



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LAPORTE COUNTY

Circuit Courthouse
813 Lincolnway, Suite 301
LaPorte, IN 46350-3400

Phone: (219) 326-6808 ext. 229 – FAX: (219) 326-9103

Marlow Harmon, President

Barbara Huston

William Hager

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY APRIL 18, 2006

The LaPorte County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session Tuesday, April 18, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the LaPorte County Annex & Security Complex.

Present at the meeting were Commission President Marlow Harmon, Commission Vice President Barbara Huston and Commission Member William Hager. Also present were LaPorte County Attorney Robert Szilagyi, Executive Secretary Linda Arnett and Commission Assistant Monique Gillard.

Commission Vice President Barbara Huston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Harmon request an amendment be made to the agenda under "Old Business Section F" IKON additional appropriation.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Huston, made a motion to approve the minutes from April 4, 2006 as presented, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

WEEKLY REPORTS

The Commissioners review and sign weekly reports during the meeting.

CLAIMS

PAYROLL

Mrs. Huston, made a motion to approve Payroll Ending April 21, 2006 and May 5, 2006, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

MISCELLANEOUS CLAIMS

Mr. Hager, made a motion to pay Miscellaneous Claims in the amount of \$2,186,481.49, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence

REQUESTS

Allen Ott, LaPorte County Stationary Engineer/ Request Additional Appropriation from CCD Fund \$6,508.95 / Lawn mower purchase for the LaPorte County Home

Mr. Ott, I am request funds for equipment account in the amount of \$43,000.00 at this time I have outstanding bills in the amount of \$4,000.00.

Mr. Harmon, is the \$6,508.95 in addition to the \$43,000.00?

Mr. Ott, yes that is for the County Home.

Mr. Harmon, you are asking for a total of \$49,508.95.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve both request, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Darlene Hale, LaPorte County IT Director/ Additional Appropriation \$6,615.00 from CCD Fund for EMS Server

Ms. Hale, I am requesting the funds to replace the EMS server.

Mrs. Huston, this is an emergency and we need to replace it, this is due to the HIPPA Law.

Mrs. Huston, made a motion to approve the request for an additional appropriation for the EMS Sever in the amount of \$6,615.00 to be taken out of the CCD Fund, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Wanatah Scarecrow Festival/ Request for \$1,000.00 from Tourism Fund

Mr. Hager, made a motion to allow \$500.00, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Rolling Prairie Community Center Inc. / Request \$5,000.00 for Old Farmers Fest from Tourism Fund

Mr. Hager, made a motion to allow \$500.00, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Michigan City Exchange Club/ Request for \$500.00 from Tourism Fund

Mr. Hager, made a motion to allow \$500.00, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Jane Bernard, LaPorte County Small Animal Shelter Director/ Request \$9,249.74 CCD Funds for Fencing

Mrs. Bernard, you have been out to the shelter and examined the fencing and we need to replace it.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to grant request and that it be taken out of CCD Funds, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Robert Szilagyi, LaPorte County Attorney/ LaPorte County E-911 Addendum to LaPorte County Personnel Policy (remove from table)

Mr. Hager, made a motion to remove from the table, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mr. Szilagyi, I have reviewed the one that 911 had and made corrections to it and it is okay.

Mrs. Huston, made a motion to approve the E-911 Addendum to the LaPorte County Personnel Policy, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Ken Herceg & Associates/ Update on Courthouse Restoration

Tim Wall gives report on the Courthouse Restoration. We are all very happy on how the courthouse has cleaned up and they are working on the skylight. The project manager will reinstall the stain glass in July.

Mr. Harmon, when you bid that out on the windows the entrance to the courthouse did you bid out those windows on that extension?

Mr. Wall, no but we have asked Ziolkowski for an estimate to replace those and as soon as we get a cost I will get back with you.

Mr. Hager, what about the roof on the flat roof

Mr. Wall, we have asked for three quotes from Ziolkowski one to clean the brick, to replace the windows and the flashing at the corner of the stone. The roof seems to be in good shape it's just the flashing.

Mr. Herceg, I want to give you an up date on our firm and introduce to you Tim Lee and Ron Nordmeyer on our engineering firm.

Robert Palm/ Prairie Trails Final Plat Approval/Phase "A" Bond

Mr. Hager made a motion to table since Mr. Palm is not present, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Attorney Ryan Beall/ Vacate Portion of North Hemlock Lane, New Carlisle

Attorney Ryan Beall: explains the road vacation request for Mr. Baughman and the adjoining property owner has been notified.

Mr. Harmon, it is a 100 ft. section I was out looking at it.

Mr. Baughman, this is not hooked to the lake the water does not go up there. Mr. Baughman explains the plat to the commission.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mr. Szilagyi will need an ordinance for this at our next meeting on the 9th of May at 6:00 p.m.

Robert Young, LaPorte County Highway Superintendent/ Bid Openings Class 11 & 12

Mr. Hager, made a motion to close bids, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mr. Szilagyi opens bids as follows:

Walsh & Kelly-Class 12 Hot Asphalt, Rieth Riley -Class 12 Hot Asphalt, Bit-Mat Products-Class 11, SemMaterials-Class 11, Seneca Petroleum Company-Class 11

Mr. Hager made a motion to turn over bids to Mr. Young for his recommendation, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

IKON Contract: \$374,000.00 Additional Appropriation (tabled)

Mr. Hager made a motion to remove the IKON Contract from the table, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

Mr. Harmon, IKON has presented us with the cost factor for the project with the Auditors Office and the changes that are proposed to be made. The cost of the project is \$374,000.00, phase one is \$287,000.00 and phase two would be an additional \$60,000.00 plus which totals up to the \$374,000.00 and their would be a 10% contingency on to it. What we need to do at this time is to appropriate the dollars and forward it to the council for approval.

Mrs. Huston made a motion to appropriate \$374,000.00 from CCD fund for the IKON project, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob Kessler, President LaPorte County Fair Board /Building Project Request Additional Appropriation from Riverboat \$900,000.00

Bob Kessler, Mr. Sauers present the request for \$900,000.00 to build an Extension Office as well as offices for Soil & Water and an entertainment and meeting area for the 4-H and well as Pioneer Land as well as the sewer and septic system.

The Commissioners discuss the offices that would be located in the new buildings and the septic system.

Mr. Sell, Mr. Kessler, Mr. Reel, Mr. Sauers explain the different programs that 4-H offers to the youth and adults of LaPorte County.

Mr. Hager, I will make the motion that we grant their request and they will go with a workshop Monday before the council meeting to discuss the project.

Mr. Harmon, being the count is going to put up the money for these buildings and the county would own those buildings, would you be willing to enter into a lease with the county? And are you willing to pay the utilities on all of the buildings or just one.

Mr. Sauers, the entertainment center.

Mr. Reel explains the different programs and what the facility would be used for and that the Extension Office was promised a new office three years ago when they were moved out of the complex.

Terry Garner, I represent myself along with the County Council. Mark Yagelski and I have been hammering on you ever since you moved them out, we have also put you on a monthly where you have to come back for the \$2,700.00 rent every month. I have been involved in this a little bit, I do think it is a good idea I was a liaison for Walt and Soil & Water my first year. I think this is something that is needed for this county and the fair grounds for us to move into the future.

Mr. Parrett, I want to bring out that this is for the entertainment center this is for all of the 4-H Clubs all of the groups that are associated with the Pioneer Land.

Mr. Harmon, I have one other question the Animal Shelter is on a septic system, a mound system would they be able to hook into this.

Mr. Sauers, this size of system would accommodate the Animal Shelter also, we have over sized the system for any future build.

Mr. Hager, I would just have a comment, that I would like to see this board here possibly by next month move forward with the 18th Street sewer project so we would not have to put anything that would be temporary out that way. I understand talking to the council members that they are all for it for us to move on that.

Mr. Hager if no one else has any questions I would make the motion that we grant this request for \$900,000.00 from Riverboat and send it on to the council's workshop and then on to their meeting Monday night with a contract to be forthcoming, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Attorney Phillip Norman, South Coast, LLC/ Final Plat Approval

Mr. Jim Combs, I am with South Coast LLC we respectfully request that you approve the secondary plat for our project.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve contingent on the bond for the final plat \$78,282.79, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Radtke and Associates / Final Plat Approval Farm View Acres Subdivision Dean Rectenwail, Jr.

Mr. Rectenwail, from Radtke and Associates, we are here requesting final approval on Farm View Acres Subdivision.

Mr. Szilagyi, this is a five lot minor subdivision so all it's going to do is put them on the county roads.

Mr. Hager, I don't like minor subdivisions, are these totally stick built houses.

Mrs. Huston, are these two acre parcels?

Mr. Rectenwail, three acre.

Mrs. Huston, made a motion to grant the request, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mr. Hager, I would like Mr. Szilagyi make up a letter stating what they are getting into when purchasing land out in the county by the farmers.

Attorney William Hedge/ Vacate Portion of Tulip Lane, New Carlisle

Attorney William Hedge, we seek to vacate the road and be subject to the right of the utilities, it would not cut off any access to the road

Mr. Szilagyi-will you indicate where this is on the map

The Commissioners and Attorneys discuss the proposed road vacation.

Mr. Hager, Mrs. Huston would you be more comfortable if we tabled this until our next meeting so you can go out and look at this road.

Mrs. Huston, yes.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to table until our next meeting, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a voice vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Adams, 324 Willard and I am waiting on an answer from you all.

Mr. Szilagyi, we offered this up for sale a couple of weeks ago and they bid on it and we tried to do some research on it. We thought this was a vacant property your mother or you live in it.

Ms. Adams, my father had it and then I took it over.

Mr. Szilagyi explains the background of the property in question. Now, the question at this point is what you want to sell it to her for.

Ms. Adams, I bought in on a land contract and the owner never paid.

Mrs. Huston, have you paid taxes on it?

Ms. Adams, I paid taxes on it but they told me there was nothing I could do until I come up with the deed but no one can come up with the deed.

Mr. Harmon, it is in the county name.

Mr. Szilagyi, the last record says the County Commissioners own it.

Phyllis Miller; explains the situation of the home.

Mrs. Huston, how long have you been searching for this.

Ms. Adams, I have had three lawyers before and they say they can't do anything, I have been working on this since 97.

Mr. Harmon, will you come into our office and explain to your attorney.

Mr. Szilagyi, as far as this being resolved is it is a question of they are the only ones that bid on it so we need to know from the commissioners what is the price for this property.

Mr. Harmon, we are going to help you get this resolved.

Mrs. Huston, do we have the deed

Mr. Szilagyi you just need to come up with a price and I can quit claim deed it to them.

Mr. Harmon, we can make a motion to sell it to you for \$500.00

Mr. Hager, made a motion to grant Bernice Adams bid for the property of \$500.00 for the property at 324 Willard Ave, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried 3-0

Mr. Richard Delco: I have problems with drainage on 300 and 850 and wants the commission to do something about it. I talked to County Highway about it and they said they can't do anything.

Mr. Hager, I have talked to Mr. Young and as soon as they get time the will go out and take the trees down but they will not take the stumps out because if the stumps are taken out it will ruin the roads.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

No Comments

Commission President Marlow Harmon adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m...

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Marlow Harmon, Commission President


Barbara Huston, Commission Vice President


William Hager, Commission Member

ATTEST: 
Teresa Shuter, LaPorte County Auditor

(Approximately 45 people in attendance)