

## **Hancock County Board of Commissioner's Minutes**

**November 7, 2017**

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Board of Commissioners President Brad Armstrong, Vice President Commissioner Marc Huber, and Commissioner John Jessup.

Auditor Robin D. Lowder was present and Accounts Payable Deputy Supervisor

Anna L. Voorhis was also present.

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's meeting began at 8:05 a.m.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 8:18 a.m.

### **Highway Department**

County Engineer Gary Pool appeared before the Hancock County Board of Commissioners to discuss:

**Credit Application-** Requested signatures on J & F credit application to save \$3000 mark-up on truck parts (hydraulic joints, etc). Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve signing of J & F credit application. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

**Bridge 18 & 91-** inspected this week. There is still some work to be done, but they are now open to traffic.

**600 W Section 3 Commitments-** Grants to be submitted to Council tomorrow. Council to sign 600 W Section 3 commitments as well as school zone sign flashers, GRET commitments and Bridge 62 commitment.

**New Hires-** Two new employees will be coming in next Monday to get drug tests. They will begin on November 20, 2017.

**2018 Program-** County Engineer projected roadwork for 2018 to cost approximately 3.9 million dollars which will cover 151 miles of roadway of work to be completed. Cost will be less than last year by a couple hundred thousand dollars. Pool said he has used extra money the department has saved in other areas to put into materials to get more road work done. Most work has been pavement.

**Statutory Offer in Green Fields Ltd R.O.W. case-** Yasmin Stump has recommended statutory offer for \$27,500 in Green Fields Ltd R.O.W. case. She feels confident of a jury trial win. Trial date is set for December 4, 2017. Ms. Hoffman has not changed her offer, maintaining belief property is worth \$100,000 an acre. Engineer Pool stated that the county has tried to be fair; but that amount, especially in a flooded farm area, is not fair to the taxpayers and not fair to the property owners who sold their properties adjacent to her. Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve 45-day statutory offer for \$27,500 in Green Fields Ltd properties right of way case. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Claims and Payroll**

Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve claims and payroll as presented. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Commissioners' Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve Commissioners' Meeting Minutes for October 31, 2017. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Entertainment on the Plaza**

Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve the Entertainment on the Plaza schedule for 2018 as presented. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Weed Specialist/Budget Transfer**

To make up for a budget shortfall, Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve a budget transfer of \$1015.00 from the weed board mowing account to the weed specialist account. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0

### **Census Bureau-Update Disclosure SOP, John Milburn**

John Milburn came before the Commissioners to discuss the Census Update and Disclosure SOP. Milburn explained that every ten years or so the Census Bureau asks the county to participate in a local updated census. Essentially they are preparing for 2020 Census. They canvas the county and knock on doors and they want to check and share their database with what we have. Getting an accurate account will provide a more accurate census which modifies the amount of federal money we get coming into the county. Milburn asked for the Board's permission to have Commissioner Armstrong sign the Census Bureau registration form that will allow the county to participate in census update. Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve signature for census update participation form. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0. Commissioner Armstrong signed the 2020 Census Update registration form.

### **Rezoning- Estes Ground Maintenance/1466 N. 600 W.**

Plan Director, Mike Dale spoke on behalf of Scott and Tracy Ruble, owners of Estes Ground Maintenance Inc. and Ruble Properties and Investments Inc. The Rubles are long-time residents of Hancock County, but their business has been located on the east side of Indianapolis in an 8,000 square foot building. Their hope is to build in Hancock County on a nine acre site and construct a 15,000 square foot building, which would include 3,000 square foot of office space. A change in current zoning ordinance was requested. Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve adoption of Ordinance No. 2017-11A which rezones 9.0 acres from R-1 (Residential) to CC (Commercial: Community) at 1466 N. 600 W. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Rezoning- Falls at Philadelphia (approx. 150 North 200 West)**

Plan Director, Mike Dale presented a request for rezoning of approximately 71.11 acres from R1.0 (Residential) and 8.53 acres from CN (Commercial: Neighborhood) to R2.5 (Residential) at 150 N 200 W for a proposed major subdivision. Commissioner Huber made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-11B as presented. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Subdivision Development Standards**

Commissioner Huber made a motion to instruct Plan Department Director to review subdivision development standards. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Senior Services/3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Correction**

Vicki Adams, new office manager for Hancock County Senior Services, requested Commissioner's approval for correction to 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter claim voucher for Indiana Department of Transportation pass through. Commissioner Huber made a motion to approve correction to 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter claim voucher. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

### **Weed Specialist Season Report- Dean Folkening**

Dean Folkening, Weed Specialist, provided the Commissioners with a season report. Six properties had to be mowed. Folkening discussed coming up with a recommendation on how to deal with habitual offenders such as a potential renter registration to track owners of properties.

### **Group Insurance**

Commissioners reviewed 2017 budget balances, noting a -\$468,115.52 negative balance in group insurance line.

### **Criminal Justice System Facility and Roof Repair**

**Commissioners discussed the following matters concerning proposed Criminal Justice System Facility and Courthouse Roof Repair:**

Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to introduce for purpose of Adoption of Need for Project for Hancock County, Indiana to fund construction and renovation of Criminal Justice Facility and possible repair to court house roof. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioner Jessup made a motion to authorize for petition, the gathering of fifty taxpayer signatures for petition requesting lease of county jail and related facilities from a county building corporation. Commissioner Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to approve letter of support to increase county income tax rate to help fund Criminal Justice System Facility and Roof Repair. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to approve advertising for Criminal Justice System Facility and Courthouse Repair determination hearing to be held November 20, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., at 111 American Legion Place, Commissioners Courtroom. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to approve advertising for Criminal Justice System and Courthouse Repair second determination hearing to be held December 12, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., at 111 American Legion Place, Commissioners Courtroom. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Unanimous support of Council and Commissioners is needed to for state representative to carry special legislation for income tax financing option. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to look to obtaining the lobbying services of Ice Miller if unanimous support cannot be obtained, stating \$4,000/month is current proposal for services and that they would seek Council's advice on how that could be paid. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion to seek lobbying services as presented. Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to continue discussion regarding Criminal Justice System Facility with department heads at the next scheduled Commissioner's meeting on December 5, 2017 at 12 p.m. and stated he would like for all Council members to attend. Commissioner Jessup seconded the motion. Motion carried 3/0.

The Hancock County Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at **10:45** a.m.

Hancock County Commissioners

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Commissioner Brad Armstrong, President

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Commissioner Marc Huber, Vice President

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Commissioner John Jessup

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

Robin D. Lowder  
Hancock County Auditor