

**FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2022 - 10:00 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS/COUNCIL MEETING ROOM, #203**

The Franklin County Commissioners met in regular meeting on August 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners/Council Meeting Room. Commissioners present: Gerald Wendel, Tom Wilson and Karla Bauman, Auditor, present. Commissioner Tom Linkel was absent.

OPEN: The meeting was called to order and the pledge of allegiance was led by Gerald Wendel.

Judge Cox – Salaries: Judge Cox came before commissioners to request that the sick and vacation days that were paid out of an employee’s payroll line be paid back. He stated that the benefit payout of sick and vacation days should not be paid from the payroll line. Auditor Bauman explained that all retirement payouts are paid from their salary line. In past years per Council when an employee left employment for whatever reason, that position could not be filled until the amount paid out was covered. She also stated that recently Council has been covering the retirement payouts from their contingency line. Judge Cox was informed by the Auditor’s office that he could request an additional if there was not enough money in that line to pay the new employee for the remainder of the year. Judge Cox does not think he will be short since the new employee is making so much less than the former employee. He also does not want to request additional money because he said it will go against his budget next year and he won’t be able to encumber it. Commissioners took no action at this time.

Update Building Code – Attorney Grant Reeves: Grant Reeves presented a professional services agreement with Jacobi, Toombs & Lance, Inc. for engineering consulting services for updating the Franklin County Building Code. He stated that the building code had not been updated since the 1980’s. Legally the Commissioners are over the county’s building code. **Motion for commissioners to discuss with council to get the money for this service agreement by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.**

Fiber Optic Installation – Rob Seig: Surveyor Seig discussed with Commissioners the installation of fiber optics and crossing ditch tiles, especially in the Springfield and Bath areas. Chris Patrick with Spectrum stated that they would work with Commissioners. Spectrum would like to install the fiber optics at 30” across the county. If the commissioners need to widen a road a road or do ditch work, he stated they would be willing to move the fiber optics at no additional costs. They are under a time restraint to getting the project completed and this would help. Surveyor Seig will meet weekly with Chris Patrick to discuss the Bath/Springfield area. Commissioners requested Chris Patrick put a proposal together for Grant Reeves to review.

Ordinance 2021-11 Construction Standards Manual: Surveyor Seig requested that Chapters 3 and 4 be referenced in the County zoning code. The remaining chapters 1,2,5 and 6 are incomplete and he hopes to have those done before the end of the year. Commissioner Wilson would like to see the entire manual complete before referencing in the zoning code. Surveyor Seig also stated that he would like to see a technical review committee review the applications before going to an APC meeting. He would like the applicant to complete a checklist of items that the committee will then review. As of right now nobody is authorized to enforce the construction standards. This would only be for commercial or industrial property, not residential. He said it needs more technical review because APC can’t understand it. Commissioners tabled until their meeting on August 23rd.

Nuisance Ordinance 2021-10: Grant Reeves discussed the issues this ordinance has caused in regards to applying the fines and going on to the property to clean up weeds, etc. He recommended that the Commissioners adopt a fine base system. Mr. Reeves will work on a new draft ordinance. **Motion to rescind Ordinance 2021-10 and rewrite by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.**

Amending ARPA Procedure – John Palmer: Mr. Palmer came before commissioners to let them know that he is working with Auditor Bauman and the Reedy Group on the next phase of projects coming up with non-profits like the fire departments. Each non-profit will be required to have a Sam's number. We are also working on the processes that will be necessary

Danny Richardson – Certificate of Appropriateness: Danny Richardson came before Commissioners for a Certificate of Appropriateness for two Rain Man historic cabins he purchased. He discussed where the cabins will be relocated on the property located at 10114 Columbia Street, Metamora, Indiana. **Motion to approve the application for Certificate of Appropriateness filed by Mr. Richardson by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.**

Alan Graf & Joe Gillespie – address issue: Mr. Gillespie explained the issues that four residents were having with getting mail and deliveries on White Pine Drive which is a private drive. He recommended that the residents be allowed to use a Richland Creek Road address instead which that is where their mailboxes are located anyways. White Pine Drive is not on Google Maps. **Motion to allow the four residents on White Pine Drive be excepted from the address ordinance and allow them to change their address by Tom Wilson, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.**

Minutes – July 26, 2022: Motion to approve the minutes for July 26, 2022, by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.

Payroll – July 29 2022: Motion to approve the August 12th payroll and payroll deductions in the amount of \$279,637.92 by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.

Claims – 8-9-2022: Motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$184,040.59 by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.

Utilities – Motion to approve the utilities as presented in the amount of \$40,000.00 by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.

Unofficial Detour – Duck Creek Road: Motion to approve the unofficial detour for Duck Creek Road by Gerald Wendel, seconded by Tom Wilson, all in favor, motion carried.

Unofficial Detour – An unofficial detour on Fairfield Causeway, Bentley & Sharp for approximately 210 days in 2023. Motion to approve the unofficial detour by Tom Wilson, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.

CCMG Funds for 2022-II Call For Projects: Larry Smith, County Engineer presented the CCMG 2022-II Call for Projects for Sunman Road. The total cost of the project will be \$421,140.00 with the County committing 25% for the project. **Motion to approve the CCMG 2022-II call for project for Sunman Road as presented by Tom Wilson, seconded by Gerald Wendel, all in favor, motion carried.**