

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE
April 10, 2023**

Present: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Chairman, Mike Specha, Seth Foster, Jeff Nolen, David Buckles
Absent: None
Others present: Bryan Sharp, Linda Curtin, Venise McWard, Bill Kennedy, Erica Matthews, Ron Brown, Dwanna Kelmel, Cliff Frye, Jim Baker, Shawn Hammers, Thomas Snyder, Sr., Lucas Domonousky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

INVENERGY PROJECT

Greg Vasilion, Developer for the Invenergy Hickory Point Solar Energy Project provided a slide presentation to the committee which highlighted information about solar farms in general and about their specific project. The intent was to provide information and answer questions. Economic impact and land use analysis data as well as the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement was provided. The project permit application is being finalized with anticipation it will be provided to the Zoning Office by the end of April.

AUTISTIC MOVEMENT PROJECT ARPA REQUEST

Bill Kennedy noted that he toured the facility noting he was very impressed with the work being done there. He has 4 considerations to present.

First option and least complicated one is to have 1 or 2 chair lifts; one to go up and 1 to go down. This option will not solve the problem presented. Estimated cost is \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

Second option would be an incline platform that could hold a wheelchair but this option would only serve one level. Estimated cost is between \$30,000 and \$35,000.00.

Third option would be to have a lift that could raise to 14' by code. With this option a new opening on the south side of the building would be needed for the shaft. This option still wouldn't get clients and individuals to the 2nd floor where the gymnasium like area is. Estimated cost is between \$50,000.00 and \$60,000.00

Fourth and best option but also the most costly is a conventional elevator. The front and back doors will still be needed with again the need for a new opening on the south wall at ground level for the shaft. This option would allow access to all floors of the building. Estimate cost would be \$150,000.00 to \$175,000.00.

One committee member was concerned that this leaves the county open for criticism from other projects like this noting however, this project is for a great cause. It was felt careful consideration should be taken on what may be approved and the potential impact.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and second by David Buckles to direct Bill Kennedy to get firm numbers on the fourth option presented for review next month. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

CEFS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The committee received a copy of the partnership agreement provided to the Board Office. This agreement is signed every three (3) years and has no cost to the County. A questionnaire was also provided which helps the agency determine program needs for represented areas.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board that the Chairman sign the CEFS Community Partnership Agreement as presented. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS

Chairman Sharp requested that discussion or decisions related to this matter be place on hold at this time. He also indicated that a process on how to proceed with ear marking the remaining ARPA funds would need to be determined.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and second by Jeff Nolen to table this item to the May meeting. A roll call vote polled 4 ayes and 1 nay. Motion carried.

Mike Specha who was in opposition of this motion advised that his vote wasn't about tabling the matter but asked if an update would be possible at the Board meeting. Chairman Sharp advised he will keep everyone updated with possibly more information at the Board meeting.

ZONING BUSINESS

Committee Chairman Thomas Snyder, Jr. advised that Blake was absent tonight. Thomas wanted members to know the elevator project on Route 48 should be starting on April 17th.

SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

Solid Waste Director's Report

Shawn Hammers reviewed his monthly report which included inspection information and an ordinance amendment draft for review at the appropriate committee in the future.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff informed the committee that IDOT has recently announced the 2023 Awarded Projects for the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program. These are federal funds awarded to projects such as bike trails. The City of Pana was awarded 1.08 million to replace the bridge carrying the Lincoln Prairie Trail over the Flat Branch.

Cliff presented a Preliminary Engineering Agreement with HLR (Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, Inc.) to obtain channel cross sections at all 350+ NBI highway structures (structures greater than 20' in length) in the county. This effort is required by IDOT to meet the Federal guidelines to monitor scour at all structures. Scour has been a focus of the Federal Highway Administration due to the number of bridge failures related to scour. HLR will collect the cross section data and put it into the format requested by

the Bureau of Bridges and Structures. Cliff estimated the cost at approximately \$60,000 to complete the project which will be paid from the County Bridge and Highway Matching funds.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and second by David Buckles to recommend to the full Board to approve the Preliminary Engineering Agreement with HLR, Inc. and authorize Chairman Sharp to execute the contract. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Dwanna Kelmel gave her 1st report as the new Interim Animal Control Director. She noted for the last month, 10 cats were adopted, 1 reclaimed and 1 kitten passed away. For dogs, 7 were adopted, an additional 7 were reclaimed and 3 were euthanized. She will be starting a log to track information about where the animals are coming from. There was a small fire behind animal control tonight but there was no concern for harm to the facility or animals.

COURTHOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Health Department Remodel Update

Last month Bill was authorized to look into how much an architect would charge to look at the Health Department building for a remodeling cost estimate. The cost estimate for an architect to look at that building is \$2,500.00. There is still a suggested \$500,000.00 to \$750,000.00 estimate remodel project cost.

Bill advised that he needs to talk with Dr. Anderson again about the space needed and to explore other options.

Replacing Remaining 3 Entrance Doors

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to direct Bill Kennedy to develop bid specifications for bidding the replacement of the remaining 3 entrances at the court house. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Window/HVAC Project Update

Bill Kennedy advised he feels bid packets will be ready in 30 to 60 days and feels the project is in great shape to be going by fall. The window company may make 1 window also to ensure there are no issues before we bid them all.

Attic Fire Detection Update

Bill Kennedy presented a copy of the bid specifications for the fire/smoke detection system for the attic and steeple area of the court house. He believes the project will cost between \$5,000.00 and \$6,000.00.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Seth Foster to recommend to put out for bid the fire/smoke detection project with the cost coming from capital improvement with referral to Finance. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Animal Control Gate Update

Bill has now had time to look at the gate. There were some parts that were short but it is all set up now and ready to go when Charles Samson can install it.

Solid Wastes/Zoning Roof Update

Bolash will start the work on April 11th as they have been waiting on the weather. They will need access to water.

ROE Floor Work Update

The previously discussed floor work has now been completed. He also discussed use of a floor leveling material that has work well in another application in the building.

Boiler Update

The boiler is scheduled to ship on May 3rd which is ahead of schedule.

Steeple Window Update

With the recent storms with high winds that have been through our area, we have had damage to the north and south steeple windows. Repairs on the north window have been completed and the south window will be repaired soon.

OTHER MATTERS

Committee Chairman Thomas Snyder, Jr. would like to recommend biannual meetings with department heads to tour buildings. At those meetings, notes would be taken on what needs to be repaired or updated now versus a wish list in order to keep our buildings in better operational condition. He would like to place Zoning on next month's agenda to develop a maintenance checklist.

Chairman Sharp noted he brought his family up to the first car show of this year's season that took place on Friday, April 7th. He encouraged members to try to stop in and attend an event as it was a really nice event.

Motion by David Buckles and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Snyder, Jr.
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning
Welfare Chairman
04/10/2023