

Joint Meeting Minutes
Floyd County Board of Commissioners
&
Floyd County Council
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 104
New Albany, IN 47150
January 26th, 2021
4:30 P.M.

Brad Striegel and Shawn Carruthers called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: County Council-Full Quorum

Commissioners- Full Quorum-Tim Kamer virtual

Also Present: Auditor Jacqueline Wenning, Treasurer Steve Burks, HR Director Michelle Portwood

Brad Striegel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of the Agenda: Shawn Carruthers request to add the AT&T Contract
John Schellenberger stated that Gary Bierman negotiated with AT&T on a new contract that saves the County \$700.00 - \$800.00 a month.

Motion to approve the contract. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Steve Burks contract for bank Reconciliation

Steve Burks stated that there are two components of bank reconciliation. The first is the agreement with Hartman and Williams, the CPA firm Lois Endris contracted out to get the books balanced. He stated, according to The State Board of Accounts (SBoA), that if they can keep a continual amount on the books for six months, they can roll that amount into the General Fund, start with a zero balance and be able to interface with the Auditor's office.

Hartman and Williams stated it will take approximately \$65,000.00 to finish balancing the accounts.

Mr. Burks is asking the Commissioners to sign the agreement and the Council to appropriate the money for the agreement. Brad Striegel stated the appropriation was not advertised and that can be taken care of at the next County Council meeting.

Motion to approve the contract with Hartman and Williams. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to make a consensus vote on making the appropriation at the February meeting. Moved by Tom Pickett. Seconded by Dale Bagshaw. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Legacy Foundation Annual Spend Rate Adoption

Brad Striegel stated every year they adopt Spend Rate to grant out community grants as people apply.

Last year it was 3.5%. The Legacy Board voted in December to do 3.5% in 2021. The spend rate is calculated on the principle.

Motion to approved the Spend Rate of 3.5% as per the advice of the Legacy Board. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Danny Short. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the spend rate of 3.5% as advised by the Legacy Foundation. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Rauch Transportation contract/payment discussion

Brad Striegel asked the Commissioners if they have taken any action on the Rauch contract, if they are planning to take action and how it will be funded.

Shawn Carruthers stated the Commissioners have not taken any actions on the contract but have given Rauch a thumbs up to continue the process of exploring rural transportation in the county. A letter was submitted to INDOT to start the process.

4. Parks Dept Discussion on Cumulative Capital Fund Tax

Roger Jeffers introduced the Parks Board. The six members of the board represent almost 100 years of free service for the Parks Department. Mr. Jeffers gave a presentation explaining how Parks and Recreation is funded, alternatives to funding and the Capital Improvement Plan. The Parks Board is pushing for a Cumulative Capital Tax of \$.0167 per \$100.00 of assessed property valuation to be able to improve and maintain the Parks.

Adam Roberts thanked the Parks Board for their service and dedication.

Scott Klink, Parks Board member, stated they are asking for a commitment from the Council and Commissioners for funding to be able to maintain and grow.

Mr. Fifer, Parks Board attorney, stated that these funds could only be used for Capital Improvements. The deadline to apply for the fund and tax is April 28, 2021.

Denise Konkle stated they need to look at all their needs not just the Parks Department when making the decision. They could make the Cum Cap Tax up to \$.033 and help fund other projects.

Mr. Klink stated that there has been no consistent funding for the Parks for at least 18 years. He realizes that the County has many needs but is afraid that in five years they will come back asking for the same thing because nothing was decided. The Parks Department is always the first to get out. He asked them to make the Parks Department a priority.

Dale Bagshaw stated that he would have a hard time selling a tax increase of \$.033 to his constituents.

Adam Roberts stated that, in his opinion, that taxing is the last option. They should look at other ways to fund the Parks Department \$250,000.00 annually.

Danny Short stated the state of Indiana and Floyd County has raised taxes 45 times since 2017. Each tax increase is just a little here and there. He feels they should make a commitment for the next 10 years with other funding. He stated the County sold a 130-million-dollar asset and they locked away 100 million dollars. He challenges the Council and Commissioners to look at other sources than raising taxes.

Adam Roberts suggested a \$6.00 fee per parcel that they could bond against.

Tim Kamer stated he is on the same page as Adam Roberts and Danny Short. He stated since the County sold a 130-million-dollar asset, he has a hard time selling unknown project to raise taxes.

Roger Jeffers recommended to get back together in a month and continue the conversation once they have more information.

Brad Striegel stated they will have another joint meeting on February 23 at 4:30 pm to continue the discussion.

5. Jail Ban Payoff Update/Discussion

Jacqueline Wenning stated she was contacted by Brad Bingham and the payoff date is February 12, 2021. The amount is approximately \$15,891,409.00.

Sheriff Frank Loop stated there is \$800,000.00 in the Jail Construction fund that the Council can receive back into the Hospital fund that is not needed for the construction project. It will be advertised and voted on in the February County Council meeting.

6. 2021 List of Priorities Discussion

A. Animal Shelter Contract

Brad Striegel stated he received notification from Susan Rosenbarger, chairman of the Animal Shelter Board, a commitment of the funds they will receive in 2021. Connie Moon attended the meeting with the Animal Shelter Board. She stated that Inter-local agreements are dated in the 1990's and she feels they need to be reviewed. Currently the Animal Shelter tells us how much the County owes but the City of New Albany will not provide documentation of Animal Shelter's revenues or expenditures. The Council has asked numerous times for transparency.

Adam Roberts stated it was the consensus of the Council that the County will only pay \$306,000.00 until the City provides documentation on the Animal Shelter's receipts and expenditures. It was previously paid out of Riverboat but that may not be an option this year.

Danny Short made a suggestion of telling the Animal Shelter Board that the amount we will pay is \$0.00. The City is in breach of contract and they will have to sue the County to receive funds.

Denise Konkle stated she fears we will end up with no Animal Shelter.

Dale Bagshaw commended Connie Moon on her efforts.

Motion to advise Animal Shelter Board the payment will be \$0.00 pending further review and legal options. Moved by Danny Short. Seconded by Connie Moon. Motion passed 6-1. Denise Konkle opposed.

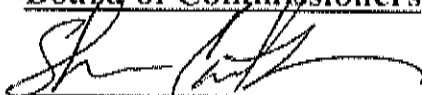
B. Benefit restructuring of New Employee's – Tabled

Motion to adjourn. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Shawn Carruthers.

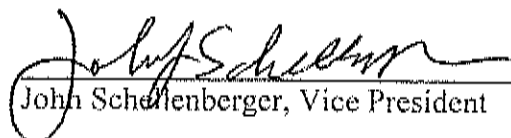
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Adam Roberts. Motion passed unanimously.

Board of Commissioners



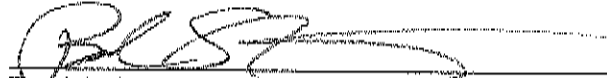
Shawn Carruthers, President



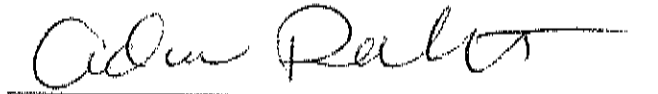
John Schellenberger, Vice President

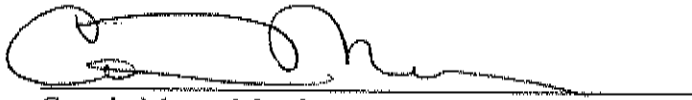

Tim Kamer, Commissioner

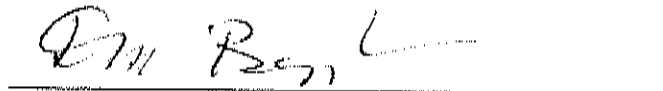
Floyd County Council

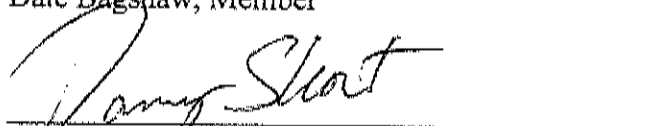

Brad Striegel, President

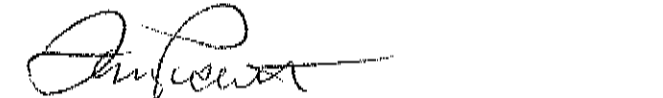

Denise Konkle, Vice President

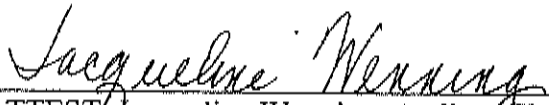

Adam Roberts, Member


Connie Moon, Member


Dale Bagshaw, Member


Danny Short, Member


Tom Pickett, Member


ATTEST, Jacqueline Wenning, Auditor, Floyd County