

Joint Meeting Minutes
Floyd County Board of Commissioners
&
Floyd County Council
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 104
New Albany, IN 47150
February 23, 2021
4:30 P.M.

Brad Striegel called the meeting to order and led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Roll Call: County Council-Brad Striegel, Dale Bagshaw, Danny Short, Adam Roberts, Connie Moon and Tom Pickett. Denise Konkle-absent

Commissioners- Full Quorum

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

1. Parks Dept Discussion on Cumulative Capital Fund, cont.

Greg Fifer, Parks Board Attorney, discussed the steps on creating the Cumulative Capital Fund.

Roger Jeffers reviewed the funding for the Parks Department. They continually seek grants and sponsorships and do not rely solely on the taxpayers.

Scott Klink stated that Parks funding has been an issue for several years and hope they can find a solution in the near future.

Adam Roberts stated that, regardless of how they fund the Parks Department either by bonding, taxation or finding the money in the budget, it is all paid by the taxpayers. He stated that they need to either do more with less or bond. He does not support taxation.

Greg Fifer stated that there is a limited number of tools that the Parks Department can receive funds and it is almost impossible to plan without a commitment.

Adam Roberts had previously suggested that maybe they could add a Parks fee to property taxes. Steve Langdon stated that the Bond Council said the State Statute indicates that local parks are to be free of fees.

Connie Moon fears there could be unnecessary spending if the Parks Department receives \$250,000.00 a year. Greg Fifer stated that the Parks Department can only use that money to build, remodel, repair facilities or purchase land for additional park facilities. All the money will be used for capital, maintenance and repair of existing facilities.

Dale Bagshaw suggested to let the public decide if they are willing to pay for the Parks.

Shawn Carruthers stated that there needs to be a consistent revenue source for the Parks Department.

Mr. Fifer stated the real question is there a consensus that the Parks Board should conduct a public hearing and consider adopting an ordinance that would then come back to the Council officially to consider.

A consensus vote of 6-0 to move forward with a public hearing of establishing a fund for the Parks Department. was conducted. A public hearing will be conducted.

2. Animal Shelter Update

Connie Moon emailed the City of New Albany about her findings on the paperwork she received from them concerning the Animal Shelter. The City was missing some of the payments the County paid to the Animal Shelter. Their documentation shows deposits made to the account by the Animal Shelter until 2018. After that, no deposits were listed and no payments from the City - only the County payments were posted. She noted that in the past five years the County has overpaid the Animal Shelter based on their expenditures. Based on the information provided the County portion should be \$265,409.00.

Brad Striegel calculated that, in the past five years, the County has overpaid the Animal Shelter almost \$115,000.00 based on their budget in Gateway.

Tim Kamer stated he doesn't understand the hang up when there is an Inter-Local Agreement, everything is mapped out in the agreement.

Rick Fox stated that the Animal Shelter presents their budget to the City and the County at budget time. Both bodies have to approve the budget for them to have a budget. If they do not approve the budget, then the two bodies should meet to discuss.

Steve Langdon has been asked to send a letter to the City requesting to meeting to discuss the budget.

Connie Moon, Brad Striegel and Danny Short or Denise Konkle will attend the meeting.

3. 2021 List of Priorities Discussion

Michelle Portwood stated that her priority is to update the Employee Handbook. It hasn't been updated since 2017. She would like to hire an outside firm to help with the handbook. She would also like to discuss with department heads paid time off for the employees so everyone is on the same page and following the policy consistently.

Tim Kamer stated that the Sheriff's Department has a module for tracking time off that feeds into Harris. He asked if they could docket that this year. Ms. Portwood stated that it was a good system. She also would like to look into a time keeping system.

Dale Bagshaw asked if they could have a pool of people that would like to serve for board appointments. Brad Stiegel stated that most of the time the separate boards recommend appointees that are experts in their field.

Danny Short stated that benefits have been on the priority list for the past two years and would like to add it to this year's list.

Adam Roberts stated that he has been getting a lot of questions about the Countywide EMS and Fire.

He has spoken to hundreds of people that are not dissatisfied with the current EMS and Fire Services. He questioned why it is a priority and why the County is pursuing it. Tim Kamer stated that Franklin Township is in need of the service but is not sure where the priority came from. He invited everyone to come to the meetings. The meetings are to discover if there is a need to change the current districts.

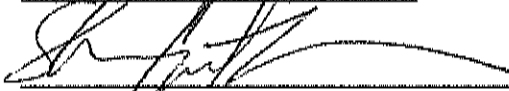
Connie Moon stated, as a resident of Franklin Township, she feels with the Fire and EMS services there needs to be a more accountable record and they need to work together. There needs to be one standard instead of five standards.

PUBLIC - none

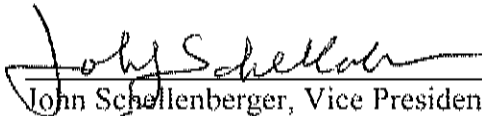
Motion to adjourn. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Danny Short. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn. Moved by John Schellenberger. Seconded by Tim Kamer. Motion passed unanimously.


Board of Commissioners



Shawn Carruthers, President



John Schellenberger, Vice President

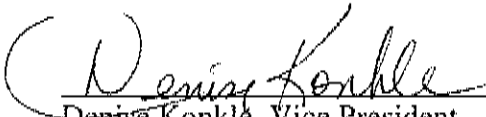


Tim Kamer, Commissioner

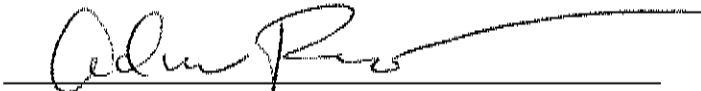
Floyd County Council




Brad Striegel, President



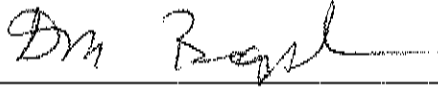
Denise Konkle, Vice President



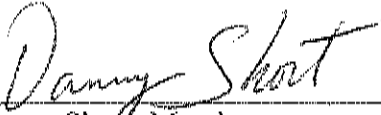
Adam Roberts, Member




Connie Moon, Member



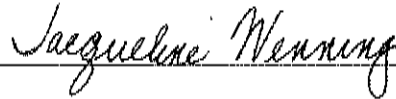
Dale Bagshaw, Member



Danny Short, Member



Tom Pickett, Member



ATTEST, Jacqueline Wenning, Auditor, Floyd
County