

**Commissioners Meeting  
September 6, 2022 8:00 a m**

**Present: Mark Koors, Jerome Buening and Chuck Emsweller**

President Koors welcomed everyone to the Commissioners' September 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

Commissioner Koors led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Pastor Dawn Barnes then offered a prayer.

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

Mr Emsweller moved to accept the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Buening moved to approve the accounts payable claims, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

Mr Emsweller moved to approve the payroll claims for August 19<sup>th</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred.

**Highway (Interim) Superintendent Todd Houk**, asked the Commissioners about sending property owners letters asking them to remove dead ash trees, leaning toward the road, as those could/will be a hazard. The Commissioners would need a list of property owners or maybe a publication in the newspaper. **County Attorney Chad Smith** suggested sending letters telling property owners it's their responsibility to remove those hazardous trees. Beams have been set and the approaches will be poured for Bridge 73; County Road 800 East, south of New Point, is now open after replacing 2 large pipes; work on County Road 100 North, part of the **Community Crossings Grant 2021**, will be completed once the St Paul Plant opens; demo work- pulling out pipe- on County Road 600 South, west of County Road 850; and several employees are interested in applying for District 3 Foreman's job, so once the committee interviews those and if none are deemed qualified, Mr Houk would like to advertise for anyone to apply. Mr Buening moved to approve Mr Houk's request for a First Financial credit card for the Highway Department, Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

**Area Plan Director Krista Duvall** presented 5 ordinances for the Commissioners' review after the Area Plan Commission's approvals: **Ordinance 2021-10, petitioner Joe and Bonnie Weisenbach**, requesting to rezone approximately 2.99 acres from A1 to A2, for the purpose of constructing a single family detached dwelling. Mr Emsweller moved to approve Ordinance 201-10, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Ordinance 2021-15, petitioners Kenneth and Tosha Harrison**, requesting to rezone approximately 2.99 acres from A1 to A2, for the purpose of constructing a single family detached dwelling. Mr Buening moved to approve Ordinance 2021-15, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Ordinance 2021-21, petitioners Thomas and Penny Powers**, requesting to rezone approximately 2.99 acres from A1 to A2, for the purpose of constructing a single family detached dwelling. Mr Emsweller moved to approve Ordinance 2021-21, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Ordinance 2022-5, petitioner Mike Johannigman**, requesting to rezone approximately 2.99 acres from A1 to A2, for the purpose of constructing a single family detached dwelling. Mr Buening moved to approve Ordinance 2022-5, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr Koors concurred. **Ordinance 2022-9, petitioners James Mitchell and Courtney Sefton**, requesting to rezone approximately 2.99 acres from A1 to A2, for the purpose of constructing a single family detached dwelling. Mr Emsweller moved to approve Ordinance 2022-9, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Ms Duvall reminded all the Area Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals have their regular meetings beginning at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

In the past 3 weeks, **Building Inspector Kenny Buening** has completed 65 building inspections, issued 23 new building permits and plan reviews, 2 permit renewals and issued 3 red tags- one needed a vertical rebar in wall forms for concrete; the second one was for construction of a large pole barn without a building permit and the third red tag was the electrical supply for a swimming pool did not have a GFI. A property owner in Burney responding to Kenny's letter is planning to build a pole barn next year to

house his antique cars. That same property owner complained about the ditch with standing water creating a mosquito sanctuary.

Mr Buening moved to approve the **Fellowship of Christian Athletes'** request for use of the south lawn of the Courthouse on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 am. Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. Greensburg teacher Matt Slaven and several FCA members were present to answer any questions and to share information about this global event "See you at the Pole".

Mr Buening moved to sell the Commissioners' sliver of property (16-05-02-110-012.010-001) in St Omer to Anita Diederich for \$1200.00. Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

**Verdin Bells & Clocks sales representative Steve Doerger** presented his recommendations for getting the Courthouse Tower Clocks updated to get working. The gearing is messed up and he believes replace the clocks with a new time piece, new hands and replace the center dial sections of glass with acrylic. Also, install a digital device that senses power outages and a digital carol-on speakers to get the bell tower sounding again with 'dongs' and seasonal music is also an option. Mr Doerger recommends using LED back lights for the tower clocks. This is custom work, so it could be a 6 – 8 month project. The cost, without replacing the glass is \$53,000; \$67,530 for everything. The quote does not include electrical work or removing the existing works and is good for 6 months. Mr Doerger suggests hiring a general contractor to oversee this project. Commissioners are in favor of moving forward; will review the quote and decide at their September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Rick Anderson of Veregy** told Commissioners he is working on pricing for the energy savings project for the Court Services Building.

**Jail Commander Dana Parker** updated the Commissioners on the effects of a lightning strike over this past weekend. The strike tripped the circuit breaker so lights went out; never lost control of the cell doors. Commander Parker not quite sure if everything worked as it should, the generator continued to idle run and that needs repaired.

**Russell Wilhoit** has informed the Commissioners he would like to retire from the Cemetery Commission Board; partly due to no active members on the Board. Mr Smith will check about dissolving that Board and what responsibilities the Commissioners have regarding cemeteries not owned by an association or township.

**Deputy Auditor Blair Haley** asked Commissioners a question by County Coroner Doug Banks about submitting claims for gas and oil out of the Public Safety Fund. Mr Banks is weary of writing a claim on a budget other than his Coroner's budget. Mr Koors said it's like another claim to them.

**Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins** reported the **READI Group** is ahead of schedule; he will be attending a conference in Chicago .

Communications Director Erika Free told Commissioners everything in Dispatch was lost due to last weekend's lightning strike. There is a power issue in the building, something isn't functioning properly. Jail Commander Parker thought maybe the surge suppressors were affected by the storm. Director Free said this happened twice this weekend.

**The Commissioners next meeting will be September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.**

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Buening moved to recess, Mr Emsweller seconded and Mr. Koors concurred. Meeting recessed.

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

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