

COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

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

INVOCATION

Mr. West gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Baird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMCAST PRESENTATION REGARDING NLC ROUND 3

Jarrett Moore with Comcast Government Affairs, was present, via zoom, to speak about the newest Indiana Broadband expansion initiative, NCL Round 3. Mr. Moore stated that he has spoken with Adam Gadberry, County Attorney, regarding additional funding for the buildout in Johnson County. Mr. Moore stated that Mr. Gadberry indicated the County wouldn't be able to make a determination regarding additional funding for NCL Round 3 until later in November.

Mr. Moore then gave a brief overview of the newest Broadband initiative expansion called the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program (BEAD). BEAD is an \$860 million investment within the State of Indiana. It allows for the opportunity to address the unserved and underserved addresses in the state. Mr. Moore stated Comcast is waiting on the addresses within the County that do not have adequate access to Broadband.

Mr. Baird asked if a map of these addresses would be provided.

Mr. Moore replied once those addresses are received, a map would be sent to the Commissioners.

Mr. West stated that any further discussion would be had after receiving the map of addresses.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. AUDITOR

1. Approval of Engagement Letter with Baker Tilly US, LLP for GAAP 2024

Elizabeth Alvey, Auditor, was present to request approval of the engagement letter with Baker Tilly US, LLP for GAAP year 2024.

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

B. PARKS

1. Approval of Indiana On Tap Contract for Pours In The Park

Mr. Baird stated this item has been stricken from the agenda.

C. Health

1. Approval to Apply for the 2025 Indiana Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnostic Grant
Elizabeth Swearingen, Director, was present to request approval to apply for the 2025 Indiana Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnostic Grant.

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

2. Approval of WSI Technologies Remote Technical Service Agreement

Mrs. Swearingen was also present to request approval of WSI Technologies remote technical service agreement. She explained is this regarding cameras for child advocacy that will be moving into the old Health department office space.

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

D. Highway

1. Approval and Execution of Financial Commitment Letters for Upcoming Funding Applications

Daniel Johnston, Engineer, was present to request approval and execution of financial commitment letters for upcoming funding applications. He stated there are two funding applications. These are both resubmittals from prior years. The first is the Smith Valley Road improvements between Peterman Road and Restin Road intersections. This project does not include the two intersections, just the road in between. The second is the school zone flashing signs for 13 schools in the unincorporated areas of the County. The school zone application will be requesting safety funding. The local and state funding split would be 90/10, with 10 percent being the local share.

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

Mr. West asked Mr. Johnston to state the totals for each project.

Mr. Johnston stated the school zone flashing assembly construction cost estimate is \$1,272,000.00. The total project cost is approximately a little over \$1.5 million. For the Smith Valley Road segment, construction will be over \$15 million.

2. Approval and Execution of Support Letter for City of Franklin's Hurricane Road and 300 N Improvements

Mr. Johnston was present to request approval and execution of a support letter for the City of Franklin's Hurricane Road and 300N improvements which include a roundabout.

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

E. Board of Commissioners

1. Ordinance 2024-O-6: An Ordinance Authorizing Distribution and/or Expenditure of Proceeds of Johnson County's Grant from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("Act") Subject: Independence Park Pickleball Courts

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

Mr. West stated a construction company has been selected for the facility. He stated that the surface and striping for the pickleball courts will not be done this year. Wes Harrison, Project Manager, recommended that construction be held off until the spring of 2025.

2. Ordinance 2024-O-7: An Ordinance Authorizing Distribution and/or Expenditure of Proceeds of Johnson County's Grant from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ACT") Subject: Training Center Bridge

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

Mr. Baird stated this is a walk over bridge across the drainage ditch over to the Highway Department; this will help with the overflow parking for the training center.

3. Award and Approval of Construction Contract for the Independence Park Pickleball Courts Project.

Mr. West moved to approve the contract with Allstar Paving, Inc. Mr. Walls seconded the motion with which carried unanimously.

Mr. West commented Allstar Paving, Inc agreed to hold their price until the project starts.

4. Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Bargersville

Mr. Baird stated this item has been stricken from the agenda, per legal.

5. Amendment to Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Bargersville

Mr. Baird stated this item has been stricken from the agenda, per legal.

6. Ratification of Employee Handbook Change Regarding Holiday Pay

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

7. Employee Handbook Changes

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

8. 2025 Holiday Schedule

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

9. 2025 Commissioner' Meeting Schedule

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

10. Acceptance of Lowest Quote and Award of Contract Pursuant to IC 36-1-12-5 for Concrete Coating on Curbs at Courthouse Project

Mr. Walls moved to approve the contract with HTH Contracting, LLC, for \$5,800.00. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

11. Ratification of Engagement Letter with Valbridge Property

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

12. Amendment to 457b Plan

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

13. Appointment of Officer and Hearing Date- Pleasant Township Appeal; Hearing Officer Ron West; Appeal Hearing 9/10/24 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Mr. Baird stated that Mr. West did the last one and did an excellent job. He stated it is really appreciated for all that Mr. West does. Mr. West stated the hearings for assistance from the Township Trustees are taken very seriously. Unfortunately, sometimes the help the applicants are looking for can't be granted because of the statutes that are in place. Mr. Baird stated he wanted to thank the Township Trustees for the job they do, they are really appreciated.

NEW & OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Baird stated there needs to be a discussion regarding allowing the Council President to sign and enter into an agreement with Waggoner, Irwin & Scheele regarding a salary study.

Mr. West stated, as was discussed earlier, his opposition to the \$58,000.00 for the cost of the salary study when this information is readily available through the AIC. He stated he understands that the Council President has the right to pursue a salary study; however, he wanted it known publicly that he is opposed to the spending of over \$58,000.00 for something he does not deem worthy.

Mr. Baird stated he does agree with a lot of what Mr. West says, but all the Commissioners are doing is allowing the Council President to sign the agreement with Waggoner Irwin & Scheele into their budget and their decision making process. That being said, Mr. Baird wants everyone to understand that the

Commissioners are not making the decision to sign the contract but are allowing the Council to make that decision.

Mr. Walls stated that he would make a motion to allow the President of the Council to enter into a contract with Waggoner, Irwin & Scheele. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Claims

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

Commissioners' Minutes

1. 8/12/26 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Baird stated this item has been stricken from the agenda and moved to the 9/23/24 agenda

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

Bob Golinski stated that he is a government employee but is off the clock at this time and acting as a private citizen. Mr. Golinski runs a mission for recovery and wanted to bring it to the Commissioners' and the public's attention of another option for recovery that is available. The program is Christian based and 100% free. They meet every Monday, holidays included, at 6:00 p.m. at The Light Church in Bargersville, Indiana.

Mr. Baird stated we have a lot of people in need of recovery, this is another option for those who feel like they can't find the right place for them. He stated he really appreciates everything Mr. Golinski is doing.

ADJOURNMENT

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

REGULAR COMMISSIONERS' MEETING – MONDAY AUGUST 26, 2024



Brian Baird



Kevin Walls



Ron West

Attest:
Elizabeth A. Alvey _____
Auditor 