

August 10, 2021

Council Chambers
Vigo County Annex
Terre Haute, Indiana

Roll Call:

Present: Mike Morris, Chris Switzer and Brendan Kearns.

Others Present: County Attorney Joel Modesitt, County Attorney Michael Wright, Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk, Tammy York-Allen, Vickie Oster, Sara Holbert, Diana Winsted-Smith, Kara Wright, Kevin Gardner, Larry Robbins, Bruce Allen, Kylissa Miller, Larry Robbins, Scott Swan, 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. Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk presented the minutes for August 3, 2021. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the August 3, 2021 minutes. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Loudermilk then presented the minutes for the August 9, 2021 rezoning meeting. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the August 9, 2021 rezoning minutes. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Loudermilk then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of July 31, 2021 through August 6, 2021 in the amount of \$614,002.61 plus payroll in the amount of \$1,045,208.90 for a total amount of \$1,659,211.51. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the July 31, 2021 through August 6, 2021 claims. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Comment from Commissioners or other Vigo County Representatives. Chris Switzer stated that he is frustrated and disappointed in the Tribune-Star. In the letter released by the Commissioners yesterday regarding the current Covid situation and mask mandates, nothing was mentioned about closing buildings, or mandating masks in buildings and the front page of the Tribune-Star stated that the Commissioners were mandating no masks in the building. That was not stated. The Commissioners do not want to destroy or hurt businesses, individual businesses, privately owned businesses, big businesses. The Commissioners work on a daily basis with the Health Department about Covid. It is not going away. It was simply stated in the letter that the Commissioners support individual's rights to mask as a county. Trying to make it appear that the Commissioners and the Judges are at odds is ridiculous. The Judges are free to do what they want in their Court rooms. The courts have a high traffic flow all day long and if they want to require masking in the Court House, it is absolutely their prerogative to do so. Just to be clear, there is no fight/battle between the Commissioners and the Judges. The Commissioners are tasked, just like everybody else, to make the best decisions they can for the County. That is what they try to do. They meet every day and talk and make decisions and try to do what is best for the community as a whole. This is a fluid situation and a mask mandate may have to happen in the future but for right now, this is what has been decided.

Public Comments. Evelyn Davis of Shepardsville, Indiana, was present to ask why, as a resident of the County, she had to recently get rid of her granddaughters pet 4-H goats she had owned for three years and her nephew had to get rid of his pet chickens while people who live within the city are allowed to have these animals. This has caused a great deal of grief, frustration and stress in her family. She owns multiple lots and

the goats were kept in the middle area with nothing else around them. The lot backed up on an alley with the house across the alley being in major disrepair and weeds grown up at least six feet tall so anybody living there couldn't even have seen the goats, much less had a reason to complain about them. There was a very lengthy discussion about this. Brendan Kearns stated that they were in the process of reviewing the ordinances and that they needed to be updated. He indicated that they will be addressing updating of the ordinances and this issue will be addressed.


Today's meeting recessed at 9:30 a.m.



Mike Morris, President



Chris Switzer, Vice President



Brendan Kearns, Secretary

Attest:



James Bramble, Auditor