

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE
May 13, 2024**

Present: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Chairman, Ray Koonce, Clint Gabriel, Mike Specha and David Buckles
Absent: None
Others present: Mary Barry, Bryan Sharp, Dwanna Kelmel, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Shawn Hammers, Blake Tarr, Bill Kennedy, Jodie Badman, Betty Asmussen, Connie Knappmiller, Kathryn Boren, Kathy Boren, Bonnie Mizeur, Linda Allen, Elizabeth Hohenstein, Reuben Grandon, Bill Shay, Lucas Domonousky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 6:00 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

Comments were made in regards to concern of the busy road that the North Pana Solar project will be located as well as farmer access. Additionally, family of the land owners spoke in support of the project. Reuben Grandon, project manager, provided a timeline for the project and project lawyer, Mr. William Shay, provided legal insights to the project.

COURTHOUSE LAWN REQUEST

The committee reviewed the courthouse lawn use application for the Vendor Fair/ Maker's Market. The request is for use of all sides of the courthouse lawn from July 12-14. Linda Allen from the Chamber answered questions as well as provided a copy of the certificate of liability insurance showing the county is a certificate holder.

Motion was made by Mike Specha and seconded by David Buckles to recommend to the full board to approve the use of all sides of the courthouse lawn July 12-14, 2024 for the Vendor Fair/ Maker's Market. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

ZONING BUSINESS

Director's Report

Blake Tarr provided updates on the North Pana Solar supplemental application. As part of the discussion, Assistant State's Attorney, Mary Barry, invited members to contact her with any questions. Blake also provided information regarding Skyline Solar inspection report.

SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

Director's Report

Shawn Hammers highlighted information on his monthly report to include inspection information, upcoming Illinois recycling coalition conference coming up in June, being on the wait list for the household hazardous waste program for the fall, as well as discussed updates to the website.

Shawn advised the contract with Chastain and Associates has been signed and residents who would like to offer comments or suggestions for the 20 year plan can submit comments or suggestions at future meetings. Project completion date is set for November 30, 2024.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Approval of Motor Fuel Tax Bids

On April 23 at 10:00 am bids were opened and read for MFT materials to be used by the County and Townships in 2024. Bid areas tabulations were presented for review.

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. to recommend to the full Board to accept the low bids as read for the county's 2024 MFT materials. Roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. to recommend to the full Board to accept the low bids as read for the townships 2024 MFT materials and to refer them to the individual highway Commissioners for approval. Roll call vote polled all ayes. The motion carried.

Discuss Purchase of Tandem Trucks

Cliff Frye indicated Mason County was selling by sealed bid a 2017 Mack dump truck. Per Decatur Mack, the range of value is \$150,000-\$170,000. With the purchase of a frontend loader this year and the building rewire, he felt we were best to stick with our original plan to order trucks this year and not bid on the Mason County truck. No action was taken.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Dwanna Kelmel highlighted monthly departmental information.

Animal Control Vehicle Updates

Dwanna discussed problems loading animals into the truck and before spending money to purchase a cage, she would like to modify the existing bed by removing the existing bar and using kennels at animal control to see how it works. The consensus of the committee was to remove the bar and see how it works before moving forward on other purchases.

Animal Control Issues, Incorporated areas Memorandums of Understanding

No action taken with more discussion at future meetings.

COURTHOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Treasurer Office Remodel

Treasurer Asmussen provided a cost estimate for the custom cabinets, counter and installation. The estimate did not include electric work. She will be getting estimates for electrical and painting. She discussed with the chairman that because the renovations are in the FY24 budget, the required ½ deposit has been made so the cabinets and counters could be ordered with installation scheduled to be around June 21st. She will provide additional updates, but the total project would come in under \$50,000.

County Clerk Office Remodel

County Clerk Badman provided cost estimate for her project which is approximately, \$26,160, which does not include electric. She is in no hurry to complete the project and will provide additional updates.

Ongoing Project Updates

Mr. Kennedy provided the committee updates on the HVAC project, which should be completed mid-June. The window project cannot be completed until after that point. The bids for work at the administrative offices for the Sheriff's Department on East Market Street came in way over estimate and they will be looking into obtaining estimates for breaking the project into smaller projects.

Historic Courthouse Maintenance/Modification/Alteration Standards Policy

No action taken.

Former Health Department Building

Ron Brown advised that the square footage of the former health department building is approximately 4,900 square feet. The committee discussed using the building for securing records as well as discussed getting pricing on exterior work and development of an interior plan for review next month.

OTHER MATTERS

Elizabeth Hile introduced Jayden Hopkins to the committee members. Jayden is a returning college intern with the coroner's office who will be helping with notes and minutes this month.

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and seconded by Thomas Snyder Jr. to adjourn. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Snyder, Jr. Chairman
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning
Welfare Committee
05/13/2024