

October 4, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 9/27 meeting were approved with a correction, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. The truck being delivered to the highway department was involved in an accident, rather than a delivery truck. It wasn't damaged. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Accounts Payable Voucher Register, the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. Commissioners approved claim # 2 for architect fees for Memorial Hall Renovation work, in the amount of \$2500. After continued discussion from last week, Commissioner consensus was to stay with the holiday calendar for 2004, rather than adding another Christmas holiday. Les will meet with the Co. Treasurer and a company representative to learn about "GUTS" software. After talking with Co. Assessor, Kelly Schenkel, Les moved to buy a Panasonic KX FL511 model fax machine from Staples for \$199.00, second by Darle, and passed. That was the best price, and toner for 2500 copies runs \$29.00. The Auditor will submit an additional appropriation request from the Cumulative Capital Development fund to cover the cost of the machine used by all courthouse departments. Les moved to request an additional appropriation in the Memorial Hall budget in the amount of \$1520.00 to cover the cost of two fire alarm contracts for monitoring and required testing, second by Darle, and passed. Brian talked with Bob Gray at the Wabash Sewer Dept. about the possibility of placing a manhole behind the Presbyterian Church where the alley intersects Miami Street. A drain from the Judicial Center runs to that area with no outlet. Gray agreed to talk with Mayor Vanlandingham. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, has reviewed a deed submitted by Butler, Fairman & Seufert Engineers regarding right-of-way (R/W) along Old Rd. 15 S. Commissioners would deed .572 acres to current owner Bruce Marchetti to correct an error in the legal description of what was originally deeded to the county from former owner, Steve Peebles. In exchange, Marchetti needs to deed a different portion to the county for R/W. Mattern and the Commissioners feel the two deeds should be completed simultaneously. The deed was put on hold until Commissioners talk with a BF&S representative. Tom will communicate by mail to the City of Wabash, that Commissioners have exercised their right to postpone taking title to a tax delinquent property at 484 Falls Avenue in Wabash. EMA director, Bob Brown, presented his fourth quarter report that goes to SEMA. He pointed out that the Strategic Preparedness Plan was submitted for approval, returned for revisions and re-submitted to the state. Commissioners signed the report.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Sheet piling has been installed on the retaining wall on Old Rd. 15 S at Treaty Creek. The concrete cap goes next, then fill and rip rap followed by asphalt and guardrail. It should be finished before Phase III of Old Rd. 15 is done. There's about 3 weeks work on that project including two layers of asphalt, grading and guardrail. Larry and Phil are seeking options for one mowing tractor that's had many repairs, including a new transmission and a cracked housing. He still hasn't taken delivery on the "spec" truck involved in an accident two weeks ago. Larry met with Ralph Bolinger about the size of a cul-de-sac in a proposed subdivision. Bolinger was told by a local surveyor that Commissioners had approved 80 ft. R/W for the cul-de-sac in the Bitzer subdivision. Commissioners will double check the plans, but stated their specifications call for 100 ft R/W. Darle heard from Sandi Hauptert about having a tree trimmed in her alley. Larry says the tree in question is on Hauptert property, not in the alley.

Leroy Striker, Sheriff: There are 101 in jail this morning, and Sheriff Striker is working to get that number down. Two "out of service" cars will be traded today for a new patrol car. Leroy gave attorney Mattern information about a possible class action suit regarding inmate telephone services. The Sheriff says deputy Brian Cox submitted his resignation 9/27 and it's effective 10/27. The Sheriff will need to talk with Co. Council if he needs money for settlement of accrued vacation and sick time. Between schooling and sickness, his staff is depleted right now, but they are coping, and a deputy is always on duty.

Dallas Duggan, Chief of Probation: Dallas asked if Commissioners plan to seal the north door of Memorial Hall or make it an electronic keyed entry. He presented quotes in the \$5,000. to \$6,000. range for a keyed entry. Commissioners continue to support making the north door an emergency exit only, and Probation would be accessed thru the main entry to the Judicial Center. Les has contacted 3 local vendors for quotes to carpet the reception area of Probation, and gave them copies of the plans.

Lincoln Statue landscaping: Beth Driscoll, representing Richard Ford and Charlie Creek Foundation, presented a proposal for landscaping around the Lincoln statue and flagpole on the courthouse lawn. Plans prepared by Mark A Holman, Inc. of Indianapolis will provide green the entire year, and are low maintenance foliage. New lighting will be installed to highlight the statue and flag. The statue is presently being refurbished. Beth intends to contact the local garden club that has provided and maintained plants and flowers around the flagpole and statue for several years, to learn if they want to save any of their plants. She will ask their help with maintaining the new decor. The plan proposes keeping the two large evergreens on either side of the First Lighted City commemorative plaque, and recommends pruning them. Beth will seek options for refurbishing the plaque, and getting two more, so one can be placed near each entrance to the courthouse. Commissioners are supportive of an unveiling ceremony when the work is completed. Darle moved to accept the gracious offer to landscape the area, and the plans, second by Les, and passed.

Bridge # 208 Request For Proposals: Les moved to close acceptance of RFP's after 11:00, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners received proposals from: (1) United Consulting Engineers of Indianapolis; (2) Collins Engineers of Chesterton; (3) Congdon Engineering Associates of Indianapolis; (4) Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc. of Indianapolis; (5) WTH Engineering of Indianapolis and (6) DLZ Engineers of Ft. Wayne/Indianapolis. Les moved to take the proposals under advisement, second by Darle, and passed. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

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Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

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Darle V. Dawes

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Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor