



**LA PORTE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202
La Porte, IN 46350-3400
(219) 326-6808 ext. 2229

**Connie Gramarossa
President**

**Richard Mrozinski
Vice President**

**Joseph Haney
Member**

**La Porte County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. County Complex Room 3 & via Zoom**

President Connie Gramarossa called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deputy Auditor Rhonda Graves called the roll: Commissioner Connie Gramarossa - Present; Commissioner Rich Mrozinski - Present; Commissioner Joe Haney - Present. Quorum present therefore meeting commenced.

Considered the agenda. Commissioner Haney motioned to add to the agenda Resolution 2023-09 in reference to the old Prison Cemetery in Michigan City approved several meetings ago. Attorney Guy DiMartino, sitting in for Attorney Scott Pejic, stated the Resolution was approved and passed. Commissioner Haney motioned to amend his motion by accepting the agenda as is, Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Considered approval of the October 18, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Deputy Auditor Rhonda Graves read the Claims with Payroll ending 10/13/2023 - \$1,470,941.82 and Operating Expense Claims - \$2,485,840.71. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve payroll. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Haney motioned to approve the claims. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Public Comment

Rodney McCormick, 617 Union Street, Michigan City, via Zoom, questioned the status of the E Street Bridge in Michigan City.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, Michigan City, via Zoom, Tuesday is Municipal Election Day. Get out and Vote. Happy Birthday to the Marines, Happy Veterans Day to all Veterans and Stay warm.

Department Reports/Comments

Jerry Sullivan, reported on the E Street Bridge in Michigan City, the bridge is on a two-year schedule to be inspected. Service ability is rated high with structural integrity, and is in good shape. Waiting on a consultant about the rust under the bridge. Resurfacing may be next year.

Stacey Sweitzer, Deputy Assessor, the Beacon site is paid for by the Assessor's office but is free to use, do not use the information for legal use though, it is a helpful tool. Beacon is 'live' and that means when a change is made to a parcel, typically done in the Real Estate office, the Assessor's office is next then to make the changes. When a change is made, whether it be an annexation, a split or a combine, the parcel number can change. Once the parcel number changes, the old or original parcel number is no longer available for viewing on the Beacon site. The tax information or any other information will not be available until January 1st on the new parcel after changes are made. Guidelines by the DLGF are followed.

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

DATE 11-15-2023

Connie Gramarossa
Richard Mrozinski
Joseph Haney

ORIGINAL

Matt Reardon, Economic Development, reported briefly on the utility project at 94/421 that is almost complete, this will allow development between Michigan City and Purdue Northwest in Westville. In Kingsbury, the 'ready project' has been completed. Matching grants with JBC Rail and Kingsbury Elevator are underway, funds have been allocated to CSX Railroad to complete the loop for two Class 1s running in the park in 2024.

Commissioner Rich Mrozinski, Courthouse Security Committee, reviewed an Ordinance that **includes** County Employees going through the metal detector when entering the two courthouses. This is a possibility for the future. Reminded everyone that winter will be arriving soon, remember those clearing the roads for us, slow down. Veterans' program will be at the Civic Auditorium on Friday, November 10th at 10:30 a.m. Stated the old highway garage in Rolling Prairie could potentially be a county park. He then welcomed students from South Central High School, Tri-Township Schools, North Judson and Valpo schools.

Commissioner Joe Haney, two and a half years ago the old Rolling Prairie highway garage was thought about for a possible county park. Hopefully the Council will find the money to fund it. He welcomed Commissioner Mrozinski back.

Requests

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Considered annual material bids for year 2024, **Charity Glaser**, Interim Highway Department. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to accept the opened bids, give to the Interim Superintendent who will return at the next meeting with recommendations. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0. ***List attached to minutes**

Considered Employee's Dental Insurance, **Monique Thomas**, Interim Human Resources, currently Anthem is the dental provided however out of four bids, the recommendation is to go with Equitable. Several benefits with this provider versus the current provider. **Commissioner Haney motioned to go with Equitable for the 2024 year. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Monique requested change in deductions for monthly premiums for dental/vision to be deducted from the first pay of the month and instead of the second pay of the month starting January 2024. Commissioner Haney motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered agreement with M. A. Dilts, **Ron Heeg**, Sheriff. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered Right-of-Way service contract for Lincoln Trail, **Mitch Bishop**, Planner, for second phase of Lincoln Trail, goes from 300 South to Purdue Northwest, a three-mile extension. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered Memorandum of Agreement with Michigan City for transfer of Road Maintenance which includes plowing and maintenance of roads. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.** Reviewed by Attorney Guy DiMartino.

Considered Bridge Naming Committee, **Bruce Johnson**, read biographies of **six** individuals: **Jasper Packard** of Otis in New Durham Township; **John Dunk** of the Clinton-Hanna-Noble area; **Vern (Gene) McDonald** from Michigan City, his family settled in Wills Township, Mill Creek area; **Ralph Howes** on Goldring Road in Coolspring Township; **Dr. John E. Magnuson**, a dentist in La Porte, Center Township and **Royal Eason Ingersoll**, La Porte, Center Township. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve the six individuals. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Rich Mrozinski motioned to adjourn at 11:11 a.m. Commissioner Joe Haney seconded. Motion carried.

ORIGINAL

LaPorte County Highway Department

Telephone: (219) 362-2051
Fax: (219) 362-4221



1805 W. 5th Street
LaPorte, Indiana 46350

November 14, 2023

RE: LaPorte County Highway Annual Material Bid Recommendations for 2024

Class 1 - Crushed Limestone

Two Bidders:

US Aggregates Inc.
South Lake Stone

Class 2 – Bituminous Patching / Rap Materials

Three Bidders:

Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.
Central Paving Inc.
Milestone

Class 3 – Blast Furnace Crushed Slag

No Bidders

Class 4 – Ice Sand, Gravel, Dirt & Top Soil

One Bidder:

Area Excavating

Class 5 – No-lead, Diesel and E-85

One Bidder:

Triple J-Mar Petroleum, Inc.

ORIGINAL

Class 6 – Signs and Sign Posts

One Bidder:

Michael Todd Industrial Supply

Class 7 – Culvert Pipe and Guardrail

One Bidder:

Debco Metal Culverts

ORIGINAL