



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAPORTE COUNTY

555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202
LaPorte, IN 46350-3400
Phone: (219) 326-8808 ext. 2229 – FAX: (219) 326-9103

Dave Decker,
President

Dr. Vidya Kora,
Vice President

Michael Bohacek,
Member

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES

MINUTES

LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

To be held at 10:00 a.m. in the LaPorte County Complex Meeting Room #3

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
Commissioner Decker called the meeting to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
After the Pledge Commissioner Decker read a statement regarding the incident in the parking lot into the record.
3. **ROLL CALL**
All Commissioners Present.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. **November 2, 2016**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
 - A. **Payroll Ending 10/21/2016-\$1,040,993.75**
Miscellaneous Claims-\$1,239,522.58
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Blair Milo appeared and stated that she contacted the Commissioners office to be placed on the agenda but did not receive a call back so she wanted to address her issue on public comment. She indicated that the tax process for the business improvement district in LaPorte. She indicated that there was a disagreement between her office and the Auditor's office regarding who is to blame for the mistake in the taxes. Auditor Winski indicated that there was a former employee who would help the City obtain their rate. She indicated that her information from the DLGF was that it was the City of LaPorte's fault. She indicated that the rate that was given to them did not make up the \$85,000.00 requirement, she said that they got \$11,000.00 instead. Mayor Milo expressed concern that it would be corrected for the duration. Commissioner Bohacek suggested a committee be formed with all entities to come to a solution. Commissioner Kora volunteered to serve on that committee.
8. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Jerry Cooley appeared and indicated that he and Dalene and ALCO are working on the sound and the recording system in the meeting room. He further indicated that he found out that we own the street lights that he thought belonged to the City. He suggested that the City and the County designate parking spots for voters during the election. He felt this would be more accommodating to the voters by giving them a place to park. Commissioner Bohacek asked if there is a way that his staff can turn off the lights in the office on the weekends. Jerry indicated that will be addressed in the second phase of the Ameresco project.

George Watkins appeared and indicated that there is still time for the Veterans to call for an appointment to have their teeth checked. He said that in Michigan City the Veterans parade starts at noon. He said the VFW on Earl is having a free breakfast for veterans. He said the yearly Veteran's Day program at the Civic is at 9:30 a.m. sharp. He said the next day there is a presentation of the LaPorte County Patriotic Service medal at 10:00 a.m.

Jerry Cooley said that last year someone stole the Veteran's sign from in front of the Courthouse and that Aquarian Promotions donated a sign for the yard this year.

Robert Young appeared to request new tractor/mowers. He said his fleet is old and needs to be replaced. Commissioner Bohacek moves to allow Bob to put the mowers out for bid. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Mr. Young further reminded people that there is a burn ordinance against burning leaves on the

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
COUNTY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA
DATE

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ATTEST:

Auditor
COUNTY CLERK

pavement on the right of way. He said they will be sending out letters and let them know that there is a fine for violating this ordinance. He said they will get one warning before being fined.
Jeff Wiatrowski appeared to give an update on the 800 mhz project.
Sherriff Boyd appeared to announce that they will be holding another town hall style meeting in Union Mills at the VFW. He said he hopes there is a big turnout.
Mike Schultz appeared and requested a continuance of a maintenance contract for his copy machine. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve and to allow the President to sign on behalf of the board.
Lynn Spevak appeared and indicated that the election is going very well.

CORRESPONDENCE

REQUESTS

A. **Jim Kimmel-Request to make announcement regarding National Softball Association (NSA) World Series.**
Jim Kimmel appeared and announced the National Softball Association World Series will be held in LaPorte County.

OLD BUSINESS

A. **Attorney Biege-Ordinance for Flood Hazard Areas for LaPorte County/DNR amendments.**
Attorney Biege appeared to discuss and seek approval for amendments to the Flood Hazard Ordinance. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve by title only and suspend the rules and pass on first reading. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
B. **Robert Young-HWY-Accept/Open Material Bids for 2017.**
Attorney Friedman opened the fuel bids. Commissioner Bohacek moves to accept all bids and turn them over to Robert Young for review. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Attorney Friedman then opened the aggregate bids. Commissioner Bohacek moves to accept and turn them over the Robert Young for review. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Attorney Friedman then opened the Culvert proposals. Commissioner Bohacek moves to accept and turn them over to Robert Young for review. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Attorney Friedman then opened the slag and bituminous bids. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve and turn them over to Robert Young for review. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Attorney Friedman then opened the signage bids. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
C. **Consider providing letter to Franciscan Alliance, Regional Sewer District and City of Michigan City indicating no county objection to interlocal agreement between Franciscan Alliance and Michigan City for provision of water and sewer services to new hospital at I-94/421.**
Commissioner Bohacek indicated that the hospital is no longer going to be annexed into Michigan City and they need the County commitment to provide them with sewer and water. Commissioner Bohacek moved to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Mike Yacullo-County Engineer**
1. **Request to release performance bond for Rangewood Subdivision.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carries by voice vote. Commissioner Bohacek moves to allow the President to sign the release letter on behalf of the board.
2. **Consideration of attaching a performance bond to the Confined Animal Feeding Operation permit for TJL Family Farms on CR 700 E.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. **Request Signature on Construction plans for the Lincoln Trail/Sidewalk project in Westville.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
B. **Consider providing non-renewal notice to Harris Computer Systems per recommendation of County Bldg Commissioner and IT director for permitting applications/inspections data/Consider transitional engagement/Discuss possible engagement of Schneider/qPublic.net to permit residents to make application remotely for permits including health, home inspection, MS4, Solid Waste, Assessor etc.**
Darlene Hale appeared to inform the Commission of the recommendation. She requested approval of the Schneider permit software pending funding. Commissioner Bohacek moves to grant the request contingent upon funding from the Council. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Bohacek moves to allow the President to sign on behalf of the Board. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
C. **Consider resignation letter of Highway Engineer Mike Yacullo who is accepting position in private sector. Consider posting position as well as Commendation for Highway Engineer for four years of exemplary service to LaPorte County.**
The Commission thanked Mr. Yacullo for his service and wished him well in the future.

13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Bohacek indicated he is happy that the election season is coming to a close and encouraged people to vote.
Commissioner Kora announced that he is traveling to Washington to have a meeting at the White House office of the National Drug Control to work on the opioid crisis. He indicated that he will report back when he returns.

14. ADJOURN