

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

**Others present:** Auditor Larry Hutchings, Tammy York-Allen, Jared Modesitt, Morgan Vinzant, Scott Swan, Josie Thompson, Joni Wise, Bruce Allen, Kevin Gardner, Chrissy Patterson, Billy Caldero, Chris Eldredge, Jordynne Gackle, Alex Powell, Diana Smith, Larry Robbins.

**Pledge of Allegiance.** Mike Morris called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

#### **Review of minutes/claims**

Auditor Larry Hutchings then presented the Board with the minutes from the February 24, 2026 Commissioners' Meeting. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the February 24, 2026 Commissioners' Meeting minutes as presented. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. With a voice vote of 3-0 the motion was passed.

The minutes from the March 2, 2026 Commissioners' Bid Opening Meeting were then presented to the Board. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the March 2, 2026 Commissioners' Bid Opening Meeting minutes as presented. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. With a voice vote of 3-0 the motion was passed.

Larry then submitted the payroll docket dated February 20, 2026 through February 26, 2026 in the amount of \$1,528,750.91 to the Board. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the payroll docket dated February 20, 2026 through February 26, 2026 in the amount of \$1,528,750.91. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vocal vote.

The claims docket dated February 20, 2026 through February 27, 2026 in the amount of \$4,558,070.71 was presented to the Board. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the claims docket dated February 20, 2026 through February 27, 2026 in the amount of \$4,558,070.71. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vocal vote.

The claims docket dated February 27, 2026 through March 6, 2026 in the amount of \$1,057,359.92 was presented to the Board. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the claims docket dated February 20, 2026 through February 27, 2026 in the amount of \$1,057,359.92. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vocal vote.

#### **Ordinance 2026-5 Vacating a Public Alley Located in Otter Creek Township**

GIS Director Scott Barbour approached the Board and explained this alley vacate had been preliminarily approved. This alley was located on the east of the address of 2692 Dexter Avenue just west of Lafayette Avenue. There were no remonstrators present. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-5. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. The motion passed upon a 3-0 voice vote.

#### **Sycamore Engineering Jail Building Automation Service Agreement**

Maintenance Supervisor Ricky Hammond approached the Board and explained this agreement with Sycamore Engineering was for 96 hours. He said this would be split by twelve eight hour visits per year. He said these services could entail electrical, mechanical, and sheet metal controls related labor. Ricky said this was in an effort to improve response time to preventative building maintenance at the jail. Chris

Switzer made a motion to approve the agreement with Sycamore Engineering. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

#### **Professional Services Agreement with Clark Dietz**

County Engineer and Highway Director Larry Robbins approached the Board and explained this agreement with Clark Dietz was for land acquisition services for the Riley Trail. He said there would be seven parcels need to be acquired for this project. He said this would be processed to a quitclaim deed and then the County would make an offer on those parcels. He said this contract for seven parcels was a total of \$12,950. Larry said these parcels were from Canal Road up to Davis. Mark Clinkenbeard motion to approve this agreement with Clark Dietz. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0 with a vocal vote.

#### **USI Consultant Agreement**

Larry Robbins explained this agreement with USI was for two projects for improvements on National Road. He said the first one was a design contract for National Road and Thorpe totaling \$276,150 which would design a widened intersection at Thorpe Place and Old US 40. He said the second agreement was for National Road in Darwin which will be a realignment. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve both agreements. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 voice vote.

#### **Highway Annual Bids for Materials**

Larry said they had received and examined material bids for Pipe Materials, Sand, and Gravel. He said they had received three bids for pipe materials; Metal Culverts, Inc., E3 Bridge, and Civil Con. For Sand and Gravel, Larry said they had received a bid from McGuire Excavating. He said they had received a letter from S & G Excavating rolling over their prices from 2025. Larry said he was recommending the Commissioners accept all bids. He said this was advantageous due to shops in different locations having different pricing on materials needed. Larry said for pipe materials, E3 Bridge, Civil Con, and Metal Culverts Inc., all had the low prices on different items so he was recommending acceptance on all bids for these materials as well and the Department would use the low price for each material throughout the year. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to accept all bids as recommended by Larry Robbins. Chris Switzer seconded the motion.

There was brief discussion on the implementation of stop signs with flashing lights on them on historically dangerous intersections throughout the County.

#### **Midwest Presort Agreement**

Vigo County Assessor Kevin Gardner approached the Board with an agreement with Midwest Presort totaling \$35,408.25. He said this was the standard contract with Midwest Presort the Commissioners approve every year. He said this vendor mails out Form 11s. He noted the contract's cost had increased \$1,259.83 from the previous year. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve the agreement with Midwest Presort. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vocal vote.

#### **Amended Ordinance 2025-1**

Executive Director of the Vigo County Homes for Children Norm Loudermilk approached the Board and requested an amendment to Ordinance 2025-1. He said this amendment would allow for a stipend for two employees for the duties Norm said they perform to be paid out of the Group Homes Non-Reverting Fund. Norm said the employees did not meet the threshold for a pay increase on the Baker Tilly scale, so this stipend would supplement their compensation. Norm said this money in this fund was made by the Department of Child Services paying the Vigo County Group Homes to house children in need. Mark

Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve Amended Ordinance 2025-1. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

#### **Ordinance 2026-4**

Norm explained the Group Homes were required by the DCS to provide allowances to the residents. He said this ordinance would allow the Group Homes department to pay \$15 per week to residents out of a petty cash fund, and establish the rules for the fund and the documentation of the funds and the disbursement the funds throughout the year. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-4. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

#### **Motorola Contract**

Jeff Fox with the Vigo County Sheriff's Office approached the Board and requested the Commissioners approve this seven year lease with Motorola. He said the purpose of the lease was to continually recycle and turn over the sheriff office's radios. He said a fund was established over a decade before to make lease payments on new radios to mitigate the prohibitive cost of replacing an entire fleet of radios. Jeff Fox confirmed this was a \$331,000 lease for 49 of the approximately 125 radios in use by the Sheriff's Office. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve this Motorola contract. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. The motion was passed upon a 3-0 vocal vote.

There was discussion about the older radios being passed down to local emergency response agencies instead of being retired completely.

#### **Public Comment**

Jeff Fox provided a brief update on the tower project approved by the Commissioners and County Council in late 2025. He said Vigo County had received State and National recognition for this project. He said the three sites identified for the project would be the Hawthorn Site at 6066 E. Old Maple Ave, St. Mary's Site at 4241 US Highway 150, and the Pierson Township Site at 7607 Firehouse Dr. He outlined efforts to survey the sites, obtain a special exception in lieu of rezoning the sites, and planning for Duke Energy to supply power to the completed towers. He said an independent contractor had been secured to serve as a subject matter expert to insure the county receives appropriate services.

Clarifications were made about statements Elected Officials had made about the funding mechanism for the new tower projects and actions already taken to fund the project.

#### **Comments from the Commissioners or other Elected Officials**

Chris Switzer noted a road project north of the Courthouse was now underway and to use caution when driving in the area. He said the bridge to West Terre Haute near the area would be down to one lane for an extended time.

Mark Clinkenbeard noted there was a School Oversight Committee meeting at 5:15 the following Thursday Night focusing on questions from the public.

#### **Commissioners' Rezoning Hearing**

The Commissioners then held a rezoning hearing.

**UZO #5-26:** Parcel# 84-02-34-255-008.000-013. This property is located at 5109 N. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Terre Haute, IN. Currently zoned R-1 Single Family Residential District, with a proposed zoning to be M-1 Light Industrial District. Surrounding uses are C-3 to the North, M-2 to the South, M-1 to the West and R-1 to the East. Property owner is Sumner Properties, LLC. The R-1 zoning at this location is an original zoning.

The property owner wishes to expand the current use adding 2,760 sq. ft. onto the north end of the building for more storage and thus forfeiting the legal non-conforming status. The petitioner requested several variances through the BZA, including relief from the hard-surface parking and a reduction of 10 feet from the required 40-foot front yard setback on N. 13<sup>th</sup> street. They also requested a reduction of 10 feet from the required 15 foot side yard setback on the north side, along with no landscaping or buffering. The petitioner may also request relief from the County Engineer for a storm water and drainage plan. Staff offered a favorable recommendation for the M-2 rezoning with BZA approvals needed. There were no remonstrators present at this meeting or the Area Plan Commission meeting. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve the proposed zoning. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Area Planning Director Jared Bayler noted recently the Area Planning Commissioner approved a change in the schedule of fees effective May 1, 2026. He also noted the Commission had moved meeting times up from 6pm to 5pm.

#### **Ordinance 2026-7**

Jared explained as a result of legislative changes at the State level impacting local government funding there was an effort to establish a Non-Reverting fund to be used for the costs and expenses of the Vigo County Area Planning Department. He said this proposed Non-Reverting Fund would be supplied by fees collected by the department. This Ordinance would establish this Non-Reverting Fund. There was discussion on the process of increasing area planning fees and their relation to the state average. Mark Clinkenbeard made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-7. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

#### **Ordinance 2026-6**

An Amendment to the flood damage prevention Ordinance was then presented to the Board. Syndey Shahr with Area Planning explained this amendment would establish a verification process for new construction occurring within floodplain areas it creates a certificate of compliance that is issued by the area planning department that would serve as proof a building was built to the safety levels promised. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-6. Mark Clinkenbeard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vocal vote.

The meeting was recessed at 9:52 a.m.



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Mark Clinkenbeard



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Chris Switzer



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Mike Morris

Attest:



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Larry T. Hutchings II, Auditor

***Vigo County acknowledges its responsibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Vigo County Government, should contact the office of Tammy York-Allen, ADA Coordinator 650 S 1st Street, Terre Haute, IN 47807, Phone 812-231-6200, e-mail [tammy.york-allen@vigocounty.in.gov](mailto:tammy.york-allen@vigocounty.in.gov) as soon as possible but no later than three business days before the scheduled event.***