

March 26, 2024

Council Chambers  
Vigo County Government Center  
Terre Haute, Indiana

**Roll Call:**

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

**Others Present:** County Attorney Terry Modesitt, James Bramble, Cheryl Loudermilk, Vickie Albright, Jim White, Jordynn Shelton, Kara Wright, Tona Bean, Diana Winstead-Smith, Connie Huff, Larry Robbins, Kevin Gardner, Bill Watson, Scott Barbour, Norm Loudermilk, Joni Wise, Amanda Bales, Bruce Allen, Terry Bays, Jordan Marvel, and several members of the public.

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

Chris Switzer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Brandon Sakbun led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Review of Minutes/Claims.** Auditor James Bramble presented the Board with minutes for March 19, 2024 for approval. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the March 19, 2024 minutes as presented. 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 March 16, 2024 through March 22, 2024 in the amount of \$3,904,415.85. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the March 16, 2024 through March 22, 2024 claims in the amount of \$3,904,415.85. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**ARPA Grant Agreement for Vigo County Sheriff's Department - Commissioners.** Mark Clinkenbeard said that the request for ARPA funds for Vigo County Sheriff's Department had been approved by the Council at the March meeting. This is for the purchase of a cargo van to carry inmates back and forth to the Court House, a small minivan and 2 patrol cars. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion approve this grant agreement. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Resolution Assigning Tax Sale Certificates to the City – Auditor.** Mayor Brandon Sakbun gave a short presentation concerning the assignment of these tax sale certificates. Legislation has been passed allowing the County Executives working with the Auditor's Office to sign over properties with delinquent property taxes to another government non-profit entity. This will help solve the need for housing along with addressing dilapidated properties. He elaborated on the process. Many entities stand to benefit from this process including the school corporation, public utilities, non profit organizations (such as Habitat for Humanity, Loyal Veterans Battalion, Tiny Homes for Veterans), and the need for affordable housing for our growing population. He explained the 5-step process from an administrative standpoint. He said they are very deliberate in who they partner with. He also discussed the property tax benefits of the project. He also talked about the Hoosiers Home for the Future loan and down payment program for first and second time homeowners and how it would work. There were comments and expressions of appreciation from the Commissioners and others concerning this project. 133 lots are being transferred and should translate, roughly, to about 100 homes. Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk advised that when these are put back on the tax roll and they are part of the assessed value, the County does get a portion of the taxes along with the school corporation, the airport, and anyone else involved in that tax rate. Chris Switzer introduced Resolution 2024-05 which is the resolution transferring these properties to the City of Terre Haute Redevelopment. Mike Morris made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-05. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Johnson Controls Contract – Ricky Hammond.** Jim White of the Maintenance Department explained that this is a 2-year contract that is up for renewal for the jai with Johnson Controls. County Attorney Terry Modesitt had reviewed the contract and requested a couple of changes that were complied with. He is satisfied with the document. Mike Morris made a motion to approve this renewal. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Road Vacate – Scott Barbour.** Scott Barbour explained that this is the third vacate of the three originally discussed in Tecumseh. It is for a 66 foot road right-of-way of what would be known as Livingston Avenue that runs from Pottsville Road to the Wabash River. The petitioner, Mr. Boyll, was present and had completed all the requirements to notify the adjoining landowner. Mr. Barbour did state that the certified mail notifying the adjoining owner was signed for by someone other than the landowner. Attorney Terry Modesitt said he had just been advised of this fact right before the meeting and he would like to research this to make sure it would not be an issue with the transfer. Mr. Barbour advised that the only address they had for the property owner was what is shown on the tax records for the property of Lot 5 in the original town of Tecumseh Subdivision. It was recommended to table this until next week's meeting. Mike Morris made a motion to table this vacation. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.


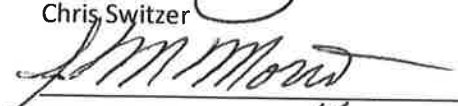

**Public Comments.** It was then brought to the attention of the meeting that the owner of the property previously discussed for the vacation was present at the meeting. Sterlin J. Leloup, 1014 East 63<sup>rd</sup> Place, West Terre Haute, Indiana, owner of the property, said the certified mail was sent to 1768 Pottsville and was signed for by Mr. Bumpus at his request. Chris Switzer said that Mr. Leloup would have needed to sign for it since he was the property owner. Attorney Modesitt asked if Mr. Leloup was agreeable with this vacation of the easement and Mr. Leloup said he was not and explained why. There was additional discussion. The petitioner, Mr. Boyll, said he wanted to close this right away and explained his position. Bruce Bumpus, 7847 North Pottsville Street also spoke about this matter.

**Comments from the Commissioners or Other Elected Officials.** Chris Switzer reminded all that the Terre Haute Air Show was taking place on June 1 and 2 and are looking for volunteers to work at the air show. They need 600-800 volunteers.

The meeting recessed at 9:27 a.m.

Attest:

  
James Bramble, Auditor

  
Chris Switzer  
  
Mike Morris  
  
Mark Clinkenbeard