

**HIGHWAY/BUILDING/GROUNDS/ENVIRONMENTAL/ZONING  
AND WELFARE COMMITTEE  
March 13, 2023**

Present: Thomas Snyder, Jr., Chairman, Mike Specha, Seth Foster, Jeff Nolen, David Buckles  
Absent: None  
Others present: Bryan Sharp, Linda Curtin, Jean Vandenberg, Venise McWard, Bill Kennedy, Erica Matthews, Ron Brown, Dwanna Kelmel, Cliff Frye, Blake Tarr, Shawn Hammers, Lucas Domonousky, and Elizabeth Hile in attendance.

The meeting of the Highway/Building/Grounds/Environmental/Welfare/Zoning Committee was called to order on Monday, March 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting was County building issues, highway business and any other matters properly brought before the Committee. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**MEALS ON WHEELS ADDITIONAL ARPA REQUEST**

No one was present to provide additional cost information on this request.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Jeff Nolen to table until enough information is provided to discuss further. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

**AUTISTIC MOVEMENT PROJECT ARPA REQUEST**

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to move this item to later in the meeting agenda. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

**ZONING BUSINESS**

Zoning Director's Report

Blake Tarr highlighted his zoning report which included number of permit fees collected for February, site inspections, and noted 2 non-compliance notice letters (no permit). Additional information highlighted included what will be heard by the ZBA this month and continued correspondence with Invenegy and East Point Energy who plans to attend the March CB meeting to provide a project introduction on their battery energy storage project.

Blake updated the committee on the Elevator on Rt. 48. He received an email on February 23, 2023 from the attorney for CB Media stating a bid has been secured and it is anticipated the project could start in 2 to 3 months. Updates will be provided as they become available.

A member of the committee inquired about the process, penalties, etc. if this falls through or we have another issue. He felt the county needs to be proactive in the future. The committee would like for Blake to research surrounding counties regarding this issue so they have a place to start for possible change to the current zoning code.

## SOLID WASTE BUSINESS

### Solid Waste Director's Report

Shawn Hammers reviewed his monthly report which included inspections he has done and compliance letters that have gone out. He has now met the qualifications to be certified by the IEPA as an inspector and is just waiting on the certification. Shawn distributed a copy of the marketing flyer for the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste collection which will be held at the Christian County Fairgrounds on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Advertising and social media marketing plans were noted. He is currently reviewing the 1998 Environmental Protection Standards and Enforcement ordinance for possible revision recommendations.

## HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Cliff Frye advised every 4 to 5 years Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) conducts a safety inspection. IDOL recently conducted one of those inspections at the highway department. As long as violations are resolved in an appropriate time frame no penalties result. The violations received were general housekeeping (trip and fall hazards), non-DOT certified gas cans, exposed fuse panel which Cliff explained where this panel is located in the 1940 building and remedy, need for fire extinguisher inspections which the department was already securing inspections for, mounting of a grinder and no written SDS plan on file. The corrections and correction dates will be provided to IDOL.

## STORM DAMAGE

Ron Brown, Maintenance Supervisor noted storm problems he was aware of included a speaker cover at the court house was damaged and due to the high winds and water blowing under doors on the north at the court house and Health Department.

Cliff Frye also noted high winds damaged the roof at the Highway Department particularly on the NE corner. Henson Robinson has done some temporary repairs but permanent repair will be needed.

Cliff was asked about the overall condition of the Highway Department. He advised now that there is some money back in the MFT fund they may be able to move forward on plans that are ready for rewiring and the windows need replaced. Otherwise, the building in general is a sound building.

## ANIMAL CONTROL

Dwanna Kelmel who is the Interim Animal Control Director provided information on the number of animals adopted and reclaimed for February.

## COURTHOUSE AND BUILDING BUSINESS

### Window/HVAC Project Update

Bill Kennedy advised a final meeting recently took place to finalize the bid specification package.

### Attic Fire Detection Update

Bill recently realized that half of the conduit is already present. An electrician would need to put the remaining conduit in and then the alarm system could be installed. There would be alarm systems in various areas of the attic with an estimated cost for the alarm of \$5,000.00. The committee asked Bill to develop bid specifications.

#### Animal Control Gate Update

The gate is here and Bill wants to make sure he knows how it operates and wants to put a radio control on it.

#### Solid Wastes/Zoning Roof Update

Bill advised Bolash will be here as soon as weather allows.

#### ROE Floor Work Update

Conduits have all been moved and material is in the basement. There is some concrete work that will be done on a weekend as it cannot be done during normal business hours.

#### Steeple Surge Projector “utilized” and replaced

The lightning protectors that are in place have worked very well for us. One on the steeple was hit last summer or fall and it damaged one internet control switch. This surge protector was recently replaced.

#### Health Department Remodel Update

Bill advised the previous information provided on potential cost to revamp the Health Department was an estimate based on work done at a similar small office location. He feels the appropriate thing to do at this point is to get an estimate of what an architect would charge to provide us a true cost estimate to remodel the existing Health Department facility.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to allow Bill Kennedy to obtain estimates for what an architect would charge to look at the Health Department in order to obtain remodeling cost estimates. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### Replacing Remaining 3 Entrance Doors

Motion by Thomas Snyder, Jr. and second by David Buckles to direct Bill Kennedy to get bid specifications together for bidding the replacement of the remaining 3 entrances at the court house. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

Ron Brown advised that at some point sewer work will be done converting all pipe to PVC. Right now from the basement to the cleanout on the NE corner, the pipe is PVC to clay to cast iron and back to PVC. We have experienced more frequent problems recently that warrant this repair. Ron just wanted the committee to be aware.

#### AUTISTIC MOVEMENT PROJECT ARPA REQUEST

Erica Matthews was able to provide 1 additional bid from a company out of St. Louis but that bid was for a 2 chair system versus a platform lift. She has had difficulty obtaining more bids. Bill Kennedy offered to look at this situation to see if he could offer any alternative ideas.

Motion by Mike Specha and second by Jeff Nolen to table until next month to allow Bill Kennedy to look at the building and stair situation. A roll call vote polled all ayes. Motion carried.

#### OTHER MATTERS

Chairman Sharp advised all members of a Special CB meeting that has been scheduled on Wednesday, March 22 at 6:15 p.m. At that meeting, Mike Specha will be giving a presentation from Jail Advisory Group (JAG). Additionally that evening beginning at 5 p.m.,

Chief Deputy Jim Baker has been asked to be available for tours of the Sheriff's Department for those members who have not had the opportunity to do so.

Motion by David Buckles and second by Thomas Snyder, Jr. to adjourn. All members were in favor.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Snyder, Jr.  
Buildings/Highway/Environmental/Zoning  
Welfare Chairman  
03/13/2023