

COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Brian Baird at 10:00a.m. Kevin Walls was present; Ron West was present via Zoom.

INVOCATION

Mr. West led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Baird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ASSIST INDIANA AND FRANKLIN COLLEGE – APPROVAL TO USE COUNTY PROPERTY FOR
“TAKE BACK THE NIGHT” EVENT ON APRIL 13, 2023**

Tracy McQueen was present to request use of the East side of the County Courthouse for speakers to set up tables and host speakers during their third annual “Take Back the Night” event on April 13, 2023.

Ms. McQueen explained the event will start on Franklin College’s campus and there will be a march down Jefferson Street to the East side of the Courthouse to listen to multiple speakers. She stated the night will end with a march down Monroe Street back to the campus.

Mr. Walls asked if the proper steps for the indemnification process have been taken.

Ms. McQueen confirmed they have already applied for a Certificate of Liability through their insurance and would send it over to the proper contact.

Adam Gadberry, County Attorney, informed Ms. McQueen he would be the contact she would send the Certificate to.

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve the utilization of the East side of the Courthouse as presented, pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion which unanimously carried, pending legal.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. Sheriff

1. Presentation of Sheriff’s Office Community Service Medals

Sheriff Duane Burgess and Andy Barnhart, Chief Deputy Sheriff, were present to present awards to the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Deputies.

Sheriff Burgess discussed the creation and success of the CIT division with the Commissioners. He also recognized many key people who helped make the CIT program a success.

The following CIT deputies were present to accept their medals and plaques for their service and efforts: Jim Engmark, Shannon Chambers, Chad Poynter, and Damon Cox.

Mr. Walls commented on the great program and deputies that have developed with the CIT program and shared his pride with the team’s success so far.

Sheriff Burgess thanked the Commissioners, Council and many other Elected Officials for their support of the CIT program.

Mr. West thanked the CIT deputies for attending the mental health symposium last month.

Mr. Baird thanked the CIT deputies, Sheriff Burgess and Chief Barnhart.

B. Assessor

1. Approval of Contract Employing Attorney with Dustin D. Huddleston

Mike Watkins, Assessor, and Dustin Huddleston, Attorney, were present to request approval of the submitted contract to employ Dustin D. Huddleston for requested legal services.

Mr. Walls stated the contract all looked to be in order and thanked Mr. Huddleston for his continuous efforts and service to the county.

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve the contract employing Attorney Dustin D. Huddleston as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

C. Recorder

1. Approval to Attend the 2023 AIC Legislative Conference, February 7th thru February 8th, 2023, in Indianapolis, Indiana

Teresa Petro, Recorder, approached the Commissioners to request approval to attend the 2023 Association of Indiana Counties (AIC) Legislative Conference February 7th thru February 8th 2023 in Indianapolis, Indiana. She explained this training provides county employees and Elected Officials with legislative updates and information that helps complete job duties of many offices in the County. She also requested this be a blanket approval for all departments that want to attend the conference.

Mr. Walls asked if the requirements for overnight arrangements have been met.

Mrs. Petro confirmed the overnight arrangements have been made and a backup plan is in place should plans change.

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve the request to attend the Association of Indiana Counties as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Baird reiterated the importance of this training for all Elected Officials. Mr. Baird made note this should be a blanket approval for all county Elected Officials.

Mr. Walls made a motion to make the attendance of the AIC conference a blanket approval for all county Elected Officials and their staff. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

D. Parks

1. Approval to Apply for Indiana Parks and Recreation Foundation Professional Development Grant

Sarah Muller, Recreation Director, and Kevin Leonard, Park Superintendent, were present to request approval to apply for the Indiana Parks and Recreation Foundation Professional Development Grant.

Mr. West moved to approve an application for the above grant as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

2. Approval to Attend the Indiana University Executive Development Program, April 16th thru April 19th, 2023, in Bloomington, Indiana

Ms. Muller and Mr. Leonard were also present to request approval to attend the Indiana University Executive Development Program on April 16th thru April 19th, 2023 in Bloomington, Indiana.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request to attend the above program as presented, Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

E. Highway

1. Award Recommendation and Request to Begin Contract Negotiations for Bridge 85 Replacement PE & R/W Services

Daniel Johnston, Highway Engineer, approached the Commissioners to request approval of the scoring results for the Bridge 85 Replacement Project and authorization to begin negotiations with Stand Associates.

Mr. Walls stated Stand Associates looks to have come in at number one spot and the scoring results seem to be in order.

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve the results and give authorization to begin the negotiation process, pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion which unanimously carried.

2. Approval and Execution of Change Order 1 for 2022 Concrete Streets Overlay

3. Approval and Execution of Change Order 1 for 2022 Rural Road Mill and Overlay

Mr. Johnston was also present to request approval and execution of Change Order 1 for the 2022 Concrete Streets Overlay Project. He stated this started as a Community Crossings Project in White River Township to improve the pavement quality and increase its lifespan. He stated the project worked very well; however, in some areas there was residual water standing following some heavier rainfall last year that required regrading and repaving. Mr. Johnston stated this was no cause of the contractor's original work.

Mr. Johnston stated the cost amount is \$22,507, approximately 1.8% of the original contract amount.

Mr. Walls suggested taking agenda items E2 and E3 jointly.

The Commissioners decided to take agenda items E2 and E3 jointly.

Mr. Johnston then requested approval and execution of Change Order 1 for the 2022 Rural Road Mill and Overlay Project. He explain the purpose of this job was to improve rural roads and neighborhoods in the county. He stated there are more materials needed to improve some of the cul-de-sacs and longer stretches of road.

Mr. Johnston proposed the cost of this project to be \$68,807.58, approximately 3.5% of the contracted amount for the original project.

Mr. Walls shared his support of the headway being made to improve rural roads and neighborhoods throughout the county.

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve agenda items E2 and E3. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

F. Board of Commissioners

1. Duke Energy Electric Transmission Line Project #TIN99401

Chris Roberts, Duke Energy Real Estate Representative, was present to request approval for Duke Energy Electric Transmission Line Project #TIN99401 that will undertake an electric transmission line along U.S. Highway 31 in Johnson County.

Mr. Baird noted they have not received any update from FEMA as of January 9, 2023.

Mr. Gadberry stated the approval was scheduled to take 4 weeks but was delayed due to holidays.

Mr. Roberts addressed a previous issue of debris along the creek from a previous project by Duke Energy. He stated following the initial complaint from the Commissioners he contacted the environmental department at Duke Energy. Mr. Roberts said he received confirmation on December 8th, 2022 that the debris had been cleaned up.

Mr. West confirmed the debris had been cleaned up.

Mr. West moved to approve the transmission line project easement, pending update and approval from FEMA. Mr. Walls seconded the motion which unanimously carried.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Roberts for taking care of the debris.

2. Ratification of INDOT Section 5339 Grant Agreement, January 1, 2023 thru December 31, 2026 – Contract #69995

Mr. West moved to approve the request of Ratification of INDOT Section 5339 Grant Agreement. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

3. Approval of Independent Contractor Agreement with Wes Harrison

Mr. Baird thanked Mr. Harrison for his excellent work.

Mr. Walls also thanked Mr. Harrison for his efforts and for ensuring everything runs smoothly and prudently.

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve the contract amount of \$55 an hour and up to \$65,000 annually. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Baird confirmed this amount with Mr. Harrison and again thanked him for everything he has done.

4. Ordinance 2023-O-1: An Ordinance Authorizing Distribution and/or Expenditure of the Proceeds of Johnson County's Grant from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ACT") – Subject: Professional Services from Baker Tilly US, LLP

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-O-1. Mr. West seconded the motion which unanimously carried.

5. Ordinance 2023-O-2: An Ordinance Authorizing Distribution and/or Expenditure of the Proceeds of Johnson County's Grant from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ACT") – Subject: Professional Services from Wesley B. Harrison, P.E.

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-O-2. Mr. West seconded the motion which unanimously carried.

6. Resolution #2023-R-1: A Resolution of the Johnson County Board of Commissioners for the Purchase of Certain Real Property from White River Township Fire Protection District

Mr. West questioned the lack of a compensation amount included in the resolution.

Mr. Gadberry explained the county proposed an amount and the District declined any compensation amount be included in the Resolution.

Mr. Walls thanked the Fire Protection District for the property as it will be a large asset to store materials, save time and fuel for rendering services in the White River area.

Mr. West made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-R-1. Mr. Walls seconded the motion which unanimously carried.

7. Acceptance of Lowest Quote and Award of Contract Pursuant to IC 36-1-12-5 for West Annex Plumbing

Mr. Gadberry stated the county received 3 solicitations of bids for the above project. He read the quotes as follows:

Sexson Mechanical's bid of \$49,707.88
Irish Mechanical's bid of \$52,984.00
Wagner-Meinert LLC's bid of \$61,580.00

Mr. Walls moved to award the contract to Sexson Mechanical, pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion, noting the lengthy list of materials required for the project. Mr. Baird agreed with the list presented due to the age of the system and thanked Sexson Mechanical for making this work for the County. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW & OLD BUSINESS

Claims

Mr. West questioned a claim payable to Association of Indiana Counties (AIC) Conference in the amount of \$6,998.78. He asked if this amount was for all Elected Officials.

Mr. Baird confirmed the amount was for all Elected Officials.

Mr. West questioned a claim from the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$6,900 listed under Building Repair/Maintenance for Sheriff Services. He also questioned a claim from the Sheriff's Office for Professional Services purchasing Mobile Coolers in the amount of \$1,234.

Sheriff Burgess appeared before the Commissioners to address Mr. West's inquiries. He stated the cooler system went out at the jail and they had to use the mobile coolers to keep the food fresh while the work was completed. He noted he would check into the claim from Building Repair/Maintenance.

Mr. West took a moment to congratulate the newly Elected Officials for the county.

Mr. West made a motion to approve the submitted county claims as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioners' Minutes

12/19/2022 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Walls made a motion to approve the Commissioners' minutes as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comment – (limited to 5 minutes per person)

Mr. Walls recognized Mr. John Ditmars, as the newly elected Council Member, who was present at the Commissioners Meeting.

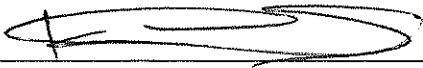
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. West moved to adjourn. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

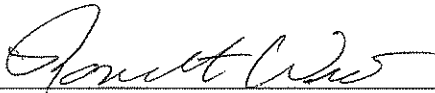
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Brian P. Baird



Kevin M. Walls



Ron H. West

Attest:

Elizabeth A. Alvey

Auditor

