

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 8-1-2016

The Wells County Commissioners held a public hearing then met in regular session on Monday August 1, 2016 at 9:00AM in the Commissioner's Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, Blake Gerber, Kevin Woodward and Tamara Robbins. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

Public Hearing: Wells County Economic Development Director Chad Kline and Melissa Norby from the City of Decatur were present to discuss the Work Force Development Grant they want to apply for. \$250,000 is the maximum amount of Funding available and Adams and Wells Counties are jointly applying for the grant. The grant will be used to provide training for employees in area like, CNC, industrial maintenance and leadership. The Board of Commissioners opened the floor for any comments and no comments were made. Similar to this Public Hearing another public hearing is scheduled in Adams County for tomorrow August 2nd, 2016. A second Public Hearing will be held in October to approve the two counties working together for the grant.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from July 18, 2016 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #16 in the amount of \$205,810.68 and 216 claims totaling \$541,949.56. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 80 inmates, 6 are DOC and 13 are F6 Felonies. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that he is still waiting on bids for a new chiller and he is still working on the damages from the lighting strike.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman updated the commissioner's on the three road projects in Rockcreek township. Ed informed the commissioners that he is scheduled to start on the chip and seal road maintenance on August 2nd and the Hot Mix Projects are scheduled to start on August 15th. Ed asked the commissioners what they have decided to do about the invoice he received from the Town of Poneto for the road they paved that was partially owned by the county. The commissioner stated that the project was not budgeted and the county would not have used that type of material for that road at that location. Another concern was if the county paid the invoice it may set a precedent for future projects like this. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to deny the request from the Town of Poneto to pay half of the Hot Mix Project. Motion carried 3-0.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag informed the commissioners that he submitted the Community Crossing Matching Grant applications for all 4 projects to INDOT on July 22nd and they have confirmed that they received them. Nate provided an Easement document from Judy Glenn for dedication of additional right of way to meet county standards. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the right of way document. Motion carried 3-0. Informed the commissioners that the work on Bridge #193 is scheduled to be completed on August 5th, however there was a bolt issue that was discovered that may delay the completion date.

Health Insurance: Lisa McCormick and Rick Smith presented a letter to the Board of Commissioners to approve the advertisement for remarketing the County's Health Insurance for their 145 full-time

employees. The Advertisement will give exclusivity rights to Jennifer Heckman with Platinum Benefit Consulting Group for PHP, United Health Care and Cigna since she has been providing this information to the commissioners on an annual basis. The Health Insurance committee will consist of Personnel Deputy Lisa McCormick, Assessor Rick Smith, Highway Supervisor Ed Herman, and Jail Matron Krista Markley. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to accept the letter and send out the RFP for the County's Health Insurance. Motion carried 3-0.

Community Corrections Advisory Board Appointment: The commissioners received two applications for their appointment to the Wells County Community Corrections Advisory Board. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Greg Waters to the board for another four year term. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Public Library Board Appointment: There was a total of five applications received for the appointment to the Wells County Public Library. The Board of Commissioners have one appointment and the County Council has one appointment to fill. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to appoint Teddy Ramsey as the commissioner's appointment to the Wells County Library Board for a four year term. Motion carried 3-0.

Bargain Hut Parking Lot: There was a total of 4 quotes received to resurface the parking lot at the Bargain Hut. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the low bid from TOPP Asphalt Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$11,900 and the County will agree to pay 50% of the cost; \$2,550.00 this year for the patching and \$3,400.00 next year for the resurfacing for a total of \$5,950.00. Motion carried 3-0.

Community Corrections Vehicle Bids: Community Corrections has two vehicles that will be going up for bid. The first opening of bids will be at the next commissioners meeting on August 15th, 2016

Use of Courthouse Square: The Bluffton Free Street Fair Association has sent a letter requesting the use of the Courthouse Square from Sunday, September 18th through Sunday, September 24th, 2016 for the annual Bluffton Free Street Fair. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve request. Motion carried 3-0.

County Farm Ground Lease: Auditor Beth Davis informed the commissioners that the current lease on the county owned farm ground is up this year. For the past several years the county has held a bid auction for the two year lease. We will need to advertise to accept new bids in October or November of this year so the commissioners will need to decide if they want to make any changes to the current process.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:48AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor