

Minutes

April 30, 2020

Commissioners Present: Mark Gazarek, Brian Robertson and Timothy Bechtol.

Also Present: Sarah Mutchler, Philip Johnson, Steve Wilson, Lizzy Hile, Mike Pepple, William Bateson, and Jim Maurer.

Commissioner Gazarek opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the April 23, 2020 meeting were read with Brian Robertson making the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #246-20 – Authorizing payment of the listed and/or attached purchase orders. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #247-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification-Commissioners to appropriate to Water Pollution Control. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #248-20 – Advance of funds from the General Fund to Water Pollution Control. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #249-20 – Authorizing contract with Morlock Asphalt Ltd., Portage, Ohio, for construction of the Village of McComb parking lot repaving project pursuant to the provisions and regulations associated with a CDBG project. Total project cost is \$26,035.00. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #250-20 – Authorizing contract with Smith Paving & Excavating, Inc. for construction of the Villages of Jenera & McComb sidewalk project pursuant to the provisions and regulations associated with a CDBG project. Total project cost is \$30,780.00. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #251-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification-Commissioners to appropriate to Common Pleas Court General Special Project. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #252-20 – Resolution approving and accepting the recommendation of the Hancock County RLF Committee regarding the participation of the Flag City Furniture & Bedding LLC in the Hancock County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #253-20 – Amendment to submission of Fiscal Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant Formula Program Critical Infrastructure Grant. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #254-20 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation-Sheriff. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Brian Robertson made the motion to approve the Warrant Journal, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. The Commissioners signed a letter to the owner of Comfort Inn in Bluffton regarding his request to waive his payment for the Hotel Motel Tax. The Clerk requested an executive session to discuss personnel-compensation. The Commissioners agreed to continue a schedule of one meeting per week.

Philip Johnson presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #255-20 – Authorizing the 2020 contract with the Feasel Group for lawn mowing and grounds maintenance services for properties owned or overseen by the Board of Hancock County Commissioners in Findlay, Hancock County, Ohio. The charge is \$2,730 per mowing. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Philip Johnson requested an executive session to discuss potential real estate acquisition.

Steve Wilson said they will be hosting a virtual pre-construction meeting for the Landfill Expansion on Friday and the contractor will be moving equipment onsite next week. He also said the next Maumee Watershed Conservancy District Board meeting will be held June 2.

Meetings/Reports

Brian Robertson attended the Elected Officials Meeting on Friday. He also spoke with Randall Galbraith to congratulate him on the passing of the JFS levy.

Timothy Bechtol also attended the Elected Officials Meeting and spoke with Randall Galbraith. Timothy spoke with Representative Cross regarding reopening sections of Ohio. Senator McColley was the speaker at the Kiwanis Zoom meeting. He also congratulated William Bateson and Mike Pepple on their Primary Election wins.

Mark Gazarek is working on the budget with the Elected Officials. They are working with Ohio Job & Family Services for the Ohio Shared Work Program. It will be beneficial for the County Budget to cut back hours, but the employees will make more money due to the \$600 Federal Add-on.

At 9:47 a.m. Mark Gazarek made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel in regards to compensation and potential real estate acquisition, Brian Robertson seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Mark Gazarek, yes; Brian Robertson, yes; Timothy Bechtol, yes. At 10:10 a.m. Mark Gazarek made the motion to come out of executive session with no action taken, Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 11:00 a.m. the Commissioners attended a view for the vacation of a portion of Township Road 240 in Jackson Township.

At 11:30 a.m. the Commissioners attended a view for the vacation of a portion of Township Road 196 and Township Road 198 in Amanda Township.

At 1:45 p.m. the Commissioners held a hearing on the Jackson Township Road 240 vacation. Those present included Brian Robertson, Timothy Bechtol, Sarah Mutchler, Philip Johnson, Doug Cade, Jim Maurer, Mike Pepple, William Bateson, Kathryn Wise, Chad Wise, Tom Wise, Jeff Wilkins, and Josh Wilkins. Chris Hughes and Adam Francis were available by telephone.

Engineer Doug Cade gave his report on the proposed vacation of Township Road 240 in Jackson Township. The average daily vehicle count taken on Feb. 11 was 18 vehicles on the North side of SR 15 and 8 vehicles on the South side of SR 15. There have been 3 accidents at this intersection over the past 5 years. He also stated there have been 200 accidents on SR 15 between I-75 and Vanlue. Doug presented letters of support for the vacation from the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Hancock County Sheriff, and ODOT. Chad Wise, whose family owns farm ground on the North and South side of this intersection, voiced his opposition to the proposed vacation. The vacation would deny them easy access to their properties. He also said he would argue the statistics on accidents at this intersection. To his knowledge, there have not been any accidents involving traffic crossing SR 15 using Township Road 240. Chad also stated this would cut off access to their recreational pond, and hinder their ability to properly maintain the properties. He suggested flashing lights with a stop light like used in Delaware. He also said the alternative route of Township Road 173 is not conducive to semi traffic. Chris Hughes, a representative of ODOT, voiced his support of the closure. ODOT has a long-term plan for limited access along SR 15 due to the increased traffic volumes. Their goal is to make traveling SR 15 safer. They have sought funding for creating Cul-De-Sacs on Township Road 240 where they meet SR 15. Chris also said they would review the intersection of SR 37 and Township Road 173 to see what could be done to make this intersection acceptable for semi traffic. Brian Robertson asked what the timeline for this project would be, if approved. Adam Francis, a representative of ODOT, stated this would be constructed in the summer of 2021.

The Commissioners then asked Doug to give his report on the proposed vacation at Township Road 196 and Township Road 198 in Amanda Township. On Township Road 196, there were 66 vehicles traveling on the North Side and 16 vehicles on the South Side, with 14 accidents over the last 5 years. On Township Road 198, there were 150 vehicles traveling on the North side and 34 vehicles on the South side, with 3 accidents over the last 5 years. Doug presented letters of support for the vacation from the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Hancock County Sheriff, and ODOT. Jeff Wilkins, who owns property on Township Road 196, is in support of the vacation. He said it is a terrible intersection. Chris Hughes, a representative of ODOT, said these two closures are consistent with their long-term plan.

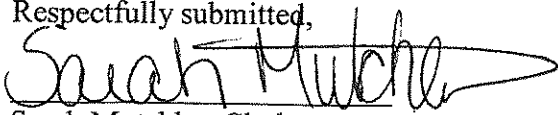
Philip Johnson presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #256-20 – Final Hearing on proposed vacation of portions of Amanda Township Road 196 and Amanda Township Road 198 in Amanda Township, Hancock County, Ohio pursuant to ORC 5553.01 Et Seq. Timothy Bechtol made the motion to approve, Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Timothy Bechtol suggested waiting on a decision for the proposed vacation of Township Road 240 since there was opposition to this closure. He would like to discuss the matter with Mark Gazarek as well.

The Commissioners signed the Explosive Gas Monitoring Report for the Sanitary Landfill.

Respectfully submitted,




Sarah Mutchler, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Mark D. Gazarek

Brian J. Robertson



Timothy K. Bechtol