

**Commissioners Meeting
September 17, 2024**

Present: Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Heather Gries, Auditor Melissa Bunner, and Attorney Joshua Claybourn

Property Management Hearing / Autumn Winkler

Meeting was called to order by President Gries at 2:30 P.M.

1066 W County Road 900 W, Hatfield Indiana

Winkler presented a finding of facts. The property owner was not present at the hearing. **Gries motioned to clean up the property and impose the \$200 fine. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

9372 W County Road 75 N, Hatfield Indiana

Winkler presented a finding of facts. The property owner was not present at the hearing. **Brown motioned to clean up the property and impose the \$100 fine for first violation. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

9361 W County Road 75 N, Hatfield Indiana

Winkler presented a finding of facts. The property owner was not present at the hearing. **Gries motioned to clean up the property and impose the \$100 fine for first violation. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

4124 N Old State Road 245, Grandview Indiana

Winkler presented a finding of facts. The property owner was not present at the hearing. **Brown motioned to clean up the property and impose the \$200 fine. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Maple Street, Hatfield Indiana

Winkler presented a finding of facts. The property owner was not present at the hearing. **Seiler motioned to clean up the property and impose the \$100 fine for first violation. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

There was discussion regarding if an installer for the county defaults on property taxes then they should not be able to work as an installer. This will be reviewed.

Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 P.M.

Commissioners Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Gries at 3:00 P.M.

Minutes

Seiler made a motion to approve the minutes for the Commissioners meeting dated September 3, 2024. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Claims

Brown made a motion to approve claims as presented. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Unsatle Buildings Public Hearing / Todd Hays

1116 N Cherry Street, Richland Indiana 47634

The property owner has made progress on cleaning up the property. No bids will be opened at this time. Hays will bring an update to the next meeting scheduled October 1, 2024. **Gries motioned to approve waiting for an update at the next meeting. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

VSO / Butch Meredith

For week of August 26, 2024, Veterans assisted: 66 Phone Calls: 87

For week of September 2, 2024, Veterans assisted: 79 Phone Calls: 103

Health Department / Mindy Spinks

"Nursing Update" for August 2024:

There was one (1) animal bites reported (dog). There were seven (7) communicable diseases reported. There were eighty (80) vaccines administered.

Environmental Inspector Report for August 2024:
On-Site Systems Permit issued: Six (6) Total number of spec's issued: Seven (7)
Total number of OSS permits issued (2023-2024) not installed: Twelve (12)
Completed OSS installations: Fourteen (14)

There were zero (0) new commercial on-site system permits issued.

New: Twenty-Seven (22)
Repair: One (1)
Replacement: Four (4)

Complaints: Meth

Gries presented a contract from Lochmuller Group to perform residential septic tank inspections and review. The contract includes a scope of work and proposed fees.
Seiler motioned to accept the contract. Gries seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Department / Sherri Heichelbech
No Report.

Highway Department / Dale Kenney
No Report.

Planning Commission / Kay Erwin
August 2024 Permits issued:
Residential (4) \$991,000 Accessory Buildings (9) \$362,000
Addition / Remodel (5) \$161,700 Duplex (3) \$825,000

Totals for 2024:
Residential: \$6,287,000 Accessory Buildings: \$2,011,844
Addition / Remodel: \$874,221 Cell Tower: \$30,000
Duplex: \$825,000 Vacation: \$0

Economic Development
Gries provided an update about READI. The reports submissions are due soon.

It Takes A Village Report for August 2024

Total Dogs: 13	Total Cats: 26	Total Animals: 39
Owner Surrender: Dogs: 5	Cats: 1	Total Animals: 6
Strays Dogs: 8	Cats: 25	Total Animals: 33
Born in Care: Dogs: 0	Cats: 0	Total Animals: 0
Return to Owner: Total Animals: 5		
Died in Care: Dogs: 0	Cats: 0	Total Animals: 0
Community Help: Dogs: 0	Cats: 3	Total Animals: 3
Adoptions: Dogs: 8	Cats: 9	Total Animals: 17
Euth Medical: Total Animals: 1		

Clerk / Darrell Stephens
General election voting begins October 8, 2024 and will continue through Monday, November 4, 2024. He is requesting use of the Commissioners Room during that time.
Brown motioned to approve. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Stephens is presenting a contract for approval for PayCourt. Basically, they will pursue payment for delinquent accounts owed by violators or defendants in court related collections. This is at no cost to the county, but PayCourt will keep thirty percent (30%) of money collected. **Seiler motioned to approve PayCourt. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Surveyor's Position
Jeff Meredith is requesting one (1) month's pay for January 2025. Meredith needs the extra month to meet the fifteen (15) year employment requirement to qualify for PERF benefits. As of December 2024, he will have served fourteen (14) years and eleven (11) months. **Gries motioned to NOT extend the extra month. Brown seconded the motion. Seiler opposed. Motion carried.**

Insurance Claims
At the last meeting, the Commissioners motioned to approve the Council's request to file insurance claims once they reach \$7,500. It was requested that Auditor Bunner put that

in a memo to department heads. It was presented at this meeting. **Brown motioned to approve. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

James Carter / Dog Tax

Mr. Carter is a resident of Perry County and is asking for support in removing the County Option Dog Tax as a law in order for the cities and counties within the state to have more flexibility with controlling the animals within their respective areas.

County Ext Job Description

There was discussion regarding the position continuing to schedule the YCC Building and collecting the money. **Seiler approved the amended job description. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Computer Quotes

Burner presented four (4) quotes for only the hardware portion – Computers and Laptops. **Gries motioned to move forward with Eck-Mundy. No second. Motion died.**

Brown motioned to table. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IT Position

Gries motioned to have an executive session to discuss this and other personnel issues. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried. All agreed on October 1, 2024, at 1:00 P.M.

Legal Report

There was discussion regarding the litigation on solar. Discovery is due and emails have been sent out.

Claybourn presented an endorsement letter for support for the addition of a judicial officer, specifically a magistrate to serve Spencer County. **Seiler motioned to approve the endorsement letter. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Claybourn also provided an update on the status of the new updated handbook. He is looking at 2 – 3 weeks out.

Old Business

Burn barn is still in effect for Spencer County.

Mark Lauther with EMA came to provide an update on the Regional Fire Training Center coming to Spencer County.

New Business

Bill Glenn is requesting to use the Courthouse restrooms for the Masonic Lodge Car Show on September 28, 2024. **Seiler motioned to approve. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Just a reminder that the Tuesday, November 5, 2024, meeting has been moved to Monday, November 4, 2024 due to the courthouse being closed for Election Day.

The PTABOA board had a member step down. **Seiler motioned to nominate Jodey Reisz to take JW Arnolds place on the board. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

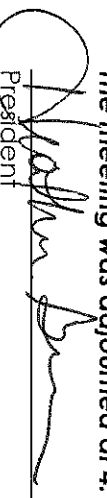
Brown motioned to waive the requirements for the Level II certification. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jane Stout handed out paperwork for raising rates for review. She is looking at making this effective in January 2025.

Stout is requesting approval to seek grants to help pay for equipment needed. **Seiler motioned to approve. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Brown commended the Highway Department for the work they have done.

Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 P.M.


President

Attest:



Auditor, Melissa L. Burner

