

MAY 16, 2005

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. on May 9, 2005, in the former Circuit Court Room, Wabash County Courthouse.

Chairman Les Templin called the meeting to order with all members present.

Minutes for the May 9th meeting were approved as written. Moved by Darle, seconded by Les, approved by a 2 to 0 vote.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice presented a request from Verizon to bury cable from the F/O 5673 E 900N then west for 500' in the north right-of-way. This requested was approved by the commissioners and signed by Les.

Rice also asked the board's permission to present the following requests for additional appropriations to the County Council in June: 1) \$10,000. for culverts; 2) \$55,000. for repairs to front of the Highway Garage building and the concrete floor, based on quotes received for needed repairs; 3) \$100,000. for the county's share of design, construction and inspection costs for the Bridge 505 (Ferry Street) rehab project; 4) \$5000. to combine with an EMA grant for a generator; and 5) \$100,000. to do an additional 20 miles of chip and seal work this summer due to price increases. Following discussion, Brian moved to approve all the highway's request, seconded by Darle and approved by a 3-0 vote. Rice also reported receiving notice that there will be an increase in HAZMAT license fees of \$100. each for renewals every four years.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported 94 inmates in jail today and that Community Corrections has all parts and hardware and a closure date of May 17th for the remodeling project. Striker also asked permission to have overgrown bushes at the old jail/probation building trimmed back or removed. The board agreed that they should probably be taken out and that Les had recently worked with Jail Custodian Dick Smith to sort items of value from the old building for the upcoming county sale.

Emergency Management Director Bob Brown discussed registering of the county's essential locations with the power companies as the board agreed it would be in the county's interest to enable continuity of county government in cause of power outages.

Commissioner Attorney Tom Mattern reviewed the Agency Service Agreement from Pay Trust Solutions and advised that it appeared to be a good contract and he saw no problems with it. Following discussion, the commissioners noticed that it had been written to include other forms of collections besides cash bonds. They had decided to only use the credit card collections for cash bonds at this time so asked that the auditor to have the agreement re-written before approval.

Mattern also presented a resolution for adoption prepared by the City of Wabash attorney supporting the cancellation of back real estate taxes on the former Swinger property. Following discussion and review of a REAL ESTATE CONTRACT by and between Chester E. Swinger and Shirley A. Swinger and the Wabash City Redevelopment Commission and THE WABASH CITY REVELOPEMENT COMMISSION PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF 211 NORTH WABASH STREET, WABASH, INDIANA (Swinger Property) the commissioners approved: RESOLUTION NO. 3-2005: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA RECOMMENDING THE WAIVER OF BACK REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE REAL ESTATE OWNED BY CHESTER AND SHIRLEY SWINGER ON 211 NORTH WABASH STREET, WABASH, INDIANA on a motion by Brian, second by Darle and a 3-0 Vote. Also reviewed and signed by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway, Wabash County Assessor Kelly Schenkel, and Wabash County Treasurer LuAnn Layman was a PETITION (to be presented to the Department of Local Government Finance) TO CANCEL BACK REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR REAL ESTATE OWNED BY CHESTER AND SHIRLEY SWINGER AT 211 NORTH WABASH STREET, WABASH, INDIANA.

Don Magnus of Liberty Mills returned following discussion with the commissioner last week about his dispute with the planning commission, the prosecutor and the sheriff's department about his property lines and the county's right-of-way at his place of business. Sheriff Striker was present and stated that he felt the issue is not with parking cars in working order but with vehicles not properly registered and that a second issue is the difference between a retail merchants' certificate and a license from the state to deal with new and used vehicles as Mr. Magnus has not provided the Sheriff and Plan Commission with the proper license for his business. Another issue was concerning a letter from the IDEM to fence in the junk cars as he cannot restrict access to an alley. Attorney Mattern recommends that Mr. Magnus's issues can be settled by a court rather than the Board of Commissioners and that IDEM would have the final say on issues concerning them. Les also stated that Magnus could petition the commissioners to vacate or close the alley which would require a hearing and action according to law. Sheriff Striker offered to go with Magnus to his property to verify measurements and or take pictures to clarify some of the issues and report back to the board.

Scott Hogan of Manchester Recycling was present to discuss the building they use at 814 Manchester Avenue. He stated he was not aware of the terms or conditions for remaining at their present site and was interested to possibly sharing space with another non-for-profit such as ARC of Wabash or Pathfinders. The Commissioners suggested that all interested parties meet for discussion of possibilities and a meeting was set for 1:00 on June 20th.

County Clerk Lori Draper appeared to report on the progress of the repairs to the Judicial Center drains and also noted that new laws effecting courts will require her to have a fire-proof safe for additional document storage in the fall. The Board of Commissioners approved a contract with Design-Aire Engineering Co. for the work on the judicial center not to exceed \$3200. Moved by Brian, seconded by Darle and passed on a 3-0 vote.

Jean Gilbert was present to ask about the finishing work that needs to be done yet on her property along Old State Road 15. Rice and the board noted that the final inspection has not been done and will not be until all work needed and re-seeding is done.

The Board of Commissioners also approved the Annual Report on Condition of School Funds on a motion by Brian, second by Darle and a 3-0 Vote.

Steve Jones of United Consulting reported on the progress of the Bridge 505 (Ferry Street) project and the commissioners signed the Letter to Proceed with Engineering and Design. Moved by Brian, seconded by Darle and approved on a 3-0 vote.

Also reviewed were: IDEM Notices for: The Town of Roann, permit application; Manchester Metals LLC, approval; and Bill Urschel, expired approval. Also the Financial Report as of 4-30-05, upcoming capital outlay additional appropriation requests and a letter of support to the BMV for the North Manchester branch.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be May 23th, in the former Circuit Court Room, Wabash County Courthouse, following the County Council meeting.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Haupert

ATTEST:

Jane E. Ridgeway, Auditor