

Warren County Commissioners Public Meeting
September 22, 2021 12:36 p.m.
Jackson Courtroom

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin called the meeting of the Warren County Commissioners to order with Commissioner Tricia Durbin and Commissioner Jeff Eggleston present.

Staff Present: Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk, Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director, Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt, Lorri Dunlap, Grants Administrator, Michael Lyon, Zoning Officer, Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections, and Warden Jon Collins

Citizens Present: Josh Cotton (WTO), Andy Close (Titusville Herald), Beth Christensen, Scott Blume, Lee Borger, Tom Eaton Sr., Tom Eaton Jr., and Brianna Powers

Announcements: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that the meeting is being recorded.

Meetings held since the last meeting: None

Correspondence: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that they have received several phone calls, emails, and a letter regarding the vaccine promotion plan that was in Tuesday's paper. Some were for it, and many are not in favor of the plan.

Public Comment:

Consent Agenda:

Minutes from the September 08, 2021 Public Meeting: No corrections or additions to be made.

Finance Report: Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director gave the financial report stating that after all expenses paid, to which she reviewed the balance in the general fund is \$2,346,730.00, and in the Erie Bank is \$744,941.00.

Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director stated that the tax monies are starting to come in and we will pay down the TAN and pay back the savings account shortly.

Proclamation(s):

Fire Prevention Week
National Bullying Prevention Month
Honoring 4H Members and Volunteers
National Disability Employment Awareness Month
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

New Business:

Approval of Ordinance 258 Rezoning parcel WN-868-619000 from R-1 to BT: Motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Tricia Durbin to approve the rezoning as requested for 100N. Main St. in Clarendon.

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that the board is not voting on the specific use of the property, while it was an interesting presentation. He stated that he is in favor of the rezoning.

Commissioner Tricia Durbin echoed the words of Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, and went on to state that we also want to make sure we are holding up the deed restrictions.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that the issue is the property itself and the long-term use. It could change hands down the road. If we do not approve this rezoning request, the building will fall to ruin.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt stated that while he has not reviewed the deed extensively, he does not see why this should not be approved. There is no spot zoning happening.

After no further comments, the above motion was called and the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #3188 Adoption of Various GMS Policies & Procedures: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that the policies and procedures listed on this resolution were emailed to everyone for their review before today's meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve Resolution 3188 for the adoption of the policies and procedures listed. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #3189 Authorizing the revision to the FY 2018 CDBG budget, Resolution #3190 Authorizing the revision to the FY 2019 CDBG budget and Resolution #3191 Authorizing the revision to the FY 2020 CDBG budget: Lorri Dunlap stated that the old CDBG funds must be spent before the newer funds are spent otherwise, we need to send back the money. Therefore, sometimes a project will come in less than expected and money needs to be allocated to a different project. This is housekeeping so that we approve the funds for each fiscal year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve Resolutions 3189, 3190 and 3191 for the CDBG Budget modifications for years 2018, 2019, and 2020 respectively as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Agreement with Trinity Food Services: Warden Jon Collins gave a brief explanation on the program and stated that this will be a wash on cost. The benefits of this program are having a registered dietician 24/7.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt stated that he has reviewed and approves of the agreement.

Commissioner Tricia Durbin stated that she fully expects to cost not to increase and our program will improve.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve the Trinity Food Service Agreement for the jail. Motion carried unanimously.

Pitney Bowes Lease Agreement – MDJ Zydonik postage meter: Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk stated that this lease agreement will provide MDJ Zydonik with an up-to-date mail machine along with a savings of approximately \$200.00 per year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to approve the lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for MDJ Zydonik office as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Vaccine Promotion Plan: Commissioner Jeff Eggleston spoke on the plan at the work session on Monday. Only 40% of Warren County is vaccinated. He is asking to use the American Recovery Program funds to educate the community on the importance of vaccines. He went on to state that the approximate cost will be \$22,000,00 for newspaper, radio, and social media advertising. This is an eligible use of the funds.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that the goal is to educate on the severity of the disease, how the vaccine works, and how effective the vaccine is. This would be done with the help of local leaders and the medical professionals.

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that this is not a vaccine or mask mandate. He then went on to say that they have received several calls, email, and letter with some in favor and the majority not in favor. While he appreciates the desire to do something, here are his thoughts:

1. This will not be effective as people have already made up their minds.
2. This is not in our scope as County Government, it is to run the county.
3. There is no point in arguing this subject

Commissioner Tricia Durbin stated that she has thought about the words "vaccine promotion", and how can she be a voice to help people to know the effects of COVID and let them know this is not a promotion, it is education. She too has heard from both sides.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin to table this until she can meet with Commissioner Jeff Eggleston and revisit the wording etc.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that if the motion is to table for two weeks, then he will do that. Commissioner Jeff Eggleston stated that he does not have a script in front of him on what will or will not be said. He also understands there are those that are uncomfortable with the promotion of the vaccine.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston went on to say that one, it is the commissioner's responsibility to the health of our residents; he read from the county code. Secondly, every major medical institution supports the vaccine. We are not mandating everyone get the vaccine, we just want to educate.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston went on to state that he feels there is no need for further discussion. A vote should be taken and everyone will know where we stand.

If we come up with something to be approved at the next meeting, he will agree to table; he does want to delay the inevitable if the board is not in agreement.

Commissioner Tricia Durbin stated that she is in favor to educate the public, that is what should happen.

Commissioner Jeff Eggleston agreed to second the motion to table this until the next meeting and come up with something acceptable.

The above motion to table this subject was called and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Comments:

Adjournment: Motion was made Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Eggleston to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Matve

Pamela J. Matve
Chief Clerk



Approved:

Jeff Eggleston

Jeff Eggleston
Warren County Commissioner