

Owen County Commissioners
Minutes-September 20, 2021

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton.

Pledge of Allegiance was said, and opening Prayer was given by Marce King.

Roll called and Public signed in. Sheet attached for permanent record.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dale Dubois; seconded by Bob Curry. Motion carried 3-0.

Following a brief financial review/update given by Attorney Jim Bryan regarding the Claims Docket and the need to be conservative with future expenditures; a motion was made to approve both the Claims Docket and Out-of-Cycle Claims by Bob Curry. Motion was seconded by Dale Dubois, motion carried 3-0. Mr. Burton did ask for clarification on the Amazon Claims, Ms. Reeves will verify and let them know.

Old Business

The Dormant Funds List was tabled pending State review.

The Annual Dues for Cataract Owners Association was tabled for further review on the property with even possibly considering donating it back to the Owners Association. The motion was made by Mr. Burton; seconded by Dale Dubois.

New Business

Ordinance 2021-19-4 and 2021-18-5 for two parcels was presented and read by Mr. Bryan to amend the Owen County Subdivision Control Ordinance to rezone the property commonly known as Owen Camp Drive, Spencer IN with a Parcel#60-10-26-300-370.021-027 Pt SW S26 T10 R3 29.57a from Agricultural to Residential.

Prior approval had been agreed on by the Planning and Zoning Board. Mr. Bryan confirmed with P&Z Director Suzanne Simmerman that all required public notices and advertising had been done; she affirmed it had been done. Developer Adam Hall and Beth Wood were present to explain the phases and home styles that will range from \$175000 to a high of \$450000. Public comment came from Joe Davidson just verifying the exact location, it was related that it is the 147 acres of Crone-Patton. Copies will be attached for permanent record. A motion to approve both Ordinances was made by Mr. Curry; seconded by Mr. Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Mark Rogers presented an MOU request for the MyPath Trail that allows everyone to work together for the betterment of the community. No financial commitment is required, just commitment to work together for growth and meet the goals with their mission. A motion to approve and allow Mr. Burton to sign the MOU was made by Mr. Dubois; seconded by Mr. Curry. Motion carried 3-0.

EDC Director Marce King presented information regarding the ARPA Funds. A review of the areas of the allowable expenses was given, primarily focusing on the Housing Readi-Initiatives. Timelines were given and the process and/or approvals needed to move forward. Updated information and requests will be given at future meetings. Also noted by Mr. Bryan was how important it is to make sure those funds are spent, and that Barnes and Thornburg has been retained to oversee the funds and compliance requirements.

Highway Superintendent Greg Melton related that a Letter for ADA Compliance requirements had been received from the State-INDOT. Mr. Bryan stated-stressed that this was a form letter and that No findings for Non-Compliance; and that step one for replying has been met and that Personnel Policies/Manual will be submitted. Mr. Bryan will assist Mr. Melton in continued follow up requirements.

An update for Kelley Road Bridge was given and that he was to meet with CLR tomorrow and hope the road will opened.

A brief review of the Highway Funds was discussed and the availability for the remainder of the year.

Community Crossings Grant for Steubenville/Walden/Culcross was on schedule.

Ordinances for speed limits was discussed. Mr. Bryan will review further.

Bridge#16 Bids were received and read by Mr. Bryan. Following discussion and the lack of financial options a motion was made by Mr. Burton; seconded by Mr. Dubois to reject the bids for the project.

Mr. Burton asked Mr. Melton to do some mow trimming as safety concerns and the road being used more due to the other road being closed. He will get it done on Tuesday.

Hilly Hundred representative Mark Bettinger was present to give the proposed Bike Path Roads to be used. Roads included County Line, Texas Ridge, Flatwoods, Mt. Carmel, Wolf Mountain, 46, and Williams. The event will be on Saturday October 9th only. Mr. Melton will work on a couple of areas of concern with the hole patcher. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Burton; seconded by Mr. Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Surplus Auction to be held on October 18, 2021, on GOVdeals.com for the Sheriff's Dept. Ordinance 2021-20 on a 2015 Ford Interceptor and a 2007 Ford Crown Victoria and Probation Ordinance 2021-21 for a 2003 Jeep Liberty. Both Ordinances were read by Mr. Bryan. A motion to approve the Sheriff's was made by Mr. Dubois; seconded by Mr. Curry. Carried 3-0. A motion to approve the Probation was made by Mr. Curry; seconded by Mr. Burton. Carried 3-0.

EMS Director Mr. Lunsford gave a brief update on current statistics including that they were at 2500 runs compared to this time last year of 2169 runs. Concern with pay rates and employee retention as they can't compete with surrounding counties. He is awaiting state approval for an added administrative position.

A copy of an Ordinance 2021-22 amending Ordinance 2016-00012 for Owen County Court Security Plan Section XI was presented and read by Mr. Bryan. A motion to approve the amendment was made by Mr. Dubois; seconded by Mr. Curry. Motion carried 3-0.

Elected Officials- no comments

Public-Victor Valliette related that the area that Mr. Lunsford had spoken from was good for the camera position and the public to be able to see and here.

Mr. Bryan presented a new Storage Unit Contract Form with the noted change of it saying Owen County and not the previous Company-Vortex. A motion to approve the form was made by Mr. Burton; seconded by Mr. Dubois. Carried 3-0.

Mr. Bryan presented Ordinance 2021-26 Congressional School Fund as required within ten days upon approval by the Council. A motion was made by Mr. Burton; seconded by Mr. Curry to allow the Auditor to make the proper warrants and claims from Fund#1124-\$4.69 & #1125-\$18000 related to the transfer of Funds to the State. Motion Carried 3-0.

Ms. Reeves related that the Federal State Board of Accounts Audit and two-year Annual Audit for 2019-2020 was due to start next week.

She reminded them of the Insurance Company Meeting for tomorrow at 6pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Burton; seconded by Mr. Curry. Carried 3-0.