Present: Rick Nobbe, Jerome Buening and Mark Koors

The August 6th, 2018 Commissioners meeting was called in session by President Nobbe. He announced Title VI voluntary survey forms are available on the table in the corner for whoever would like to complete and turn into the Auditor’s office.

The July 16th meeting minutes were reviewed, Mr Buening then moved to approve, Mr Koors seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred. After reviewing the accounts payable claims and payroll claims, Mr Koors moved to approve, Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Nobbe concurred.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr approved the contractor’s request for a road closure during the ‘deck pouring’ on Bridge 168. This project is on schedule for the completion date by the end of October. He hasn’t received any word from INDOT yet on their review of our contract for Bridge 236. Mr Mohr and Mr Buening met with an INDOT representative about two months ago, to discuss a ‘road swap’ on road 421- no official word back from that discussion. Community Crossings Grant application period opens August 6th; actually INDOT called Mr Mohr a few weeks ago to ask if his department would ‘do a trial run’ on INDOT’s IPAT electronic forms which are all online. It took about a day and a half to complete the process. The PACER ratings are completed, so Mr Mohr will bring a list of roads to the next Commissioners meeting for review. Mr Mohr was contacted by Jim Curry of Tall Grass (formerly Rockies Express Pipeline) requesting a ‘release of bond’ for the construction of a compression station near St Paul. The bond included coverage for any damages to our county roads during the construction. Tall Grass did reimburse the Highway Department for costs to repair those roads. County Attorney Ken Bass will prepare a statement for Mr Nobbe to sign to release the bonds. Mr Mohr asked the Commissioners about pursuing relocating of the Highway Department. The County’s Redevelopment Commission is very interested in helping the County with this project. Mr Buening stated we have an opportunity to gain storage for equipment and pipe which now sits outside in the weather. Mr Koors agreed the need is there and we don’t need to spend money on the current location. Mr Nobbe asked Mr Mohr to continue to research on available acreage (10 – 15 acres) and costs on possibilities.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall didn’t have anything to report today.

Mr Nobbe stated he had received an email about an ordinance on land uses and questions on the authority of the Tech Review Committee. He suggested better defining the scope of this committee and who sits on it.

Area Plan Building Inspector Kenny Buening presented an update for the last three weeks. He completed 64 building inspections; issued 17 new building permits plus plan reviews plus ‘red tagging’ a dwelling in Cory Addition. The owner had a Greensburg building permit displayed, but Kenny informed him Cory Addition is outside of the city limits; so the owner applied to Area Plan for a county building permit. He met County Sanitarian Alan Crosby on July 24th regarding a building permit for an addition to an older home. Mr Crosby advised the property owners he didn’t have any record of a septic system on that property.

Indiana Small Business Development Center Ginnie Faller presented a request for $5,000 for the office space which they share with the Chamber of Commerce at Greensburg City Hall. Ms Faller works for Purdue University as a business adviser, covering six counties, who works out of the New Albany office.

Bryan Robbins, Executive Director of the Economic Development Commission, presented his second quarter report on economic development and community development. A common topic for counties and towns such as ours is the quality of life issues which include walking and biking trails, access to broadband- high speed internet, city park dam and gathering places such as a community coffee shop. He is currently assisting businesses, as well as the Greensburg City Council and County Assessor Dorene Greiwe, on the tax abatement process.

Jail Commander Tony Blodgett told the Commissioners a solution to the overcrowding at the current jail is needed now- sooner than later. His proposal to purchase a $1.17 million dollar ‘pod’ to be placed as part of the current jail would house up to forty-eight inmates and the pod could be relocated to the new jail to be used for work release, drug rehab or classrooms. Prosecutor Nathan Harter, Circuit Court Judge Tim Day, Superior Court Judge Matthew Bailey, Sheriff Greg Allan, Greensburg Police Chief
Brendan Bridges, were in attendance to support Mr Blodgett’s request and not wait until a facility in Henryville, IN could be repurposed for housing inmates as an option for several counties experiencing the same overcrowding problems as Decatur County. He prepared a cost analysis of purchasing a pod, $1.2 million versus $953,000 a year for Henryville plus $2,862 a month for electric. Prosecutor Harter stated the jail we’re building is too small, it should be a three hundred bed facility; so he supports the pod option. Mr Harter believes adding Henryville is a wonderful option, but time is against us and is risking the publics’ safety. After different options and scenarios were discussed, Mr Nobbe stated Chris Grabosky of Maxwell Construction will go before the Greensburg Zoning Board on August 21st to request a variance for ‘setting the pod and attaching’ it to the current jail. The Commissioners need to ‘weight out’ the pros and cons of Henryville versus the pod. Mr Blodgett has the ‘agreement to purchase’ and the ‘notice to proceed’ from Eagle who could get started three weeks early as there is a five to six month construction window. Mr Nobbe stated the County Council has approved spending up to $2 million.

Mr Bass didn’t have much to report, just miscellaneous stuff which could wait until next meeting.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Koors moved to recess and Mr Buening seconded and Mr Nobbe concurred.

The next Commissioners meeting will be August 20th, 2018 at 8:00 am.

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Richard J Nobbe

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Attest:__________________________
Date:___________________________