Houk** reported Highway crews continue to mow, patching, doing berm work on stone roads and bridge maintenance. Speed Limit Sign for South Decatur Elementary School will be installed within a few days. Bridge Inspectors do not like to see cattle gates fastened to bridges. Mr. Houk will reach out to local farmers to get this matter resolved. **Civilcon** has agreed to rollover 2022 bid for Pipe due to not have any other bids turned in. Mr. Blodgett made the motion to approve, Mr. Pasel seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred. Mr. Houk discussed the **road grader lease**. Decatur County is a member of **Sourcewell**, a national bidding company that procures equipment for Cities and Counties. Received two bids: Caterpillar and John Deere. After doing some comparing of the lease payments for 3 years with both companies along with the buy out at the end of 3 years, Commissioners asked what the buy out would be for the equipment they have now. Also questioned if there is a necessity for 2 graders. Mr. Houk will get the buyout information for the next commissioner meeting. Further discussion will be had at the July 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Mr. Koors asked if the Highway department could take care of tearing out the foundation left over from the Jail Pods. The property needs to be taken down to just the footers. Mr. Houk agreed to take care of this property. Mr. Pasel had received a call concerning 450 E/421 South. County resurfaced one half of the roadway but not the other. Mr. Houk stated that this was part of the Community Crossing Grant and there is no plan to do the other half at this point and time.

**County Building Inspector Kenny Buening** completed 38 inspections, issued 18 new building permits with plan reviews, 3 permit renewals and 1 red tag. A property in St. Omer was discussed and determined that a hard date for cleanup needs to be set. An unhabitual house in Letts was looked at and a letter will be sent.

**Patti Tatman**, a Burney resident talked about several of her neighbor's property's. Her main complaint is how long the process is taking. Her neighbors have been contacted but no action has been taken. Mr. Buening said letters have been sent to 3 different properties. Commissioners would like to see more follow up done in a timely manner. Mr. Blodgett asked Bryan Robbins if there are any grants available to help property owners clean up their property. Mr. Robbins said the grants are geared more for a whole neighborhood cleanup more so than individual. SIRPC would be a good place to ask if there is any grants that could be applied to for this sort of clean up.

**Decatur County Sheriff Bill Meyerrose** let Commissioners know that he did ask **Accurate Controls** if they would allow a 10% discount. They respectively declined. The 5% discount stays. Mr. Blodgett made the motion to approve the contract which takes care of all their video, audio, and key systems. Mr. Pasel

seconded the motion and Mr. Koors concurred. Mr. Meyerrose asked for permission to dispose of 2 vehicles. They have several miles on them, and the transmission has gone out on 1 of them. The goal is to keep vehicles for 4 years and 80,000 miles to 100,000 miles mark. They receive a good return for trade ins. Mr. Koors would like to have a discussion with Enterprise. They have a lease/sell program. Mr. Pasel moves to approve the sale of these 2 vehicles, Mr. Blodgett seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred.

**Decatur County Treasurer Diane Wenning** let everyone know there were over \$24 million in property taxes collected for the Spring. Courtesy letters have been sent out for delinquent taxes. Year to date investments is just over \$416,000. ARPA brought in \$124,000 and sale of the jail pods has incurred \$20,000.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** brought forward 3 ordinances for approval: **2022-24** - John, Elizabeth and David Robertson asked for 2.99 acres from an A1 to A2 for a single-family dwelling. Mr. Blodgett made the motion to approve, Mr. Pasel seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred. **2023-9** Duane Peters would like to rezone 2.99 acres to sell for a single-family dwelling. Mr. Blodgett made the motion to approve, Mr. Koors seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred. **2023-6** Larry and Palma Sparks asked to rezone approx. .50 acre from R4 – B3 in Clarksville from an old bank to an Auto Sales office. Across the street will be for a car lot to sell cars/detail vehicles. Mr. Blodgett made the motion to approve, Mr. Pasel seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred. Mr. Pasel asked Ms. Duvall about the **drainage board**. Ms. Duvall said she will have the final draft done by mid-July. Ms. Duvall has investigated the Milford property discussed in last months meeting. The petitioner and the surrounding property owner believe they both own Lot 6. There needs to be verification on who owns the property. The attorney for the property owner that drew up the deed will have to look for the mistake. Commissioners chose to table the alley closure request.

Dylan LeGere would like to close an alley in Clarksburg. He owns all surrounding properties. Mr. Blodgett made the motion to approve, Mr. Pasel seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred.

**The Lake McCoy** committee had their first meeting to discuss known complaints. Their first priority is to identify all unsafe property's. Their plan is to review pending lawsuit against the previous owner and look for raw sewage. Department of Health Director Sean Durbin will take water samples of the lake and look for E. Coli. Next meeting will be July 10<sup>th</sup> to review all findings and come up with an action plan. This will be brought to the next commissioner meeting.

**Covered Bridge Certification** – allows State of Indiana to pay Decatur County for their covered bridge and a document to establish the **tax sale calendar for 2023** were both signed.

**Resolution 2023-9 Establishing Public Health Funding.** Motion to adopt was made by Mr. Pasel, seconded by Mr. Blodgett, Mr. Koors concurred.

The Highway Dept. did a **drainage project in Waynesburg**. Received a bill from Romine Tile Solutions for \$49,465.95 to be paid from the Cares Act Funding. Mr. Pasel made the motion to approve, Mr. Blodgett seconded, and Mr. Koors concurred.

**Bids for Port A Lets** are due by Friday, June 23 by noon.

**Rick Anderson with Veregy** presented design reviews from DLZ, Scott Carnegie. Mr. Carnegie presented several floor plans for the annex building focusing on windows. Goal is to improve the thermal insulation while still providing light. Would like to keep color scheme cohesive with the new Detention Center next door. Commissioners agreed that the small 1 ft windows at the top of the wall in one of the designs did not let in enough natural light nor provide a good working environment. They would like to see larger windows. Each department would like to keep their individual doors for the public to use. Commissioners chose to get a quote on design 3A with design 3B windows. DLZ will come back when they have pricing.

**Decatur County Clerk, Janet Howell** has funding to provide a State mandated election cage in the basement. The area will need cleaned up by mid-August. Mrs. Howell is looking into a new program to scan in old documents called Docuware. She will have a quote by next meeting. Mrs. Howell asked for help in removing old shelving units from their office. With the Courthouse not closing for June 19<sup>th</sup> holiday, this leaves the Clerk's office not able to do several of their daily duties. Any money brought in must be deposited in the bank the same day. With banks being closed, this creates a hardship. Mrs. Howell just asked the Commissioners to take that into consideration when they create 2024 holiday schedule.

Asphalt bids are due by July 3, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

**Economic Development Director Bryan Robbins** stated the READI 2.0 is coming up soon. They will work on getting projects submitted. Specs for the grant is not out yet but once announced the turnover time will be quick. Mr. Robbins asked Commissioners to be thinking about big projects in the County they would like to see.

**The Commissioners next meeting will be at 8:00 am on July 3, 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.

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

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