

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

July 8, 2024

Present: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Chairman, Ray Koonce, Clint Gabriel, and Mike Specha
Absent: David Buckles
Others present: Mary Barry, Bryan Sharp, Dwanna Kelmel, Cliff Frye, Ron Brown, Shawn Hammers, Blake Tarr, Bill Kennedy, Jim Baker, Lucas Domonousky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Monday, July 8, 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

None

COURTHOUSE LAWN USE REQUEST

Committee Chair Thomas Snyder, Jr. reviewed the courthouse use request application for the annual Chillifest. Setup is scheduled to begin at noon on Friday, October 4, 2024 and continuing through October 6th. All sides of the courthouse lawn are requested for use during this event. Additionally, the south side of the square would be closed starting at noon for assembling of the south stage. Clean up will begin at 5 p.m. on October the 6th. The insurance provided does not list the county as an additional insured but the county has received one recently.

Motion by Ray Koonce and second by Mike Specha to approve the use of all sides of the courthouse lawn as described in the courthouse use application for the annual Chillifest event. Set up will begin at noon on October 4th with clean up beginning at 5 p.m. on October 6, 2024. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

ZONING BUSINESS

Director's Report

Blake Tarr presented the Zoning monthly report for June as well as highlighted already for these first few days in July ten (10) residential solar applications have been received. He also highlighted a proposed amendment to the building plans for the Skyline Solar project to add a borrow pit. The committee expressed concern for how this borrow pit might change water flow to Route 48. The committee discussed the need for IDOT to provide input on this proposed borrow pit as well. Blake advised that he would recommend to send the recommendation back to the ZBA. This matter will be added to the July County Board agenda since this item was not an agenda item where action could be taken.

SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

Director's Report

Shawn Hammers highlighted information on his monthly report for June to include the County was able to secure a Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off date for August 31, 2024. Marketing of the event has already begun with good response.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Speed Study Request – Wantland Drive

County Engineer Cliff Frye advised it was discovered when computer upgrades were made apparently the software to download speed study data was not reinstalled and therefore lost. A new link for the software should be received next week. Cliff will bring the speed study information back for review next month.

Preliminary Engineering Contract – Nokomis Road Safety Improvement Grant Project

While the \$185,000.00 contract for this project is ready, Cliff recommended the committee put this item on hold until next month as he is getting clarification on if Rebuild Illinois (RBI) money can be used.

Wheel Loader Purchase

Cliff provided a Sourcewell quote for a wheel loader at \$326,160.00 and additional options that included blanks to retrofit a V-plow, heavy duty fork attachment and extended warranty in all totaling \$347,845.00 from Martin Equipment. Cliff would like to minimally have the blanks for the V-plow and heavy duty fork attachment. He also noted he did not look into trading in the current wheel loader as he feels it will be very useful around the yard. Cliff recommends putting \$125,000.00 down and finance the balance over two (2) years. The money which has been budgeted would come from the General Highway Fund.

Motion by Ray Koonce and second by Mike Specha to recommend the wheel loader proposal with all additional options totaling \$347,845.00 from Martin Equipment as quoted through Sourcewell and to put \$125,000.00 down financing the balance over two (2) years referring to the Finance Committee for full Board recommendation. Roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion Carried.

Tandem Truck Bed Purchase

Cliff reviewed work done on three (3) tandem trucks that he feels should continue to be used until they are rotated out. One of the tandems needs a new bed as it is beyond repair. The cost for the new bed from DNE Truck Equipment to include powder coating is \$22,339.42.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to the full Board to have DNE Truck Equipment replace the bed on a tandem truck at a cost of \$22,339.42. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

The committee discussed the need to refer this matter to the Finance Committee. The previously carried motion was amended.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to recommend to have DNE Truck Equipment replace the bed on a tandem truck at a cost of \$22,339.42 referring to the Finance Committee for full Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Remove Alley from the Plat of Hewitt's Second Subdivision

A request was received from Wrightway Construction to have the platted alley behind their building removed from the plat of Hewitt's Second Subdivision. Cliff found photo evidence from the 1950's that clearly show the alley was open to public use at that time. Since the alley was open to public use, per Illinois State Statute, the alley will have to be vacated by the Township Highway Commissioner.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Dwanna Kelmel highlighted monthly information for June. She advised the group Friends of Christian County is dissolving at the end of July. They have graciously purchased 4 cage suites for the cat room at a cost of \$22,135.91 plus freight. She is very thankful for the group's generosity over the years and extended thanks for this most recent generous donation.

Dwanna indicated she would like to consider changing hours of operation at Animal Control to aid in cleaning and feeding of the animals. Current hours are 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday, Thursday and Friday. Tuesday's the facility is open from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Wednesday's 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday's 9:00 a.m. – Noon. The purposed hours would be Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. – Noon. The committee felt this was something the Chairman could establish.

Animal Control Issues, Incorporated areas Memorandums of Understanding

Assistant State's Attorney Mary Barry indicated this project is at a point where further discussion with Chairman Sharp is needed.

COURTHOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

Ongoing Project Updates

Mr. Bill Kennedy advised that the HVAC project is almost finished. There is a condenser in the attic that will need to be moved. In Courtroom A, due to an engineering error, the unit is too small to cool the area. Henson Robinson has been most accommodating with both issues.

Chief Deputy Jim Baker provided updates and reviewed bids he has obtained for work at the Sheriff's Office administrative offices, located on Market Street. He is anticipating that demolition work and framing will begin by the end of July/first of August. In speaking with an electrician, it was realized there hadn't been any consideration of a generator for that building. Jim indicated he may need Mr. Kennedy's assistance in determining how a generator could be mounted. Even with the generator being added, he feels the project will still fall below the original estimates. He is hopeful the Market Street office will be almost completed within 60 days.

Other Courthouse Business

Two Guys Tuck Pointing is scheduled to be here at the end of this month to complete the steeple work.

Morrissey Construction, the window installation company, has requested additional money due to the delay in completing the window project. The contract contained language regarding completion of the window project after the HVAC project was completed. Review of the contract and further investigation is ongoing.

Former Health Department Building

Ron Brown has obtained 4 bids to side the former Health Department Building. Sheeting will be needed for the exterior before siding is installed as there is currently no sheeting beneath the current wood siding and the current exterior siding is too damaged from weather to be used.

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and second by Mike Specha to recommend the low bid of \$21,858.66 from HD Exteriors referring to the Finance Committee for full Board recommendation. A roll call vote polled 3 ayes with Ray Koonce abstaining. Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS

None

Motion was made by Ray Koonce and second 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
07/08/2024