

October 3, 2023

Council Chambers  
Vigo County Government Center  
Terre Haute, Indiana

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Mike Morris, Chris Switzer and Mark Clinkenbeard

**Others Present:** County Attorney Terry Modesitt, Auditor James Bramble, Tammy York-Allen, Diana Winsted-Smith, Josie Thompson, Elizabeth Meny, Kevin Gardner, Leanna Moore, Jackson Kensell, Chrissy Patterson, Valerie Stapleton, Tim Cunningham, Vicki Weger, Todd Thacker, Bill Watson, Larry Robbins, Bruce Allen, Joni Wise, Joey Lehman, Tony Cassiseah, and several members of the public.

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

Mike Morris called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Review of Minutes/Claims.** Auditor James Bramble presented the Board with meeting minutes for September 19, 2023 and rezoning meeting minutes for September 19, 2023, for approval. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve both sets of minutes for September 19, 2023. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Bramble then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of September 16, 2023 through September 22, 2023 in the amount of \$370,600.28. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the September 16, 2023 through September 22, 2023 claims in the amount of \$370,600.28. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. Mr. Bramble then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of September 23, 2023 through September 29, 2023 in the amount of \$1,405,116.19. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the September 23, 2023 through September 29, 2023 claims in the amount of \$1,405,116.19. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Bramble then presented the Board with payroll for September 26, 2023 in the amount of \$1,242,194.25 for approval. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the September 26, 2023 payroll. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**THRIVE Support letter - Commissioners.** Mark Clinkenbeard said this is just a letter of support from the Board of Commissioners of Vigo County to support THRIVE West Central in its efforts to seek funding to address the employment disparity affecting the 68,500 prime employment age residents in West Central Indiana. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve this letter of support. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Amendment to Vigo County Smoking Ordinance.** Shannon Giles, Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Coordinator for Tobacco Free Vigo and Chances and Services for Youth, along with Sally Petty, Taylor Williams and Emily Perrelle, presented the Commissioners with information about the need to amend the current Vigo County Smoking Ordinance to include e-cigarettes and vaping. She said they would provide free new signage for all businesses who would like to have them. Chris Switzer said they are essentially going to amend Section 3-58-2 to include vaping. The amendment will mirror what the City of Terre Haute has adopted regarding this matter. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the amendment as presented subject to the County Attorney modifying the Ordinance to reflect Vigo County instead of the City of Terre Haute. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**McGuire Excavating - Parks.** Chris Switzer said that in preparation during the past year for the removal of Markle Mill Dam, the Vigo County Parks Department took the lead regarding this matter. The property is under the Vigo County Board of Commissioners but it is operated by the Vigo County Parks Department. As a group of Commissioners, they would like to get it out of the name of the Commissioners and put it into the Vigo County Parks & Recreation Department name. Under Indiana Code 36-10-3-11(a)(1), the Vigo County Parks & Recreation Department can enter into a contract to do work. The Parks Department has chosen McGuire Excavating to remove the dam at Markle Mill Dam Park that will take place Monday, October 9, beginning at 8:00 a.m. and will last as long as needed to remove the whole dam. Under advisement by the County Attorney, the Commissioners want to acknowledge that the Parks Department did choose McGuire Excavating for the removal of the dam. Park Avenue and Rosedale Road will be closed Monday morning from 8:00 a.m. until noon for people to park along Mill Dam Road and walk up to the bridge to see the demolition process. Although not an easy decision, the State has identified this dam as the second most dangerous dam in the State. This was 90% funded at State and Federal level along with a small amount of County money. Everything is ready to go. There will be an archaeologist on site during the demolition.

**Pawnbroker and Second Hand Dealer Ordinance – Terry Modesitt.** Mike Morris said this had been recommended by the Vigo County Sheriff. Terry Modesitt said that in meeting with Sheriff Plasse, he was informed that the City has an Ordinance in place requiring pawnbrokers and second hand dealers to register. They actually have to pay a fee to do this. People trying to get around this registry have been going out in the county and not registering. He has prepared an ordinance requiring pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers to register with the Sheriff's Office but there's no fee for the registration. In all other respects, this ordinance will mirror the one adopted by the City. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve Pawnbroker and Second Hand Dealer Ordinance 2023-06. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Renaming or Renumbering Precincts – Clerk's Office.** Leanna Moore, Chief Deputy Clerk, and Jackson Kensell provided a map of a precinct located on land that the federal penitentiary owns. The legal name of it at the State level is 9A Prairieton. That land has been annexed in to the City. At the County level it has always been called 09-I. This is a request to change the legal name to 09-I so that the State would match what we have since there is already an 09-A. This will eliminate any confusion. Terry Modesitt said he had reviewed the statute and it does allow them to do this since it is only changing the name. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Public Comments.** There were none.

**Comments or other business from Commissioners or other Elected Officials.** Chris Switzer said they had 4 additional ARPA requests for the County Council meeting tonight.

The meeting recessed at 9:26 a.m.

Attest:

  
James Bramble, Auditor

  
Mike Morris  
  
Chris Switzer  
  
Mark Clinkenbeard