

## Commissioners Meeting

October 16, 2017 8:00 a.m.

**Present: Jerome Buening and Mark Koors**

**Commissioner Buening** called the October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board of Commissioners meeting in session. He announced **Title VI voluntary survey forms** are available on the table by the door for whoever would like to complete one to turn in to the Auditor's office.

After review the October 2nd minutes were approved as presented. Mr Koors moved to pay the accounts payable claims and payroll claims and Mr Buening concurred.

**Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr** will be attending an October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting with **INDOT** in Seymour for contract information concerning the funding awarded by the **Community Crossings Grant Program**. He gave updates on paving projects, replacement of pipes and a bridge replacement. **Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission** has completed lots of 'traffic counts' as a pilot program for **INDOT**. Mr Mohr has given **SIRPC** a map of areas he would like to have traffic counts as well as counts for certain railroad crossings.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** presented **Ordinance 2017-4** for the Commissioners' review and approval. Petitioner **Leising Excavating, Tom Leising** requested to rezone the 18.332 acres from A-1 to I-1 to continue to operate and grow a Mulch and Excavating company with Propane Sales. Mr Koors moved to approve the ordinance, Mr Buening concurred

**Area Plan Building Inspector Kenny Buening** reported he completed 36 building inspections in the last two weeks and issued 10 new building permits. He did issue one 'red tag'- (immediately halt construction) to a property owner constructing a two-story garage due to not applying for a building permit and the structure encroaches on required 'setbacks' to property lines; so the property owner will need to file for a variance. He did meet with Jennifer McNealy regarding an alley in Forest Hill. He did check two properties behind **Stier Heating and Cooling**. The property owner has done some serious work on these properties- Mr Buening will continue to monitor this property until the property owner has completed the required work.

**Emergency Management Director Rob Duckworth** presented an authorization letter for the Commissioners to request the **State** to act on our behalf in requesting the **FCC** license/assign six new radio frequencies within the 700-800 MHz spectrum to Decatur County due to the new Letts communication tower being built. Mr Koors moved to approve and Mr Buening concurred. Mr Koors moved to approve the promulgation statement of The **Decatur County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, updated 2017** due to a change in the Board of Commissioners and Mr Buening concurred.

County resident Jennifer McNealy presented pictures of an alley in **Forest Hill** (formerly Newberg) and a map clearly showing it is a platted alley between Lots 16 and 17. Mrs McNealy stated three property owners, in trying to 'clean up the town', have razed three unsafe structures in **Forest Hill**. Most alleys in small towns do serve as access for utilities to access 'lines', but the pictures show this alley is impassable as it is littered with trash, junk-inoperable vehicles, part of a collapsed building, glass, what looks like a lawn mower and a tractor. She asked about the enforcement of **County Ordinances 1998-4 and 2004-5** and when and how will it be addressed? Mr Buening stated typically the County has not done maintenance on alleys. Mrs McNealy stated there is a **REMC** security light pole in that area, but she's not sure how **REMC** would access the electric line running through the alley to that light. Mr Mohr's department views maintenance of alleys as 'grading it and putting stone on it' and this situation involves more of a trash and garbage issue. **Building Commissioner Kenny Buening** has been working with a property owner on cleaning up a residence and it appears this is the same person who is responsible for this mess in the alley. Mr Mohr's concern is where the alley actually lays. **County Attorney Ken Bass** suggested asking **County Surveyor Andy Scholle** to take a look at this alley to determine where the property lines are. Kenny Buening will coordinate with Mr Scholle to work to solve this issue.

**County Clerk Adina Roberts and Elections Deputy Faith Koors** answered questions concerning the request by the **Decatur County Elections Board** to put nine polls into three poll locations. The same number of voting machines would be used and there would be only one Voter Board needed since the

**Election Board** voted to use electronic poll books. In past elections, each voter board had five people- an inspector, two judges and two clerks. The Voter Board will have nine poll workers for each of these three poll locations. Mrs Koors told the Commissioners all affected voters have to be notified by mail of these changes and there will be plenty of advertising in local media and social media informing the public of these changes. **Greensburg Mayor Dan Manus** has some concerns and he would like to review these proposed changes before the Commissioners vote on this request.

**Elevatus partner Michael Gouloff and Consultant Doug Dukes** offered some 'pointers' to the Commissioners when making decisions on building a new jail. The number of beds, types of cells and operating costs were a few items discussed. Mr Gouloff reminded the Commissioners to 'be careful what you do and how you do it'.

Mr Bass reported he did meet with Larry Lollar regarding lots owned by the Commissioners at Lake McCoy.

Mayor Manus reminded everyone the **Stellar Community Grant Group** will announce the winner for this year's grant on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Tourism Director Gary Herbert** asked where the credit card requests stand- he will submit two more requests at the next Commissioners' meeting. Mr Herbert hopes to meet with the Commissioners to discuss 'building a Courthouse Tower replica' to display the Courthouse bell.

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

The next Commissioners meeting will be November 6th, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

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Richard J Nobbe, President

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Attest \_\_\_\_\_

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