

**Warren County Commissioners
Work Session
Commissioners Conference Room
July 26, 2021, 12:00 p.m.**

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin called the Work Session of the Warren County Commissioners to order with Commissioner Jeff Eggleston present.

Staff Present: Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk, Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections, Kim Exley, Employee Relations Administrator, and Phil Gilbert, Director of Tax Claim

Citizens Present: Josh Cotton (WTO), Vince DeJoy, Warren City, and Shannon Crooker, SEF

Announcements:

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin started the meeting by stating that the meeting will be recorded.

Public Hearings:

Old Items of Discussion:

New Items of Discussion:

Bike/Hike Trail Bid(s): Bids were opened for the Bike/Hike Trail Repair Project. Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk stated that there was one bid received from IA Construction, and the amount of the bid was \$90,992.05.

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that this will be reviewed by Dan Glotz, Director of Planning & Zoning, and the engineer and possibly awarded at Wednesdays public meeting.

Tax Claim Registration for Tax Sales: Phil Gilbert, Director of Tax Claim stated that the law has been changed that now requires bidders to register before they can bid at any tax sales. This list of bidders must then go out to the municipalities for them to have a chance to object to any bidders.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt explained the process of how the registration works, and why this has been put into place. They must register 10 days prior to the sale in order to bid on properties.

Phil stated that this starts the first week in August; a packet will go out to the municipalities explaining the new process.

Vince DeJoy asked if there are any criteria to follow for a municipality to object to a bidder. Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that it could be the fact that they already own blighted property, or they owe the sewer authority, all the normal reasons for not wanting someone to bid and own on properties.

Phil stated that Act 33 allows the county to charge a registration fee to which it was decided to charge \$15.00. We feel this is a fair cost.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt then stated that a business has some documentation that must be provided with their registration before someone can bid on their behalf.

Phil stated that the new fee schedule which includes this registration fee is on Wednesday's agenda for approval.

Act 57 or 2020: Kim Exley, Employee Relations Administrator stated that she wanted to bring it to everyone's attention that with this act, there will be some changes in the way that some law enforcement positions get filled.

C-Pace Presentation: Vince DeJoy gave a very brief description of C-Pace, and the fact that it regards being energy efficient and another way for economic development. He then introduced Shannon Crooker of Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF).

Shannon stated that this program is a long-term financing program that is attached to property tax. Because the program is property tax attached, it is the county's responsibility to collect the monthly payments, and deal with delinquent payments. This is why the county must buy in.

Shannon then stated that the financing program follows the property, not the owner. If the owner sells the property,

the new owner is responsible for this extra payment on their taxes.

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin asked Shannon to get Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk a copy of the resolution that would need passed, should the county buy in.

Policy and Procedures: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that there are some policies that will be on Wednesday's agenda for approval such as the Vehicle Use, Defensive Drivers Training, Vehicle Use mileage log, and indigent cremation.

Projects:

Upcoming Commissioner Meeting Review:

The agenda for the July 28, 2021 public meeting was reviewed.

Department/Committee Updates

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that at the next work session he and Dan Glotz, Director of Planning & Zoning will make a presentation on the DEP 902 grant that may be applied for. This grant is for glass recycling.

Commissioner's Schedule

General Discussion

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that there is a public meeting this evening at 5:00 at Freehold Township to discuss the moving of the polling precinct location.

With nothing further, the work session was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Respectfully,



Pamela J. Matve
Chief Clerk

