

Hancock County Board of Commissioners' Minutes

September 18, 2012

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Commissioner Tom Stevens, President, Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice President and Commissioner Derek Towle.

Auditor Robin D. Lowder was also present.

Hancock County Board of Commissioners' meeting began at 8:01a.m.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 8:25a.m.

In The Matter of Hancock County Highway

Engineer Joe Copeland appeared before the Hancock County Board of Commissioners to discuss the following:

INDOT Contract – for the project at 600 W. and 300 N. intersection. Two million dollars for right-of-way for Section G/Segment A. Engineer Copeland attended the award meeting last week and INDOT said it should begin the last half of 2013 because of the environmental. Hancock County is the Local Public Agent (LPA). In September of 2013 the R/W buying has to begin but it does not bind us to start the project until the fiscal year starting July 1, 2014, it is part of the eminent domain process. Commissioner Towle moved to enter into the INDOT Contract. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Drainage Board – It was brought to the Commissioners attention that there was a problem in a subdivision where a drainage pipe was left in a temporary status when it should have been completed. The Commissioners ask that in the future the Drainage Board, Highway, Planning Commission and Surveyor work together on issues of drainage. They do not want this issue to re-occur.

Sign Bids – were opened as follows:

The Sign Store	DES#1172485	\$49,970.35
The Sign Store	DES#1172159	\$42,854.75
Belmont Graphic	DES#1172159	\$21,457.94
Belmont Graphic	DES#1172485	\$22,505.56
Unistrut Indianapolis	DES#1172159	\$17,643.60
Unistrut Indianapolis	DES#1172486	\$12,141.00
Stello Products, Inc.	DES#1172159	\$11,068.75
Stello Products, Inc.	DES#1172485	\$14,535.00
Stello Products, Inc.	DES#1172485	\$13,644.55
Stello Products, Inc.	DES#1172159	\$20,358.00

Commissioner Armstrong moved to accept the bids and turn them over to Engineer Joe Copeland for review and recommendation later in today's meeting. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of Cumberland Town Court

Use of Courtroom – Judge Wheeler of the Cumberland Town Court and Chief of Police Michael Crooke appeared before the Commissioners to request use of the Commissioners’ Courtroom one day a month to hold court for traffic tickets and ordinance violations for Hancock County Residents. They will provide their own security and prosecutor. Judge Marshall appeared and stated he has concerns about how this will work legally. Tami Napier deputy prosecutor also appeared to state she had concerns, since any changes in court procedures must be presented to the Supreme Court for approval. She also does not see the need for a town court and feels a deputy prosecutor could be an issue, since they would not be working in the Prosecutor’s Office to supervise. The Commissioners feel there are obstacles to work on and answers to questions needed before they move on this request. Commissioner Towle moved to table this item. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of Citizens Complaint

Farmers Grain – located in Maxwell. Ted Hartley appeared before the Commissioners to request something be done about the noise, smell and dust from Farmers Grain in Maxwell. He is asking that the Commissioners have them clean up and improve the dust. Mr. Hartley is also concerned that the improvements are not legal and they did not have permits to build them. Mike Dale from the Planning Department appeared to inform the Commissioners that most of the improvements have been there since approximately the 1930’s and the Planning Department does not go back past ten years to check on permits and it appears that all buildings have been there at least the ten years, according to Mike Dale. The Commissioners suggest he file a civil complaint and/or encourage the appropriate departments follow through on looking into the problems. The Commissioners felt they were not the appropriate board to correct this situation.

In The Matter of the Planning Department

Ordinance 2012-9C – Mike Dale of the Planning Department appeared before the Commissioners to present Ordinance 2012-9C An Ordinance Amending The Hancock County Indiana Zoning Ordinance for property located at 4925 S. 600 W. and owned by William and Megan Losh. They would like to rezone from Residential (R2.5) to Residential (R1.0) The Planning Committee gave this a favorable recommendation. Commissioner Armstrong moved to introduce Ordinance 2012-9C An Ordinance Amending The Hancock County Indiana Zoning Ordinance as presented. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Greyhawk Woods Subdivision – Mike Dale appeared before the Commissioners to inform them that the Homeowners Association for Greyhawk Woods has changed their covenants that were different for each of the five sections to one for all of the sections in the subdivision.

Resolution 2012-7-9 – A Resolution of the Hancock County, Indiana Board of County Commissioners Adopting the 2012 Hancock County Comprehensive Plan Update. The plan contains two changes as directed by the Commissioners being 1. the trails plan amended to eliminate the proposed trail on 300 N. and 2. working with Indiana Concrete and Pipe in Maxwell as they had concerns about the land use designation. Commissioner Armstrong moved that based on the information we have and the changes made he will move to pass Resolution 2012-7-9, A Resolution of the Hancock County, Indiana Board of County Commissioners Adopting the 2012 Hancock County Comprehensive Plan Update as amended. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Re-Zoning – Mr. Lewis appeared before the Commissioners to request the Commissioners initiate rezoning of his property as he would like to keep animals and was not aware that there was a change in the zoning for his property. His property had been rezoned from Agriculture to R5.0. in 2007, there was a published notification in the newspaper. Mr. Lewis was not aware it had happened because he was not contacted directly. Commissioner Armstrong moved to initiate the change in zoning from R5.0 to Agri A zoning on property owned by the Lewis's located at 5323 E. 650 N. Wilkinson. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of the Sheriff's Department

Vehicle Lease Agreement – a new lease agreement was presented to the Commissioners for Blake Wampler a reserve officer. The lease agreement would end December 31, 2014. Commissioner Towle moved to enter into a Vehicle Lease Agreement with JEEB Services, LLC for a 2004 Ford Crown Vic with VIN#2FAFP71W74X180769 regarding the Sheriff's Department Lease Program with the lease ending December 31, 2014. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of the Clerk's Office

Precinct Locations – Marcia Moore appeared before the Commissioners for approval of Polling Locations for the General Election; which are the same as in the primaries. Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the 2012 polling locations as presented. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of Highway Bids

Awards – Engineer Joe Copeland stated that after reviewing he recommends the low bids on each category.

- Commissioner Towle moved to award the Road Name Signs & Accessories in the Indianapolis MPA to Stello Products, Inc in an amount of \$13,644.55. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.
- Commissioner Towle moved to award the Steel sign posts for Road Name Signs in the Indianapolis MPA to Unistrut Indianapolis in an amount of \$12,141.00. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.
- Commissioner Towle moved to award the Traffic Signs & Accessories outside of the Indianapolis & Anderson MPA to Stello Products, Inc. in an amount of \$11,068.75. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.
- Commissioner Towle moved to award the Steel Sign Posts for Traffic Sign Replacement outside of the Indianapolis & Anderson MPA to Unistrut Indianapolis in an amount of \$17,643.60.
- Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0. Engineer Joe Copeland will issue notice to proceed on the bids today.

In The Matter of E-911

Grant – Connie Hoy appeared before the Commissioners to request their signature for the grant money for the E-911 installment. Commissioner Armstrong moved to enter into the Inter-Local Sub-Grant Agreement with the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners for grant money to AT&T in the amount of \$151,840.00. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

The Matter of Hancock County Commissioners' Action Items

September 4, 2012 Minutes– Commissioner Towle moved to approve the minutes for September 4, 2012 as submitted. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

Claims and Payroll - Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the claims and payroll as presented. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of Apple Street Parking Lot

Re-striping and Seal Coat – a quote was provided by David Armstrong for cleaning, re-striping and seal coating the parking lot on Apple Street for an amount of \$1,991.56. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to proceed with the seal coat and re-striping of the parking lot at the Purdue Ag extension office with quote provided by David Armstrong for an amount not to exceed \$1,991.56. Commissioner Towle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of the Hancock County Surveyor

Community Rating System – Susan Bodkin appeared before the Commissioners to present the Community Rating System (CRS) Annual Re-certification report for flood plains that is to be turned in annually. The report needs approval and signature by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Towle moved approval of the Community Rating System Annual Recertification for flood plains only. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of Hancock County Prosecutor's Office

Bat Excluding – an estimate to exclude bat infestation from the North side of the building at the Prosecutor's Office was presented to the Commissioners. The estimate was from Terminix in the amount of \$1,000.00. A second bid from Baxter Pest Professionals has been requested and will be provided in a few days. Commissioner Towle moved to allow Commissioner Armstrong to act on the lowest bidder to get the bats removed from the Prosecutor's Office. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0.

In The Matter of Hancock County Building Department

Floyd Rowe Property – Rusty Burgess appeared before the Commissioners to inform them that the property owned by Floyd Rowe has violations and has never been inspected nor have permits been issued by the County or State. At this point he is letting the State handle the situation but he wanted the Commissioners to be aware of the situation. The State is giving eighteen days to appeal the decision or they may shut down the banquet hall/apartments due to being unsafe.

In The Matter of The Hancock County Capital Improvement Program Update

CIP – Commissioner Stevens presented to Commissioner Armstrong and Commissioner Towle his Capital Improvement Program update. He discussed the first two priorities of the C.I.P. #1 Roads and Intersections Improvements and #2 Highway Equipment. Commissioner Armstrong will work on item #3, Building Capital Improvements, Commissioner Towle will work on item #6, Departments C.C.D.’s and Commissioner Stevens will work on items #1&2.

Bond Issue- The Council recommended that a bond be leveraged and the fleet of trucks for the Highway Department be purchased instead of by equipment lease as this will free up \$260,000 to \$275,000 annually for the Highway Department to use for roads. A zero based assessment of the Highway Department will be done to help determine some of the needs in the future. The Commissioners discussed what trucks are actually necessary and if the County is better purchasing a fleet of trucks at one time or a few each year. Attorney Ray Richardson had Ice Miller draw up a schedule for bonding in 2012 and a decision will need to be made by September 25, 2012. The County Council would then need to approve the bond and a public hearing would be held by the County Council. The Commissioners decided to meet again on September 25, 2012 to discuss the bond issue and spend the week assessing the truck issue. The Commissioners allowed for public input. The following people spoke regarding the bond issue: Martha Vail, Marc Huber, John Priore, Edward Flick and Janet Kline.

In The Matter of the Hancock County Sheriff’s Department

Locks – the control panel for the new door locks at the jail are currently being installed.

Fire System – The Fire Suppression System in the Jail Kitchen is obsolete and cannot be certified. The Sheriff’s Department is currently pricing a new system.

Visitation Phones – The current phones used for visitation are malfunctioning and they are no longer manufactured. By law visitation is required. The Sheriff’s Department is currently trying to find a way to rectify the situation. The Commissioners ask that pricing be forwarded to them.

The meeting adjourned at 11:12p m.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner Tom Stevens, President

Attest:_____

Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice President

Robin D. Lowder

Hancock County Auditor

Commissioner Derek Towle