

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2023 AT 9:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE BRYAN COLLIER, DON ADAMS, AND KENNY HALE. LINDA PRUITT, COUNTY AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; AND JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR WERE ALSO PRESENT.

PLEDGE

PRAYER – *Kenny Hale*

MINUTES

Don Adams made a motion to approve the December 4, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Bryan Collier noted that he was listed as “the favorite” Commissioner on the minutes and that the Executive Assistant might not want to leave her desk with the computer unlocked, leaving the minutes open to possible alterations. Motion carried 3-0.

RECESS

The Board recessed the meeting and opened the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – *Lease Agreement – Courthouse Project*

Josh Messmer stated that the Indiana Bond Bank has taken an unusual position that the Board of Commissioners needs to hold a public hearing and sign the lease that was approved in November. Bryan Collier asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

RECONVENE

Bryan Collier made a motion to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Kenny Hale made a motion to reconvene the Board of Commissioners meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

LEASE AGREEMENT AND RESOLUTION - #2023-12-29

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-12-29, Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Morgan County, Indiana Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Agreement and Related Matters. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION APPROVING PLEDGE OF TAX INCREMENT - #2023-12-29 B

Josh Messmer stated that this resolution was introduced at the previous meeting. The resolution regards the Westpoint TIF financing. This is the final stage and pledges 50% of the TIF revenue to the bonds that Hendricks County will be in charge of issuing with the developer. Once the developer issues the bonds, sometime in early 2024, the county will receive \$600,000 as part of that negotiation. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-12-29 B, Resolution of the Morgan County Board of Commissioners Approving Pledge of Morgan County Redevelopment Commission Pledge of Tax Increment to Hendricks County Bonds. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

MPO AGREEMENT

Josh Messmer stated that at the Commissioners direction, they have been working on leadership training. This agreement regards a software package that the Sheriff’s Office and jail are using to help improve employee evaluations for the right fit for the job. They can score positions to find out what profiles are going to be the right fit. Home Bank has been using this program. The county is starting with the smallest license and will slowly roll it out over a few years. Dave Rogers stated that this is used for promotional process and is working out very well. The county has been discussing performance evaluations for several years; the employees evaluate themselves and it sets goals and gives tools for management of employees. Mr. Rogers stated that it is a useful tool for recruitment, to promotion, to getting people in the right positions. Don Adams motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

PITNEY BOWES

Josh Messmer stated that this agreement with Pitney Bowes and the Prosecutor’s Office is part of the state QPA. Since they are in a separate building, they started using their own postage machine when they moved out of the Courthouse. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Conflict of Interest form submitted by Bryan Collier. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0-1. Bryan Collier abstained.

ORDINANCE #2023-27 – 2nd Reading

Debb Verley stated that this ordinance to dispose of out of date tasers from the Sheriff's Office was approved at a prior meeting, but there were some corrections. The prior version included approval to recycle items and to sell items and these options were removed. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve Ordinance #2023-27 Ordinance Approving Disposition of Personal Property and to waive an additional reading. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENTS

Don Adams made a motion to table appointments to the Regional Sewer District. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement with Paganelli Group and appoint Anne Cowgus as the county attorney. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

LEASE TERMINATION AGREEMENT

Don Adams made a motion to table. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Don Adams modified his motion to table until March. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

SOCIETY OF GENERAL MORGAN

Don Adams stated that Eric Acker has been on the Morgan County Regional Sewer District Board since it was formed in 2008 and he has submitted his resignation. Almost every year the Board of Commissioners nominates someone who has dedicated their time and resources for the betterment of the county, often without monetary reimbursement, to the Society of General Morgan. Don Adams read the following:

Early Indiana leaders found great inspiration in the life and deeds of General Daniel Morgan, who volunteered to serve his country repeatedly in the Revolutionary War believing that he could contribute to the successful pursuit of principles.

General Morgan has served as an appropriate inspiration for Morgan County's name and for its citizens down through this day.

He was an effective leader who inspired his men and led them to success in the pursuit of difficult goals.

General Morgan suffered injury, yet returned to battle even when his health was poor.

General Morgan was a hard and tireless worker, and one of the best field commanders in American history.

He followed his record of war success by turning to participation in the newly established democracy of his nation and was elected to serve a term in the House of Representatives.

His record is heroic, and those who have come to live in the communities of his Namesake County have inherited his heroism.

Morgan County has been blessed with many people who have been leaders and servants and heroes in helping their fellow citizens, frequently toiling in quiet humility motivated only to improve the lot of their communities and fellow citizens.

The Morgan County Board of Commissioners recognize these great leaders for their good works and desire to recognize and call upon them as a valuable resource in the County.

*Accordingly, the Board of Commissioners, having established
The Society of General Morgan, whose members are the best in the County who do the best
for the County,*

*Hereby name ERIC ACKER as a member of
The Society of General Morgan, on this 29th day of December 2023.*

Mr. Acker stated that he was glad to be able to provide the service.

ADJOURNMENT

Kenny Hale made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Bryan Collier

Attest:

Don Adams

Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

Kenny Hale