

**Commissioners Meeting
February 2, 2021**

Present: Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Heather Gries, Auditor Melissa L. Bunner

Meeting was called to order by President Brown at 2:00 P.M.

Minutes

Seiler made a motion to approve minutes for January 5, 2021. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Claims

Gries made a motion to approve claim numbers 4554, 4556, 4557, and 4560. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Health Department / Kim Hay

No report. Vaccination Clinic Day.

VSO / Butch Meredith

Meredith was unable to attend but sent in his progress. For week of January 11, 2021 the total Veterans assisted this week was 74 and total phone calls totaled 98. For week of January 18, 2021 the total Veterans assisted this week was 61 and total phone calls totaled 96.

Meredith reported two (2) deaths of our local veterans. For this week it was Army Veteran Quentin Peek and Air Force Veteran Jim Magill.

Meredith submitted a quote for the Repair and Repaint of the Bathroom Walls and Ceilings on the third floor due to water leak damage. The total is \$1,500. Seiler motioned to accept the Jeremy Deeg quote. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Hwy Report

No report. The Highway Department is out spreading rock and doing ditch work.

Mayor Donnie Winkler

Winkler is asking for a solution to the stray dog and cat problem in Spencer County. Spencer County currently contracts It Takes A Village to handle the animal control issues. Darrell Wilson came to the meeting to express his concerns as well. The Commissioners suggested calling It Takes a Village to see what they can do to help. Also, look at what other neighboring counties are doing. Maybe some of the other towns can chip in and see if something can be done collectively.

QCC Contract / Lisa Scroggins CEO

Scroggins provided the Commissioners with information regarding the services they provide, a cost savings report and information regarding some of the specialized services included in the contract. She was able to fill in the blanks on some of the questions they had. The contract was signed at the end of the meeting.

Planning Commission / Kay Erwin

Erwin was asked to come to the meeting to present an update on the status of building permits. For 2020 permits unincorporated areas of Spencer County: 46 Residences, 11 Modular / Mobile Homes, 21 Remodel / Repair / Addition, and 86 Pole Barns / Garages. For residences by township: 5 Carter, 7 Clay, 4 Grass, 3 Hammond, 12 Harrison, 4 Huff, 6 Jackson, 8 Luce and 8 Ohio. For Residences by District: 1st was 16, 2nd was 22, and 3rd was 19.

Erwin has two (2) properties that are considered unsafe. Bunner will set up a meeting with Erwin and the Commissioners on February 16, 2021 before the regular meeting to discuss.

SBS Portals Proposal / Melissa L. Bunner

Bunner presented the proposal. SBS is an option to digitalize the records in the Auditor's office. This is an online service to provide to anyone needing to access Spencer County information. The first step is the transfer books. There are two (2) steps to this process. The first is scanning the books and the second is the upkeep and maintaining it. The cost for scanning is estimated at \$62,972.50. The one-time fee to set it up is \$2,500.00. To maintain the portal, it is estimated to be \$550 / month. Bunner is asking for a total of \$70,472.50 to pay out of the Cares Reimbursement account. Bunner submitted a spreadsheet itemizing the Cares Act Reimbursement money and with all pending expenses and all pending approval expenses being considered (including this request), there will be approximately

\$71,153.03 left. Since the money has not been appropriated by the County Council (expected to on February 16, 2021 meeting), Brown has asked that this be brought back at that next meeting.

Brown was asking if there was any additional information regarding the Health Department's previous request for Cares Act Reimbursement. This request was for \$172,701.00. The Health Department was not present and no additional information was able to be provided. The possibility of a task force was suggested. Gries motioned for this task force to address the issues with the Health Department. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Legal Report

Lindsey is following up on the request for the County Handbook amendment for the eighty (80) hour cap on extra emergency sick pay. He presented Ordinance 2021-01. This ordinance is amending the County of Spencer Indiana Personnel Policies Handbook. In Ordinance 2020-03 the County adopted Section 4.3.3 Emergency Paid Sick Leave which expired on December 31, 2020. This Ordinance extends the paid sick leave until March 31, 2021. Seiler motioned to accept Ordinance 2021-01 at first reading. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Lindsey is following up to the request to eliminate the Animal Control Board. Since the Commissioners have a contract with It Takes A Village, they manage the employees and animals. The ordinance that established the board needs to be vacated. Lindsey presented Ordinance 2021-02. The Spencer County Ordinance 2018-11.1 titled "An Ordinance Terminating Ordinance 2007-08 and Establishing the new Spencer County Animal Control Board" is hereby terminated and repealed effective immediately. Seiler motioned to accept Ordinance 2021-02. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved. This was adopted at first reading because the decision was unanimous.

Lindsey is still working on the road closure discussed in the past meetings. He has the distance on 1300 N. Lindsey would like to send out notices of a public hearing. The discussed time of interest for everyone would be before the next meeting on March 2, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. This would be after the Drainage Meeting and before the regular meeting.

Brown asked about the status of the Certificate Sale. There have been questions asked about the process and different scenarios. For example, can someone who is delinquent in the tax sale buy the property back in the certificate sale. The answer is no. There will need to be work done to ensure the list of bidders and buyers is cross checked. Also, the entire process will be held online. Justin is going to reach out to the Auditor to set the date. This sale is for the properties that did not sell in the tax sale on October 7, 2020.

Old Business

Lindsey is working on the 911 Dispatch / Coroner move. He is currently working on the lease agreement to get the Coroner moved to a new location. Lindsey is waiting on clarification from AEP regarding firearms. The contract states no firearms, and the Coroner's deputies may carry firearms. Lindsey will bring it to the next meeting.

New Business

Sheriff Reinke is asking for an Ordinance to allow retiring Officers the option of retaining their firearm and ID. She has an officer that is retiring after 34 plus years of service. Lindsey will work on this and bring an update at the next meeting. The Commissioners support this request.

Reinke is also asking for a letter of support to get a receptacle for medication drop off. CVS will supply the box. It will need to be mounted and monitored. Lindsey will draft the letter of support. Seiler motioned to support this receptacle. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Seiler motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gries seconded the motion. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 P.M.



President

Attest:



Auditor, Melissa L. Bunner




