

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 19, 2019

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 19, 2019 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schrupf, Commissioner Don Amber and Vice Chairman Thomas Western. Others in attendance were Attorney Matt Shipman, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Commissioner's Assistant Jennifer Shinabery, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Forrester, Cindy Baker from Troy Center School, David Raypole, Kevin Kellermeyer, Brian More from More Family Farms, Sonya Emerick, Theresa Green, Amanda Lawrence from SJCA Engineers, John Meister, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Cheryl Wagers, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Brady Wright and Lucas Wright from More Family Farms, Jeff Harrington and Stephen John from Allen Business Machines, Stanley Crum, Joan Null and Denita Patrick.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Matt Shipman stated that he received the agreement between the City and the Highway Department due to road damage for the SDI project, which the City has approved. Matt also looked at a memorandum of agreement between the City and County related to the dispatch. Sheriff Gatton sent it to Matt to review and it relates to priority and phone calls.

IN THE MATTER OF THE TROY CENTER UPDATE: Cindy Baker from the Troy Center School gave an update to the Commissioner's. In 2018, Troy Center School served 58 students and had 557 credits awarded. They also had ten students graduate, four which are moving into local, full-time manufacturing jobs, two are stay at home moms, there will be pursuing additional education through local colleges or vocational training and one that graduated early and enlisted in the army. Cindy also reported that 100% of the students received scholarship dollars. Nicole Trier, who is now their Clinical Director, is ensuring that the students are receiving mental health services that they need and they are provided on-site. Currently, the Troy Center School has a contract with Smith Green Schools for ten students and a contract with Whitko which does not list a number of students. Whitley County Consolidated Schools has not expressed a need for a contract with Troy Center.

IN THE MATTER OF THE LARKIN'S RIDGE, FLEETWOOD ACRES, ENGLISH ENCLAVE PLATS & MORE FAMILY FARMS REZONING: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented three plats, that have all been approved by the Plan Commission, to the Commissioners for approval. The first plat was for Larkin's Ridge and Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second plat was for Fleetwood Acres and Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The last plat request was for English Enclave and Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Nathan then presented a rezoning request to the Commissioners for approval for More Family Farms. They are requesting to amend the zoning classification of their property from the "AG" Agricultural District to the "AGP" Agricultural Production District for a property containing 115± acres, in Union Township. The Plan Commission made a favorable recommendation to the Commissioners. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the rezoning request per Ordinance 2019-09, seconded by Amber with discussion. Commissioner Amber expressed his concerns on why the Plan Commission approved this and not others. Nathan stated that location is the biggest factor and More Family Farms already owns a confined feeding operation for hogs. They are just looking to expand their confined feeding operation. With no further discussion, Ordinance 2019-09 passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE JUNK & TRASH VIOLATION/DEMOLITION: Scott Wagner from the Health Department stated that the Health Department did receive one preliminary pest control report and it did indicate that there was a rat in the trap. Scott forwarded the preliminary report to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and they are filing it with the court for a hearing on demolition of the property if the Commissioners wish to proceed. Commissioner Amber made a motion for Scott to keep moving forward and for the attorney to file the papers with the court, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2020 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY FLIGHT: GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold updated the Commissioners on the 2020 aerial photography flight. Dan stated that he has received funds from departments within the County and other units of the County. Dan also informed the Commissioners that Pictometry is having a deal on 1" pixel resolution flights and is hoping that it will be about the same cost.


IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester informed the Commissioners that the chip sealing for the year is officially completed. In regard to Community Crossings projects, Phend & Brown is at Blue Lake and the project should be completed soon. Brandon was present at the last Council meeting to present his five year equipment plan. They Council gave a consensus that next year he needs to bid on two single axle trucks at the same time. One of the trucks will be purchased with 2020 funds and the other will be paid by funds encumbered from 2019.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: After reviewing the payroll claims, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The claim distributions from August 5, 2019 through August 19, 2019 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The minutes from the August 5, 2019 meeting were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner's Assistant Jennifer Shinabery presented the Allen Business Machines contract to the Commissioners. Attorney Shipman has already reviewed and approved the contract. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Allen Business Machines contract with US Bank as the payee and allow for the Chairman to sign, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schruppf adjourned the meeting at 1:40 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



George Schruppf, Chairman



Thomas Western, Vice Chairman



Don Amber, Commissioner

Attest: 

Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor