

Franklin County Commissioners
July 5, 2016
Commissioners/Council Meeting Room 203

Commissioners: Tom Wilson, Tom Linkel and Eric Roberts
Commissioner Secretary: Carol Wilson
Auditor: Stephen Brack

Open: The meeting was called to order by President Tom Wilson and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: There were no minutes of the previous meeting.

Concerns: Discussion was held pertaining to the functioning of the Auditor's office. President Wilson asked about a claim for \$5,000.00 to which the Auditor explained that he had been on vacation and didn't see the claims before the meeting. Mr. Wilson then asked -- How do we know the claims are truthful and lawful when these are presented to the Commissioners? The Auditor stated if there would be a problem with a claim the Claims Deputy would bring it to the Auditor's attention which would then be addressed and corrected. Commissioner Linkel stated that they had received an email from the County Treasurer, Veronica Voelker, stating she had offered to help while the auditor was out and the girls in the office declined her help. The auditor stated he had not seen the email which Linkel showed him. The auditor stated that he would be in contact with the Treasurer the next day, as she was out sick, to get the EFT's and other items corrected. President Wilson continued by saying that he doesn't know how the county can function with the turmoil and asked the Auditor what plans were being made to take care of the items. Included in the turmoil was the fact that the PT Deputy had quit and while on vacation the 1st Deputy sent her resignation which was effective immediately. Plans were to hire a new person and LOW would be sending personnel to help get the training done that is needed. President Wilson stated that if problems were not resolved by the next meeting, July 18 he would expect the Auditor to resign.

Claims: A motion was made by Tom Linkel to approve claims and was 2nd by Eric Roberts. Motion carried.

Payroll: A motion was made by Tom Linkel to approve and was 2nd by Eric Roberts. Motion carried.

Franklin County Highway -- Ted Cooley: presented his updated. Discussion was held concerning the final design for Wolf Creek Bridge #139. Commissioner Roberts was still at the beginning regarding the length of the bridge and cost. The same question was asked again -- Does the county have enough money for additional bridge projects. The county has already committed to the 20% match money that is required for two federal projects that will cost several million dollars. A motion was made by Tom Linkel to accept the new bridge plan and was 2nd by Tom Wilson. Commissioner Roberts stated the two commissioners were making plans as if the county would automatically receive the 50 - 50 grant from the state for the new Wolf Creek Bridge. The grants will not be announced until late August. It was also stated by Commissioner Roberts that the county would be applying for \$1.6 million in 50-50 state grants and the county only has \$800,000.00 available within one year. The county will have to pay all of the \$1.6 million and then wait to be reimbursed 50% by the state. Commissioner Wilson said the county has more than one year to spend the money. Mr. Cooley reported that the county could only use money from certain sources such as: local road and street, cumulative bridge or a motor vehicle highway fund.

It was agreed that Commissioner Linkel and Ted Cooley would meet with Councilman Daryl Kramer to discuss funding before the special council meeting on July 12. Mr. Cooley will present a 5 year plan asked by Mr. Kramer. Commissioner Roberts then voted in favor of the motion as the design did not change the road curvature and result in a cost overrun.

Mr. Cooley then reported that the Pavement Study didn't look good and the prediction is the county will not have enough money to maintain the roads over the next 5 years. President Wilson looked over the map and said that almost all of roads are red in District 1; RED would indicate the most serious deterioration. Commissioner Roberts has his plan and he explained in the past District 1 roads have too much blading of the surface without final chip and seal work. The cost to bring RED roads back is a lot. He proposed to spending money on YELLOW roads so they would not deteriorate faster. He said the focus should be on fixing long, highly traveled YELLOW roads which would have a cost of \$15,000 per mile rather than spending from \$30,000 to \$40,000 to fix at a later time. Mr. Cooley warned the commissioners that the state may not reimburse the county if they don't follow the study. Commissioner Linkel stated the state would allow the county to decide how best to repair the roads. Shawn Strange of First Group Engineering would be at the July 18 meeting to discuss the study.

ADA: Mr. Cooley reported that a recent federal highway project meeting the state said the county must fix two dozen deficiencies of non-compliance with the ADA Act. Also the county was at fault for not complying with the TITLE VI antidiscrimination requirements. Mr. Cooley did mention the lack of handicapped accessible curb ramps in Metamora and New Trenton and also lack of training program and missing required information the county website. Commissioner Linkel asked Mr. Cooley to focus on making minor repairs and the upcoming 50-50 state grant. President Wilson also noted that the county is providing an employee with lactation support in compliance with ADA.

Ordinance 2016-21 and 2016-22: A motion was made by Eric Roberts to approve and was 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Cameras in Court House: a motion was made by Eric Roberts to award Communications Electronics of Connersville at \$8,435.98 for 10 cameras and was 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Duress Buttons: A motion was made by Eric Roberts to accept the Centurion bid for 10 Button Duress and License for 24 registered PC at a cost of \$12,225.59 and was 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Fr. Co. Security Center: Tom Wilson made a motion to allow Eric Roberts to do what is necessary to repair or replace AC at the Security Center and was 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

ETC Agreements: A motion was made by Tom Linkel to accept monthly agreements for phone and internet service as follows: Highway Department - \$159.95, Sheriff Department - \$449.95 and the Government Center - \$ 1702.95 and was 2nd by Eric Roberts. Motion carried.

Comments: Wayne Monroe approached the Commissioners regarding the Nativity Scene on the Court House Lawn; November Noel will have to find another location. President Wilson asked John Worth to provide direction so the county will not have another law suit for having the Nativity Scene on the lawn.

Adjourn: With no further business coming before the meeting a motion was made by Tom Wilson to adjourn and 2nd by Tom Linkel. Motion carried.

Others in Attendance: Betty Lecher, Sara Duffy, John Estridge, Tim George, Ted Cooley, Pam Beneker and Wayne Monroe. The names are spelled correctly per the sign in sheet.

AYE

Tom Wilson
Tom Linkel
Eric Roberts

NAY

Tom Wilson
Tom Linkel
Eric Roberts

Attest:

Stephen Brack
Stephen Brack, Auditor