

COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024

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

INVOCATION

Mr. West gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Baird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. Assessor

1. Approval of Contract Employing Attorney Dustin D. Huddleston

Mike Watkins, Assessor, was present to request approval of a contract employing attorney Dustin D. Huddleston for 2024.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the contract as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

B. Animal Shelter

1. Ordinance 2023-O-26: An Ordinance Amending Title 15 of the Johnson County Code of Ordinances – Second Reading

Cari Klotzsche, Director, was present for the second reading of Ordinance 2023-O-26.

Mr. West moved to approve Ordinance 2023-O-26 as presented on second reading. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. Approval of Contract with ASI Aquatic Services of Indiana

Mrs. Klotzsche was also present to request approval of a contract with ASI Aquatic Services of Indiana for pond maintenance in 2024.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the contract as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

C. Planning & Zoning

1. Ordinance 2023-Z-1: An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of Johnson County, Indiana Sections 6-101-5E Outdoor Storage of Vehicles and Other Materials – First Reading

Michele Hansard, Director, was present for the first reading of Ordinance 2023-Z-1. She noted this Ordinance places restrictions on the outdoor storage of certain semi tractors and trailers on residential and agricultural land and was considered favorable during the Public Hearing held by the Johnson County Plan Commission on December 18, 2023.

Mr. Walls thanked Mrs. Hansard for her work on this matter and moved to approve Ordinance 2023-Z-1 as presented on first reading. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

D. Sheriff

1. Approval of Employee Extension of Time

Duane Burgess, Sheriff, was present to request an extension of time for Deputy Clint Abbott to use 2 personal days upon his return in 2024. Sheriff Burgess noted Deputy Abbott was involved in a head on collision with an impaired driver that caused him to be off work for the remainder of 2023.

Mr. West moved to approve the extension of time as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

Mr. Baird asked for continued prayers for Deputy Abbott and family.

E. Highway

1. Approval and Execution of Contractor Agreement for Bridge 605 Tree Clearing

Daniel Johnston, Highway Engineer, and Luke Mastin, Highway Supervisor, were both present for the approval and execution of the contractor agreement with Williams Tree Company for the clearing of trees for the Bridge 605 Project.

Mr. West moved to approve the contractor agreement for the Bridge 605 tree clearing, pending legal. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. Request Bid Date for 2024 Mill and Overlay Project 2023-2 CCMG Award

Mr. Johnston and Mr. Mastin were also present to request a bid date for the 2024 Mill and Overlay Project 2023-2 CCMG Award.

Mr. Walls moved to approve a bid date of February 12, 2024 at 10:00a.m. for the 2024 Mill and Overlay Project 2023-2 CCMG Award as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. Approval to Attend the Annual Road School Conference in West Lafayette, Indiana on March 12th and 13th, 2024

Mr. Johnston and Mr. Mastin were also present to request approval to attend the annual Road School Conference in West Lafayette, Indiana on March 12th and 13th, 2024.

Mr. Walls moved to approve the request to attend the annual Road School Conference as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

F. Board of Commissioners

1. Approval to Attend the following 2024 Conferences:

- a. Association of Indiana Counties Annual Conference**
- b. NACo – National Association of Counties Annual Conference**
- c. ICC – Indiana County Commissioners Annual Conference**
- d. AIC Legislative Conference**

Mr. Baird added the attendance to the annual Road School Conference for approval as well.

Mr. Walls moved to approve attendance to the requested 2024 Conferences, including the annual Road School, as amended. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Further clarification regarding this agenda item was made in the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

2. Ratification of Casey Bertram Construction, Inc. Change Orders 1, 2, and 3 for Parks Building Demo Project

Mr. West moved to ratify Casey Bertram Construction, Inc. Change Orders 1, 2, and 3 for the Parks Building Demo Project as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. Ratification of Wurster Construction Change Order 1 for Johnson County Behavioral Health Building Project

Mr. Walls moved to ratify the Wurster Construction Change Order 1 for the Johnson County Behavioral Health Building Project as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously,

~~**4. Approval of Storm Sewer Easement Parent Tract Reference Instrument #2020-006801**~~

~~**5. Approval of Storm Sewer Easement Parent Tract Reference Instrument #2020-004383**~~

Mr. Baird noted items F4 and F5 had been removed from the agenda.

6. Acceptance of Lowest Quote and Award of Contract Pursuant to IC 36-1-12-5 for Voting Storage Generator Project

Adam Gadberry, County Attorney, read the following quotes for the Voting Storage Generator Project:

- 1) Wilson Electric - \$9,345.00
- 2) Elite Energy Services - \$9,816.00
- 3) Indiana Power – No quote received

Mr. Walls moved to accept and award the contract to Wilson Electric, pending legal. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

7. Johnson County Employee Handbook Revisions

Mr. West moved to approve the Johnson County Employee Handbook revisions as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

8. 2024 Board Appointments:

a. Convention, Visitor, and Tourism Board – (2)

Mr. West moved to appoint Donnie A. Robinette to the Convention, Visitor, and Tourism Board. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Walls moved to appoint Jason Belk to the Convention, Visitor, and Tourism Board. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Drainage Board – (2)

Mr. Walls moved to appoint Thomas A. Dougherty and Chad M. Paulin to the Drainage Board. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

c. Plan Commission – (2)

Mrs. Hansard came before the Commissioners to request appointment of Robert Page to the Plan Commission.

Mr. West moved to appoint Robert Page to the Plan Commission. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

d. Board of Zoning Appeals (Member of Plan Commission) – (1)

Mr. Walls moved to table the appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals (Member of Plan Commission) and the second appointment to the Plan Commission until further review. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

e. Board of Zoning Appeals (Non-Member of Plan Commission) – (2)

Mrs. Hansard was also present to request appointment of the incumbents James Kaylor and Chris Campbell to the Board of Zoning Appeals (Non-Member of Plan Commission).

Mr. Walls moved to appoint James Kaylor and Chris Campbell to the Board of Zoning Appeals (Non-Member of Plan Commission). Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

f. Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (Level II or III Appraiser) – (1)

Mr. Watkins came before the Commissioners to recommend appointment of the incumbent, Bill Sellers, to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals.

Mr. West moved to appoint Bill Sellers to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

g. Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (Freehold Member) – (1)

Mr. Gadberry noted there were no applications received that met the requirements of the Democratic affiliation for this position at this time.

Mr. Watkins noted the current Board member can remain in the seat until a new appointment is made.

Mr. West moved to table the appointment to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (Freehold Member) until more applications are received. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

h. Hensley Fire Protection District (Union Township) – (1)

Mr. Walls moved to appoint Tracy Mabry to the Hensley Fire Protection District (Union Township) position. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

NEW & OLD BUSINESS

Claims

Mr. West noted a claim from the Coroner's Office in the amount of \$659.00 to be paid to T-Shirt Express. He requested further research from the Auditor's Office to ensure the claim had not been included in a credit card charge.

Mr. West then moved to approve all claims, with the exception of the \$659.00 claim referenced above from the Coroner's Office, as presented. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioners' Minutes

1. 12/18/2023 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Walls moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

Public Comment – *(limited to 5 minutes per person, please)*

Mr. Gadberry requested clarification of the Elected Officials that are approved to attend the 2024 Conferences listed in item F1.

After brief discussion, Mr. Walls moved to approve attendance to the Association of Indiana Counties Annual Conference and the AIC Legislative Conference for all Elected Officials. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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Brian Baird



Kevin Walls



Ron West

Attest:

Elizabeth A. Alvey

Auditor

