

Minutes, Thursday, February 25, 2021

Mr. Schlumbohm moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners is of the opinion that the flow of traffic in the court house will be at a minimum on Good Friday, April 2, 2021, and to allow employees to attend services if they so desire.

now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby close the Putnam County Court House at noon on Friday, April 2, 2021.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes
Comm. Jrl. 116 Page 146

Mr. Schlumbohm moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 001, County General

15 A 17A, Contingencies.....\$ 1,000.00

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes
Comm. Jrl. 116 Page 147

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 039, WIA

39 AD, Adult.....\$ 7,943.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes
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Now and Then Purchase orders

Ditch Maintenance.....Purchase order 42439, 42440

MR/DD.....Purchase order 42246

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the then and now purchase orders.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes
Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm none Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Lammers none
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Purchase orders and travel requests

Home Funds.....Purchase order to Put Co. Commissioners for Angela (Utrup)
Bermudez Rehab Payback 10% Admin for \$ 290.00

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the purchase orders and travel requests.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes
Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm Mr. Schroeder Mr. Lammers

Mr. Lammers moved to go into executive session at 8:30 with Commissioners Schroeder, and Schlumbohm and Tim Schnipke to discuss employee compensation.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote Schlumbohm yes Schroeder yes Lammers yes

Commissioners sent back on record at 8:45 a.m. no decision were made.

Ottawa Township Trustees Don Croy and Steve Leopold met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers to discuss the funding for the sewer district #1 storm sewer. The Commissioners asked for the township's participation in funding the project, since it will benefit the township to do the improvements. The Village will apply for OPWC money for the project also. The division of the annual funding was explained between the County and the Townships. The sewer district is currently being charged for processing rain water and hopefully with the improvements it significantly could decrease the residential sewer rates. The plans for the project were reviewed. It would provide access to drain back yards also, which the trustees said is also a problem. The Commissioners would like the township to participate in the funding for the project along with the County Engineer. The monthly sewer rates paid by the residents was

discussed. The annexation of the area was discussed and how it would benefit the residents. It is hoped to decrease the costs of everyone processing rainwater the Village, and the residents. The Trustees want the roads to be patched with the slurry mix rather than just put stones in.

The discussion of the solar farms at the monthly trustee meeting was brought up. Don said his solar panels on his building are not paying off like he was originally told in 2012.

Mr. Lammers moved to go into executive session to discuss employee compensation for the Recycling Department.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote Schlumbohm yes Schroeder yes Lammers yes

Commissioners went back on record at 9:56 a.m. no decision were made.

Alaina Siefker met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers to review the organization and staffing of the Recycling Center and to review the job duties of the personnel. The process of monitoring the recycling drop off was reviewed and the idea of having key cards for the residents to use to gain access to the recycling.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers and Cindy Landwehr, Clerk.

The minutes from Tuesday February 23, 2021 were reviewed and approved.

Dylan Borchers and Jeff Reinkemeyer of Avangrid met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers, Bob Benroth, Greg Luersman and Gary Lammers to discuss the Powell Creek Solar Farm. Dylan gave an update on the project. It is currently at the power siting Board for review. There is new legislation in the works that could impact the project. It is in the investigation phase of the review period. The report will be released in mid-March. Environmental impacts are being reviewed and will be put in the report. And recommendations will also be in the report. There will be conditions created to comply with the recommendations. After the report is released there will be two public hearings to provide testimony on the project. The hearings will be virtual. Then an evidentiary hearing will be held after the public hearings. If there are no contests heard then it will be 2-4 months possibly next fall for a formal decision to be made. There is an appeal process and grace period also. Jeff stated, during a virtual meeting in July there was some objection received and some modifications to the project were made to relocate some panels. Dylan asked if the road agreements that are needed can be done publicly. Gary said yes, they can be done publicly. The agreements will show that there are funds set aside for the roads. The township funding is limited and cannot be set aside for long term. The Engineer also has some concerns about the agreements. Gary explained the need for insurance and indemnity for the agreements. The Commissioners will have to review the agreements. The indemnities for all parties will be reviewed. Bob asked about the requirements for each party involved. There will be an escrow account started to fund the improvements to roads per the statute. The obligation for the contribution to the escrow is not specifically stated. A cap was created for the Van Wert project. Gary said the Commissioners need to be aware of the requirements for the road agreements and the liabilities of each party so they can make an informed decision. Senate Bill 52 was discussed and information was shared. The legislation could apply to this project since it has not been approved yet. This is a social media driven

referendum that could open it up to have non local people weighing in on the decisions. It is mob rule not local rule. The public hearing will be done locally not in Columbus.

Commissioner Lammers had some questions presented from a resident Dan Turnwald

Who is responsible for cleanup if bankruptcy occurs? There is a surety bond in place to cover the clean-up costs as required by the Power Siting Board.

Stock help company out of Connecticut can the change the language? There are lease agreements with land owners that prohibit transfers.

Who ran numbers on tax revenue? The County Auditor ran numbers on farmland

Can solar panels leach out any hazardous contaminants? No

The panels and supplies are bought in bulk for multiple projects.

Is there an example of successful projects? Yes there are multiple projects out west and in Colorado for over 10 years. A decommissioning agreement is needed for projects also.

Will trees be planted around the perimeter? Not in the fields, there will be a fence. Visual simulations will be provided.

Likelihood of expanding with wind mills with the solar panels? no not in Ohio the size of project is limited by megawatt production. This area has the input request with the previous wind project.

Will there be light pollution at the site at night? There will be lights at the entrances and at substation for security. A glare analysis will also be done.

How is vegetation maintained? What is planted under and near the panels is researched and monitored to keep out the weeds for the farm fields. Sheep could be used to keep areas clean under the panels rather than cattle that are too tall.

There is some extra land included in the project to cover any other modifications that will be needed. Commissioner Schlumbohm wanted to confirm the County's liability. Commissioner Schroeder said that the wording of the agreement regarding liability was put in after the AEZ was modified. The need for road improvements is stated in the AEZ but not the specifics for the road agreements. Bob explained that the original AEZ language included the need for road agreements. None of the road use requirements have changed with the modification of the AEZ. The statute still requires the road use agreements. Bob asked about the changes to Ohio Air Quality, that is still in review also for the tax abatement. Bob asked how this is being done since there are no other abatements of this type for solar projects. With recent rule changes solar is now allowed for abatements with much less risk.

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to adjourn for lunch.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

Vote: Schlumbohm yes Schroeder yes Lammers yes

Commissioners resumed session.

Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm-via teleconference and Lammers attended the final hearing at 2:00 p.m. for the Jeanette Meyer Dt # 983 in the Assembly Room.

Mr. Schroeder moved to adjourn for the day.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Schlumbohm Schroeder yes Lammers yes

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, February 25, 2021.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes