

**DEKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

April 11, 2022

Commissioners Present: President William L Hartman  
Vice President Michael Watson  
Vice President Todd Sanderson

Others Present: Auditor Susan Sleeper  
Attorney James P McCanna

**MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

Dotty Miller discussed the hiring and resigning of a few employees. The Surveyor's department will be a concern with Nathan's announcement of resigning as of April 14<sup>th</sup>. There were several interviews for Community Corrections last week, along with a few no-shows but they were able to offer a few Residential Facilitator positions and are awaiting to here back. Dotty is expecting to hear from Anthem on the 2022 renewal around April 18<sup>th</sup>, Dotty and Rex Whitten will be meeting to review the offer and decide what the next steps would be. Dotty received the ER visit report from Anthem, and it seems that Wednesdays are the highest visited day. Dotty has received 3 quotes for the efficiency study and will compare to see if it is even financially possible.

*The regular Commissioners meeting was recessed at 9:15 for the Public Hearing.*

**MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING TO VACATE PART OF PEARL STREET IN SPENCERVILLE**

Attorney McCanna let everyone know that Mr. Miller has submitted a petition with signatures supporting his request to vacate a portion of Pearl Street in Spencerville; public notice was given along with certified mailings. Matthew Miller explained that his intent is to improve the businesses located around the area. There was not anyone in attendance that wanted to speak for or against the request. The public hearing was close at 9:18.

*The regular commissioners meeting was reconvened at 9:18*

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the vacation with the stipulation of Attorney McCanna to prepare a Resolution to be voted on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

DeWayne Stauffer didn't understand that the vacation of Pearl street would not allow him to have access to his property. Attorney McCanna stated that the issue is between himself and Mr. Miller at this point.

**MATTER OF ORDINANCE 2022-R-4: DCC 9-4-1 AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE OPERATION OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES IN DEKALB COUNTY**

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading by title only an Ordinance 2022-R-4: DCC 9-4-1 An Ordinance Regulating the Operation of Off-Road Vehicles in DeKalb County. William Hartman seconded.

Michael Watson moved to amend section 2 of the ordinance to read:

Utility Vehicle:

- Is 72 inches in width or less

- Is designed to travel on four or more low-pressure or non-pneumatic tires

- Has a steering wheel

- Has two headlights, a taillight, and a brake light

- Has a roll bar

- Has a seat belt for the operator and each passenger.

Michael Watson has had many concerns expressed to him and he feels these are valid concerns and that the amendment needs to be considered.

Todd Sanderson responded with: ORVs are not street legal and not to be meant to be on roads, it says that on the labels of the machines. Sanderson also responded with 'to travel on 4 or more low-pressure or non-pneumatic tires' is not legal on the street and that in his opinion passing an ORV ordinance or a vehicle ordinance. Sanderson doesn't see the advantage of the amended verbiage.

Motion died for lack of second.

Todd Sanderson remains with his original motion to approve on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading by title only an Ordinance 2022-R-4: DCC 9-4-1 An Ordinance Regulation the Operation of Off-Road Vehicles in DeKalb County. William Hartman seconded and motion passed 2,1 with Watson voting against.

**MATTER OF 2021 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL HIGHWAY REPORT**

Ben Parker brought in the 2021 Annual Operational Report for approval.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve and all 3 to sign the 2021 Annual Operational Report for Ben to submit. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

**MATTER OF HIGHWAY**

Ben reported that he is working on the 2022-2025 Bridge Inspection Cycle with the State.

Ben has 2 quotes for the new sign truck, from Max Platt and Bill Yoder. Bill Yoder is the only one that would give a trade in price. Max Platt's price of a 2022 F-550 came in at \$48,494.50 and they will NOT quote a trade-in value and Bill Yoder's price came in at \$56,850 with \$25,550 trade in for a total of \$31,300. H&H, Kalida Truck, and MCB quoted for the body, crane, lights, storage cabinets, hitch with install \$63,621 from H&H, \$64,000 from Kalida, \$71,021 from MCB. Commissioner Sanderson asked Ben which company he prefers, and Ben suggests going with Bill Yoder and H&H. Sanderson stated that the quote of trade-in and sale price with Bill Yoder does show that he is stepping up and taking a chance and he agrees going with Bill Yoder. Commissioner Hartman is in favor of H&H given the lock features, etc. and had good experience with the Weights & Measures Truck.

Michael Watson made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2022 F-550 truck with H&H doing the body work. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

**Quotes for Mini-Excavator:** Ben stated that there have been multiple companies bring in the units and allow the Highway Department to demo them, which was greatly appreciated. The current 1987 555V Ford Backhoe that will be traded in, is still currently used and continually breaks each time it is used.

2022 Kobelco SK85CS mini excavator from Southeastern Equipment came in at \$117,397 with trade of \$7,460 leaving a difference of \$109,931.

2022 Doosan DX85R mini excavator from B&W Equipment came in at \$104,022.43 with a trade of \$7,000 leaving a difference of \$97,022.43

2022 Cat 308 mini excavator from MacAllister Machinery came in at \$143,523.38 and no trade value was quoted.

After having discussion with Mark and the employees they all prefer the Kobelco SK85CS from Southeastern Equipment over the other two options.

Commissioner Hartman asked if the mini-excavator would take some of the work off the Grade-All, and that is the plan and to help extend that life. Commissioner Sanderson asked if we have the money to purchase this, Ben has put \$400,000 in his Local Road & Street budget for equipment in his 2022 Budget.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve Ben to move forward with the purchase of the 2022 Kobelco SK85CS mini excavator from Southeastern Equipment in the amount of \$109,931 even though this is not the lowest quote due to the reasons Ben pointed out with the Kobelco having better visibility and a larger counter weight that really helps with safety. Michael Watson seconded by and all approved.

**Quotes for Power-Broom:** We currently have a tricycle mounted broom and it has done some damage to our current trucks due to the logistics of how it is operated but Ben does plan to hold on to the current broom for the time being.

Southeastern quoted the following: Superior DT74F at \$69,500 and can shift the broom out about 12 inches and includes a front blade. Also quoted was a Superior DT74J at \$64,700 and does not have a front blade.

Brandeis Machinery quoted a Broce RCT 350 at \$67,648, this unit does not have a side-shift broom, rear suspension or a suspension seat.

**Quotes for Small Roller:** We currently do not have a small roller, only a very large street roller. We currently borrow Auburns mini-roller when the County is in need of a smaller roller.

Southeastern Equipment quoted a Bomag BW120AD at \$53,775 and also quoted a Bomag BW120SL at \$39,475.

B&W Equipment quoted an Ammann ARX26 at \$40,300.

Brandeis Machinery quoted a Hamm HD 12 at \$41,925.

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the purchase of the Bomag BW120-SL at \$39,475 from Southeastern and the Superior DT-74F at \$69,500 from Southeastern Equipment. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUESTS**

Michael Watson made a motion to approve the following travel requests:

- 1) Lauren Deutch to attend HR roundtable at the ACD Museum held on April 13, 2022. Estimated cost of \$30.00 paid by department travel.
- 2) Bernie Sukala & Jessica Stanczak to attend IEHA Monthly meeting in Whitley County held on April 21, 2022. Estimated cost of \$0.00 paid by department travel.
- 3) Susan Sleeper, Carla Winebrenner & Jody Wiedenhoef to attend the AIC Institute for Excellence Budget & Finance II class held in Indy the day before conference. Estimated cost of \$160.00 paid from Elected Officials Training Fund and department travel.
- 4) Richard Ring to watch the recorded version of the AIC Institute for Excellence Budget & Finance II class. Estimated cost of \$60 paid by Commissioners Travel.
- 5) Jessica Stancak to attend IEHA Spring Conference in Plainfield held on April 28, 2022. Estimated cost of \$429.80 paid by department travel.
- 6) Ryan Hull to attend the Justice Services Conference at Indiana Convention Center held on May 4-6, 2022. Estimated cost of \$640.00 paid by department travel.
- 7) Jonnie LaRowe to attend the Justice Services Conference at Indiana Convention Center held on May 4-6, 2022. Estimated cost of \$640.00 paid by department travel.
- 8) Quentin Young & William Ternet to attend the Justice Service Conference at Indiana Convention Center held on May 4-6, 2022. Estimated cost of \$990.00 paid by department travel.
- 9) Johanna Scott to attend the Justice Services Conference at Indiana Convention Center held on May 4-6, 2022. Estimated cost of \$635.00 paid by department travel.
- 10) Joshua Byanski to attend Chemistry 101- Getting to know Your ISP Chemists at Embassy Suites of South Bend at Notre Dame held on May 10, 2022. Estimated cost of \$99.50 paid by department travel.
- 11) Schuyler Casto to attend Chemistry 101- Getting to know Your ISP Chemists at Embassy Suites of South Bend at Notre Dame held on May 10, 2022. Estimated cost of \$99.50 paid by department travel.
- 12) Dotty Miller to attend 15<sup>th</sup> Annual NE Indiana HR Association Conference at PFW held on May 12, 2022. Estimated cost of \$140.00 paid by department travel.
- 13) Cheryl Lynch, Bernie Sukala, Cathy Manuel, Jessica Stanczak & Carma Johnson to attend the Railway Incident Plan Workshop held in Kendallville on May 24, 2022. Estimated cost of \$0.00 paid by department travel.
- 14) Cheryl Lynch, Debra Krafft, Carma Johnson & Theresa Overy to attend Pink Book Vaccine Training held in Plainfield on October 24-25, 2022. Estimated cost of \$2,048.00 paid by department travel.

Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF CLAIMS**

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve General Claims consisting of warrant #132979 thru 133030 in the amount of \$109,715.92, and wire transfer #20678 thru 20777 in the amount of \$904,914.32. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

#### **MATTER OF MINUTES**

Michael Watson made the motion to approve the corrected minutes dated April 4, 2022 with the date change. Todd Sanderson seconded and all approved.

**MATTER OF UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING AT SUNNY MEADOWS**

Don Pierson presented the 2022 Day of Caring Project Application for Commissioners approval. Don is applying to have the floor of the back deck replaced, trim bushes, repair & paint picnic tables, and repaid outside sitting area.

Todd Sanderson made a motion for the president to sign the 2022 Day of Caring Project Application for Sunny Meadows. Michael Watson reluctantly seconded and all approved.

**MATTER OF COUNTY HOME REPORT**

Todd Sanderson made a motion that the Commissioners acknowledge receipt of the September 2021 County Home Report. Michael Watson seconded, and all approved.

**MATTER OF LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTY AND C&H DECORATIVE PRODUCTS, LLC AND SIMPLIFIED HOLDINGS, LLC.**

Todd Sanderson made a motion to approve the amended lease agreement and the president to sign. Michael Watson seconded and all approved.

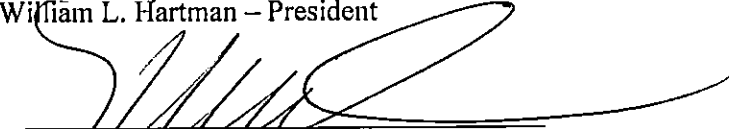
**MATTER OF ABANDONED RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY**

Lynn Weathers residing at 3497 CR 28 came to discuss 4.3 acres that is now part of the City and the Railroad Right of Way on West Street in Waterloo. The Railroad right of way was not listed correctly in the Tax Sale and the Boone County order recorded with #20607067 that abandoned property was to revert to the adjoining landowners and that the Saginaw Railroad never owned it and could not sell it. Jim explained that some of the properties the railroad purchased a fee and some of the properties was just a right of way. Jim McCanna had retained a title company to do a title search on the property in which Chris Albright purchased from Tax Sale, showed owner was the Railroad and that the Tax Sale Deed was done properly.

**MATTER OF OTHER DISCUSSION**


Topics include: Hoosier Homes, Mini-mill change and how it affects the County, Economic Development from State and 'super TIFs', and the Corn crib @ Sunny Meadows.

  
William L. Hartman – President

  
Michael Watson – Vice President

  
Todd Sanderson – Vice President

Attest:

  
Susan Sleeper, Auditor