

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 AT 9:30 A.M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT WERE RYAN GOODWIN, KENNY HALE AND NORMAN VOYLES. DAN BASTIN, AUDITOR AND DALE COFFEY, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT.

PLEDGE

PRAYER (*Ryan Goodwin*)

AMENDMENT #2 – *1st Reading*

Dave Rogers, Morgan County Jail Commander, stated that Aramark provides meal for inmates at the jail and the county has a five-year contract. The contract allows for a Consumer Price Index increase each year for food cost increases and has provided an amendment to the Operating Agreement. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve Amendment #2. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENT – *County Administrator*

Ryan Goodwin stated that over the summer they began the process of hiring a county administrator. There were over 70 applicants for the position. A hiring committee of the Board of Commissioners, Council President and Vice President narrowed the field down to five or six candidates to interview and conducted two rounds of interviews with the top choices. They are now ready to make an appointment. Kenny Hale made a motion to appoint Josh Messmer as the County Administrator. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. There is not a start date, but it will be sometime in the first half of November. Motion carried 2-1. Norman Voyles was opposed.

Mr. Goodwin noted that Mr. Messmer is currently the civil engineer for the City of Martinsville and is essentially performing the duties of the deputy mayor of administration for the city.

BUILDING LEASE

Ryan Goodwin stated that the Board has met in Executive Session several times to discuss strategy related to the purchase or lease of real estate and the discussions have reached a point to take action. Kenny Hale stated that he has been working with the Artesian Group and legal counsel. The Board had to meet several requirements for a lease with an option to purchase and first right of refusal. One requirement was a petition with 50 signatures to support the lease. Mr. Hale obtained a petition with 57 signatures and supplied a draft floor plan for the building renovation. The estimated average cost of two estimates for the renovation is \$539,589.07. There are also two appraisals; however, Mr. Hale did not provide these as one is being revised. Mr. Hale stated that this costs are for the former Reporter Times building on Jefferson Street. The lower level could be prosecutor's offices and the raised area could be Title IV-D.

Dale Coffey stated that the location of the building is 60 S. Jefferson Street in Martinsville. The lease is a 10-year lease with the start date of when the county takes possession and that depends on the build out and approval for occupancy. The cost of the lease is \$7,500 per month or \$90,000 per year depending on the renovation costs. If costs to renovate increase, then the lease would increase by 9% of the additional costs. The county would be responsible for paying all costs associated with maintenance and upkeep of the building after the first year with the exception of any mechanicals that are under a manufacturer's warranty. The county would have to insure the building against fire, theft, liability, etc. Ryan Goodwin stated that the building is owned by Craig Fenneman and they will be responsible for the construction, façade repair, and construction inside the building. There are space issues within county government and they are in need of more office space, not only in the Administration Building, but also the Courthouse. Kenny Hale made a motion to enter into a lease with the Artesian Group, Craig Fenneman, appoint Ryan Goodwin as signatory and work with the Prosecutor's Office, Title IV-D, and Board of Judges to renovate the building. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

CHAPLAIN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Ryan Goodwin stated that the County has enjoyed a very low cost partnership between the county and Morgan County Chaplains. George Watkins has nearly given a full time effort as a chaplain for the last several years. The only compensation he has been receiving is \$2,000 to cover gas. The 911 Dispatch Center, EMA, Sheriff's Department, Coroner, and EMS all greatly appreciate his efforts. A professional services agreement has been drafted to contract with Mr. Watkins to

designate Morgan County Chaplains the chaplain of record for Morgan County. The agreement requires the organization to continue to provide its own vehicle, gas, supplies, and other related expenses. Norman Voyles asked where the funds would come from. Mr. Goodwin stated that the various public safety agencies that are being served have agreed to provide the funds, although he was not opposed to providing a portion of funds through the Commissioners' budget. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

ORDINANCE - UNDERGROUND TRANSMISSION DEVICES ON COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY

Dale Coffey stated that he talked with Lisa Plummer at the Morgan County Highway Garage concerning problems with the current ordinance. Mr. Coffey has not had time to draft the changes to the ordinance and asked that it be tabled until the October meeting. Norman Voyles made a motion to table the ordinance until the October meeting. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

SPEED LIMIT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – 2nd Reading

Ryan Goodwin stated that this was approved unanimously at the prior meeting; however, an ordinance requires two readings. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the ordinance on second reading. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION – 95th Civil Affairs Brigade

Ryan Goodwin stated that the 95th Civil Affairs Brigade will be conducting training from the 19th of February to the 4th of March. This training session will be conducted in western Ohio and central and southern Indiana to include Camp Atterbury. The US Army has invited units of government within a certain proximity of the training to participate. Mark Tumey, Morgan County EMA Director, stated that he met with Major Matthews last week and signed an agreement for a training exercise. Mr. Tumey stated that they will come to Morgan County with their staff and participate in an exercise with EMA. A lot of the grants are based on terrorism and the exercise will be a domestic terrorism event. The exercise will point out the things they do well and the things that need improved upon.

Mr. Tumey stated that having been in public safety for a lot of years, you see things that you don't want to remember and you block those memories until a sound or smell or action floods back. Mr. Tumey stated that Mr. Watkins would be able to recognize that in a person and help find the assistance that they need.

Mr. Goodwin stated that this purpose of the Letter of Notification is to notify the Board of the activity. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the Letter of Notification. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

PARK SIGNAGE AGREEMENT – Green 3

Ryan Goodwin stated that they are waiting on the revised agreement with Green 3. Kenny Hale made a motion to table the item until the October 7th meeting. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT TORNADO SIREN DONATION

Ryan Goodwin stated that this ordinance accepts the ownership of two tornado sirens from Clay Township. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the ordinance and waive a second reading if the vote is unanimous. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

SOUTH CENTRAL INDIANA REMC PERMIT REQUEST

Ryan Goodwin stated that REMC petitioned the Highway Department for a permit to bore into certain county roads in their effort to deploy fiber. Larry Smith, former Morgan County Highway Engineer, had normally been the signatory and approved of these types of items. It is consistent with other applications that REMC has made and that have been approved. It follows the ordinance that they will post bond for the repair. One potential issue is that one area is in the Paragon area and there is a lack of clarity regarding ownership of a portion of the right of way. The Board of Commissioners had taken steps to be helpful in broadband deployment and would not want to slow down this endeavor, they also must be comfortable moving forward. Norman Voyles stated that they may have already installed line on existing poles. Mr. Goodwin noted that there are no road cuts and 35 road bores. Mr. Voyles stated that as long as they are going under the road, he was fine with that. Kenny Hale stated that as long as the bore is 12" to 18" under the bottom of the swales alongside the road. Dale Coffey stated that the permit states that all installation would have to be a minimum of 36" below the existing ditch line. Kenny Hale stated that they could be using boxes that would be in the ditches and made a motion to table the issue until the ordinance regarding the permitting could be approved. Mr. Goodwin stated that it looks like they are coming off the poles to the homes. Mr. Hale withdrew his motion. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the permits for 35 road bores. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale.

Motion carried 3-0.

TRANSFER AND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION LETTERS

Ryan Goodwin stated that there was a letter for a transfer and an additional appropriation to send to the Council. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve both letters. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 2-1. Norman Voyles was opposed.

TORT CLAIM

Norman Voyles made a motion to send the Crone tort notice to the insurance carrier. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

COURTHOUSE SQUARE

Norman Voyles stated that there have been a few articles in the paper recently about remodeling the Courthouse square and this involves county property. The article stated that the county was “all in” and there is a county commissioner and county council member on the steering committee. Mr. Voyles asked who the county members were and when a vote was taken to be “all in”. Ryan Goodwin stated that he is serving on the committee and has only voiced his personal support for the project and has not taken any action on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The Board will need to take some action at some point in the future.

Daniel Elliott, Morgan County Council, stated that he is the Council representative on the committee and echoed Mr. Goodwin’s comments. There have been no cost estimates to submit for approval; they are just in the early stages.

ORDINANCE 6-2-2

Kenny Hale stated that this ordinance regards the assignment of addresses for 911 purposes. Currently, Mr. Hale does this addressing and is willing to pass this off. Dale Coffey stated that the county currently has an ordinance regarding road numbering and naming. The ordinance dates back to February 17, 1992. It specifically addresses who is responsible for specific aspects of the road numbering and naming in the county. There is not a need to change the ordinance, as it outlines the procedure, but the procedure has not been followed as far as what body does what; but maybe they need to reaffirm that they are going to follow the ordinance. The County Commissioners serve as the coordinating body and is responsible for assigning addresses within the jurisdiction, the Plan Commission has the responsibility of determining those numbers and street association. The Commissioners name county roads. The ultimate authority for roads in a subdivision falls with the Plan Commission. The Highway Department has some input. The Plan Commission keeps the postal community address list, they would also keep the road index current. The Plan Commission would not do anything with MSAG or SAG. Kenny Hale made a motion to reaffirm the procedure outlined in Ordinance 6-2-2. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Ryan Goodwin

Kenny Hale

Attest:

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

Norman Voyles