

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting – March 5, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED:

That the Fayette County Commissioners of Fayette County, State of Indiana, met in regular scheduled session on the above date at 2:00 P.M. with the following present: Commissioners Dale Strong, Dale Munson, and Tracie Bever and Auditor Jane Downard and County Attorney Geoff Wesling of said County and State.

Commissioner Strong called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Munson moved to approve the minutes of February 20th regular meeting, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

MAINTENANCE:

Josh Jarboe presented a 144 to hire Austin Carr as a full-time building and maintenance employee to fill a vacancy. Commissioner Bever moved to approve the 144 as presented, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Josh had ordered a new mother board for the washer at the jail but there were multiple delays before it finally got fixed. He said Nancy Bohlander had been going to the Laundromat and doing laundry while the washer was down. Josh suggested we purchase a second washer to have a backup for the future, and said he will get price quotes and come back for approval.

He said they did get a bypass filter for the water heater and are seeing some benefit already.

IT:

Michael King said he does not have the local consent agreement from the State for the KNOWB4 program. It is an email training about how to avoid click bait, viruses, etc. Commissioner Munson moved to approve signing a local consent agreement, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Strong asked Michael to allow our county attorney to review the agreement first.

911:

Kelly VanMeter presented three quotes for the 24/7 chairs she is requesting permission to lease. The lease has been reviewed by our county attorney, and he has no problem with it. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the lease agreement between the county and Thomas Shelby and Company to supply chairs for 911 Dispatch, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

AREA PLAN COMMISSION:

Bill MacDaniel had two items for commissioners. The proposed Ordinance to amend parking regulations was discussed first. Commissioner Bever moved to reject the existing proposed version of the amended parking ordinance, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Bill requested commissioners get all comments together and get those to him before the Area Plan Commission meets next then he will present their comments to the APC. The second item was the proposed amendment to the fee schedule. Bill explained that he is suggesting a change from a cost basis fee for a Class 1 Building fee to a square footage basis to more accurately reflect costs. He is also proposing amending the expired permit fee. Commissioner Bever moved to hold a public hearing on the proposed amended fee ordinance on March 19th, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Jeff Cook, Director of Engineering and project manager for construction for Reid Hospital, spoke and assured commissioners that Reid is proceeding with construction of a new site. He has paperwork on his computer that Bill is waiting for regarding foundation permit fee, and he is requesting commissioners waive the current fee for the foundation only. Commissioner Bever moved to waive the current fee for the foundation permit for Reid Hospital and allow the

proposed fee of \$325 to be accepted, Commissioner Munson seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

ANIMAL SHELTER:

Dave Ryckman gave an update that their building is pretty well completed. He did request the county put some dirt around the foundation, and that will be done when it dries up. He said the HVAC should be here next week.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Wade Walling requested permission to go to county council tonight for an additional appropriation for the installation of the siren. Commissioner Munson moved to approve, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

He shared that he tested the siren at 6 p.m. yesterday evening, and plans to do it the first Monday of each month at 6 p.m. He said he and Dale met with someone regarding the Mesonet weather station.

He also requested permission to go to county council tonight for an additional appropriation for repair of his vehicle. Commissioner Munson moved to approve, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

HIGHWAY

Jay Halveland presented quotes to purchase two trucks to replace the two vehicles that are inoperable. Commissioner Munson moved to approve the purchase of a Ford Explorer and a Ford F250 flatbed truck from Moe's Auto Sales of Spiceland, Indiana, and Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Jay said he has price quoted having a dumpster and it will cost approximately \$1,000. He said taking items to the transfer station doesn't work because cats were getting in the dump truck where they were temporarily storing trash. Commissioner Munson asked if he had talked to Chris Lovett and Jay said Chris said he didn't know if he could be competitive or not but did not call back. Commissioners agreed it would be nice to have the same company service both the highway and the jail.

He said he had one of the oil guys come in regarding the distributor truck and Jay passed out a handout to commissioners from him. He is suggesting they have a company come lay down the oil prior to the county doing chip sealing. Commissioners asked Jay to get more information on this and pass it along.

Jay said they are having more problems on the former Tom Lingg property. Jay said if we were going to put the road back where it is supposed to be, the property owner who has put in a post needs to remove it. Commissioner Munson moved to ask the county surveyor to secure a legitimate survey at the location on County Road 525 W and report back to us, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Once the survey is completed, the highway department will re-establish the road to settle any disputes.

Jay passed around photos of the previously discussed road in Pleasantview and discussion was held. Commissioners have agreed they will either develop it as a road or grant an easement to allow Mr. Smith access to the property, but no final action will be taken until Mr. Smith has purchased the property. Commissioner Munson moved to revoke the previous motion to finish the right of way as a roadway, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Munson moved to allow giving an easement from Mr. Smith's property line to Serenity Parkway, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0. Mr. Smith will consult with Bill MacDaniel about easement requirements then have a draft easement drawn up to present to commissioners for their approval.

Commissioner Munson asked if they had heard anything from Stoops, and Jay said they were down on Monday and will be getting back with him.

SHERIFF:

Zac Jones presented his annual Jail report and highlighted the various sections. A copy of the full report is available in the Auditor's Office.

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Geoff Wesling did not have anything at this time.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

No council member was present.

MAIL:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Chad Groning spoke on behalf of the three county volunteer fire departments. He explained the grant they are applying for, and why they want it. They asked the commissioners and will be asking council to loan money to the volunteer fire department to pay for the equipment up front and wait for reimbursement from the grant. Commissioners can make a recommendation to council but that is the only official action they can take. Commissioner Bever moved for commissioners to make a favorable recommendation to County Council that they approve the temporary loan of \$275,444.38 to the Volunteer Fire Departments pending grant approval, Commissioner Strong seconded the motion, motion carried 2-0 with Commissioner Munson abstaining because he is on the Glenwood Volunteer Fire Department.

2024 Cemetery Mowing Contract – Jay McAtee has agreed to extend the existing contract for an additional year at a cost of \$22,000, and the Cemetery Commission has approved the extension. Commissioner Munson moved to agree to the extension, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners discussed closing all non-essential locations for the solar eclipse. Commissioner Munson moved to close all non-essential county locations on April 8th due to the solar eclipse and pay overtime to those employees who are forced to work, Commissioner Bever seconded the motion, motion carried 3-0.

PATRON CONCERNS:

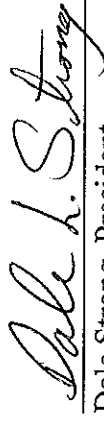
Mike W. Bell of 1020 West 6th Street in Connersville made an official complaint on Bill MacDaniel that he is not enforcing zoning regulations. He presented several photographs that showed a business is operating out of residential addresses. Brian Chapman owns the property and Brayden Parker uses it at will at 1020 Myers Avenue and 501 Maple Street. The complaint on Bill MacDaniel alleges that he is not enforcing zoning regulations on the businesses that are operating in residential areas. Nick Brown, Ordinance Enforcer for the City of Connersville, came up there several times.

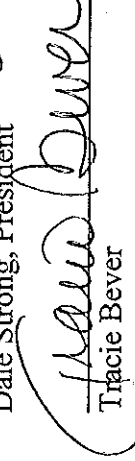
PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:

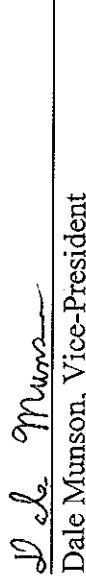
Commissioner Munson moved to approve claims as presented, seconded by Commissioner Bever, motion carried 3-0. Commissioners then signed all paperwork on camera.

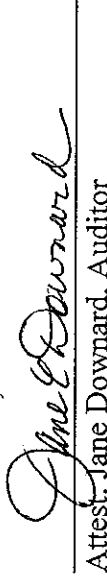
ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Munson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bever, motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.


Dale Strong, President


Tracie Bever


Dale Munson, Vice-President


Attest: Jane Downard, Auditor