

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/
ENVIRONMENTAL/WELFARE/ZONING
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

July 10, 2019

Present: Phil Schneider, Chairman
Charles DeClerck, Linda Curtin, Dale Livingston, Craig Corzine
Absent: None
Others present: Becky Edwards, Cliff Frye, Vince Harris, Mike McClure, Tom Latonis,
Jeff Hammond Jan Bland and many interested parties in wind farms.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called for on Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Committee chair Phil Schneider called for any public comments. Several members of the audience asked to speak both pro and con to the wind turbine ordinance upcoming topic of discussion.

- Pana Mayor Don Kroski spoke on the tax revenue benefit to the county, local schools, and the townships.
- Dick Breckenridge, current landowner who has signed a lease, noted his reasons for the turbines: family investment as well as environment and schools in the communities. He feels this is an opportunity for economic development. Also commenting that the local co-ops are in favor of renewable energy.
- Don Wilhour is in favor of the project.
- Jeff Nolan is against the project because of many negative points.
- Others spoke of their personal opinions of the project.

As the discussion began for turbine heights and setbacks, whether from the property line or measure from the point of residence, several numbers suggested were too large. Jeff Hammond with Trade Winds clarified that any setback more than 1500 feet would stop any type of wind turbine build. The committee did determine to put all suggestions into a finished revised or new ordinance and to try to address the concerns of the families. There are many issues to consider both for the landowner, both pro and con, and the benefits of economics to the local governments and county as well as the families who wish to participate in the project.

Many more comments and discussion continued during the two and one-half hour meeting. A motion was made by Craig Corzine and seconded by Phil Schneider to table the discussion and ask for members to submit suggestions for the ordinance. The motion carried

COURTHOUSE GROUNDS UPDATE

It was reported that the northwest tree next to the Courthouse had recently been hit by lightning and was split and pulling apart rapidly. Unfortunately, it had to be totally removed.

REQUEST FOR FARMERS SHARE BREAKFAST

As in the past, the Christian County Farm Bureau has hosted a breakfast to the public to inform them how much of a dollar the farmer receives when they sell their crop. There is no charge for the event which will be held on Saturday, July 20 on the south side of the courthouse lawn from 7:00 am set up and serve from 8:00 to 11:00 am. A motion was made by Phil Schneider and seconded by Dale Livingston to approve the event. The motion carried.

ANIMAL CONTROL BUSINESS

Vince Harris reported: The pressure washer used to clean the pens is not repairable and needs to be replaced. Vince has received a quote for the replacement and will take the request to the finance committee. Additionally, quotes for a sprinkler system are being sought.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff Frye presented preliminary engineering agreements to get bridge replacement plans ready as follows:

- Taylorville Bridge #13: Hutchison Engineering, Inc., Jacksonville, IL
 - Cost plus, not to exceed \$48,000.00
- Locust Bridge #30: WHKS & Co., Springfield, IL
 - Cost plus, not to exceed \$69,016.37
- Prairieton Bridge #9: Chastain & Associates, Decatur, IL
 - Cost plus, not to exceed \$50,396.18
- Hurst-Rosche: Hillsboro, IL
 - Actual cost. Estimated at \pm \$3,500 per structure

The Township Bridge Fund will pay 80% of the engineering cost for these structures. The balance will be paid by the County & Townships. A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Linda Curtin to approve the preliminary engineering contracts as submitted and authorize the County Board Chairwoman to execute the contracts. The motion carried.

The Highway Department has located a 2005 Kenworth single axle truck as a possible replacement for the International that was totaled. We'll make the trip to determine if it is a truck we will try to purchase. The highway department is also looking for a used tandem roller. Both would be purchased with money budgeted in the current budget for equipment.

Assumption Bridge No. 17 is nearing completion. If we can get enough dry weather, it should be open by the end of July. The Bear Creek Road (County Highway #12) partial depth recycling project is on hold until the consultant can rerate the bridges for the new permit trucks designated by the Federal Highway Administration. Once the ratings are completed the structure will be scheduled for an IDOT letting. A late spring start date is anticipated.

A motion was made by Dale Livingston and seconded by Phil Schneider to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Schneider, Chairman
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning/Welfare Committee
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