

TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OF JUNE 17, 2024

REGULAR MEETING:

The Tipton County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, June 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were Tracey Powell and Nancy Cline, County Attorney, Mark Regnier, and Board Secretary and Auditor, Melissa Pickering.

Not in attendance: N/A

Others Present: FROM SIGNATURE LIST

The meeting was opened with a word of prayer offered by Pastor Steve Brown from Normanda Christian Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner, Dennis Henderson.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

The Payroll and Operating Claims were presented as follows:

Payroll Claims:

The Commissioners' payroll claims for payment in the amount of \$228,387.62 on June 17, 2024, were submitted and approved as presented in a motion by Commissioner Cline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell, and the motion carried.

Operating Claims:

The Commissioners' operating claims for payment in the amount of \$226,920.38 on June 17, 2024, were submitted and approved as presented in a motion by Commissioner Powell. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 6, 2024 Regular Meeting
May 20, 2024 Executive Meeting
May 20, 2024 Regular Meeting
June 3, 2024 Regular Meeting

Approved all meeting minutes on a motion from Nancy Cline and Second Tracey Powell.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENT BUSINESS AND REPORTS:

IT Director – Bill Steen – Livestream and need to change the vendor. Boxcast about \$3200. Per year. Does not know the accuracy of close captioning. This will assist the hearing impaired to understand the conversation at Board of Commissioners Meetings. Bill would like to enter into the contract and allow Bill to sign as the contract requires electronic signature. He will continue to use Comcast until August. He will be using zoom cameras with a new encoder. He will need to learn this new system. He has reached out to a company to assist him with camera installation for video recording. The audio portion will be considered into the budget for 2025. Mark Regnier has reviewed the contract and finds it in proper order. Bill has enough in his budget for the first year. Motion to enter into a contract for livestream with Boxcast and allow Bill Steen to sign electronically was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSONER – Steve Niblick:

Steve Niblick presented a Secondary Final Plat regarding the Bergman Family Acres located at 620 W. 300 S., Tipton, Indiana. It's in the city of Tipton's two-mile fringe area extra territorial jurisdiction. The city plan commission did approve this unanimously. But this is on a county road. The plat map was for two 40-foot dedicated right of ways on county line 300 approved on a motion made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried.

Commissioners discussed the topic of the overlay district lawsuit and to have Steve Niblick notify the property owners and move forward with the appeal on the overlay decision. The motion was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Henderson. Commissioner Cline abstained from a vote on this matter. The motion carried.

DLZ – Sara Huss:

Sara Huss addressed the Board of Commissioners regarding the ADA Compliance project for Tipton County. She discussed the transition plan including the self-evaluation and the transition phase of the plan. This plan would include public participation and funding options. She addressed the accessibility needs for the public and accommodations. The County Courthouse, 911 Communications Center, Sheriff's Department and several other departments including service access and common areas.

Courthouse – work on slopes, sidewalks and parking lot and signage. Employee staff areas and common areas were looked at this time. The elevator is not handicapped compliant. Service counter heights are also an issue.

911 Center – restrooms, employee staff areas.

Sheriff's Department – Doors, signage and a few minor deficiencies including heights of water fountains, employee showers.

Highway Garage – entry doors, maneuvering space, non-accessible service counter and restroom.

Fairgrounds – Often have issues with accessible parking and gravel and lawn connections. Work counters in service windows in the main buildings. Signage, door operating speeds and restrooms.

Soil and Conservation – Leased space – accessible routes and doors, signage, drinking fountain heights and restrooms regarding grab bars, etc.

Facility issues are contextual and physical impedance. The courthouse is the highest priority with the many functions which require accessibility in the facility.

Implementation – Four areas that have the highest priority are the Courthouse and Sheriff's Department. The second priority is the Fairgrounds and SWCD. Third priority is staff facilities.

The total expected cost to make the changes required to bring the County Buildings into ADA Compliance is approximately \$ 922,000.00 divided by 20 years.

County Programs and Policies and website capabilities are being addressed in this plan.

The most common concerns were parking lot and accessibility and the virtual meeting sound quality.

The plan implementation will require accessibility and a yearly implementation schedule.

Sherri Crawford – In regard to the budgets, Rich Vautaw stated that there are many things he can handle from the Maintenance perspective to save the county money.

INDOT – States every three years the ADA Compliance Policy should be reviewed and updated.

Our current elevator does not allow for a wheelchair to turn around and exit the elevator nor push the buttons to various floors. For this reason, the individual may need assistance. Signage in this regard is important.

SHERIFF Matt Tebbe –

Matt has no items for the BOC this date.

COUNTY HIGHWAY – Bret Morris:

Bret addressed the board with the discussion of chip and seal of the roadways. Chip and Seal takes all their workers so other projects will resume after chip and seal is finished. The landfill fence was installed last week and there was additional clearing required at the landfill.

Property Acquisitions for the two properties on market street were discussed. Bret Wyatt's \$205,000. The church is \$200,000. The Board decided to give Baird and Wyatt both \$500 as a deposit to hold the two properties. The deposits are contingent upon the Council approving the additional appropriations for the purchase of these two properties. The council meets on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Nancy Cline made a motion to approve the purchase agreements for both properties contingent upon council approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

COUNTY ENGINEER – Engineer, Phil Beer:

Phil Beer submitted his bi-weekly report. They are discussing the best practice for pond #2 and the algae growth thereby not allowing the pond to drain out.

Bridge #26 is underway with beams ready to be set. CCMG Grants for 2024-02 will signed soon for total estimated of \$1.398 million. He will be requesting \$1 million of matching funds from the Council. This project has multiple locations as follows:

Leininger Acres Streets
CR525N – CR550WW to Sharpsville Town Limits
CR600S - SR213 to CR600E
CR600S – CR100E to SR213
CR600S – SR19 to CR100E
CR600S – CR500W to CR300W
Prairie Acres Street

BOT PROJECTS –

Having some issues getting the GMP from the contractors. Still working on numbers for the Courthouse roof. Should have these numbers by the end of June. Rich Vautaw is removing the historical society displays and is well underway. The planning commission will be moved to the second floor soon. INDOT is working on drainage issues currently. Commissioner Cline addressed issues regarding the use of Division being used as a highway.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

HUMANE SOCIETY – Rick Chandler:

Rick Chandler addressed the Board of Commissioners regarding a thank-you for the animal services contract. He addressed the Animal Control issue with Tipton County and presented a copy of his documents to the board only. Expenses are being capped at \$200 for progressive care of shelter animals. Tipton County Foundation provides the Humane Society with a \$5,000 grant to assist them with expenses. Expenses for the county total \$4209.28 through May 31st for medical only. He has asked that the Board of Commissioners continue to support the Humane Society with the same \$28,000, with the agreement that any funds unspent would be returned to the county. The contract is set to auto-renew provided no changes are made prior to the beginning of the next year.

Commissioner Powell asked a few questions regarding grants and funding for the Humane Society. Rick stated that the other entities who may offer assistance require a two-year working program before they become fully involved to assist with any substantial funding.

Tracey Powell stated that prior discussions were mainly in regard to dogs rather than cats and his question was concerning the number of cats on Rick's presentation documents. Rick would like to have further discussions regarding services as they move forward with the Humane Society Program.

PORK FESTIVAL – Jim Heard:

Jim Heard presented the Pork Festival Income Statement to the Board of Commissioners.

The breakdown consisted of Income and Interest in the sum of \$155,677.96; Expenses in the sum of \$140,077.91 with a remaining Net Income of \$3,360.46.

Mr. Heard commented that the city has decided to contribute \$7500 to the Pork Festival. He asked that the Commissioners provide funding as well.

Commissioner Powell commented that the facilities are utilized by the Pork Festival, and he would like to see the Pork Festival become self-sufficient. The county already pays employees to be off work, an additional day on the Friday of Pork Festival since the parking lots and facilities are utilized by the Pork Festival. The Board of Commissioners already have in their 2024 budget a contribution of \$7500 to the Pork Festival.

Commissioner Powell made a motion to approve the \$7500 contribution to the Pork Festival. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline. The motion carried. Auditor Pickering will provide the claim for payment in the Commissioner's next docket.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

Mark Regnier discussed a walk through of the old jail and the permissions required by the Board of Commissioners. Mark stated that the individuals would provide a hold harmless agreement. A motion to allow the old jail to be filmed and a walk through was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

Mark requested a letter to Veridus who supports the EDC and the County with Economic Development, thereby terminating the contract between them and the county. Commissioner Cline made a motion to approve. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

A request to allow the payroll clerk, Adrienne Jenkins, permission to upload the 457 Deferred Compensation thereby signing an agreement was made by Commissioner Cline and seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Payroll Clerk, Adrienne Jenkins addressed the Board of Commissioners with a concern regarding small items, plastic bears and ducks being put in the restrooms and common areas that may look like candy to a child. She expressed concerns that it could be a choking hazard and possibly was placed as a prank and is unnecessary.

Commissioner Cline made a motion to close public comment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Powell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cline, and the motion carried.

Approved this _____, day of June, 2024.

Dennis Henderson, President

Nancy Cline, Vice President

Tracey Powell, Commissioner

Attest:

Melissa Pickering, Tipton County Auditor and
Secretary to the Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2024.