

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
August 19, 2024
9:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:
COMMISSIONERS: David Berry, President
Tom Helmer, Vice President
Rick Woodall
COUNCIL: Stephanie Campbell, President
Phil Gick
AUDITOR'S OFFICE Evelyn Williams
AUDIENCE: 30 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on August 19, 2024, at 9:00 AM in regular session. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. David Berry opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

PLANNING & ZONING

Lisa Zeiner stated the Plan Commission gave no recommendation on the rock query. Eddy Felling, the representative of the concerned citizens, asked for it to be tabled for at least 30 days, since there was no recommendation from the Plan Commission. Berry made a motion to table and hold a special session on September 17th at 9:00 am with the proposed rock query as the sole topic. Helmer second. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2024-8-19-1, 9503 ST RD 243 – property around A-Frame building – Plan Commission met on Aug 12th and gave a favorable recommendation. Berry made a motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2024-8-19-2, JTN Services 4421 S US 231 – acting commercially since 1992 but never rezoned. Business wants to expand. The Plan Commission gave a favorable recommendation. Helmer made a motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2024-8-19-3, Shirley McCullough 2947 N CR 850 E – split into 2 parcels so each dwelling has its own parcel. The Plan Commission gave a favorable recommendation. Helmer made a motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2024-8-19-4, Cory McGuire 6972 S 475 E – 15 acres, to split into three 5-acre parcels. The Plan Commission gave a favorable recommendation. Woodall made a motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ADULT PROBATION – OFFICE REMODEL

Garret Nichols stated they would like to replace the carpet in the Adult Probation Office. He stated the carpet was 25 years old and has recently gotten water damage from a leak in the ceiling. He received an estimate.

Berry asked when the last time they requested maintenance to clean it. Garret stated they had not asked but doesn't think it would help. Berry wants to wait until the water leak issue is patched. Woodall asked for another estimate. Woodall asked who was paying for it. Nichols replied he was hoping the county would. The Commissioners agreed to have the department get better estimates and go from there.

RECORDER CONTRACT

Heather Gilbert stated Equity Protect is a fraud alert system. The public is very concerned about someone taking their property. This watch program guarantees they will watch the property. There is no fee to the county. To become a member, the homeowner pays. Helmer asked if there was any liability on the county and Ensley answered no. Berry made a motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

EXTENSION OFFICE RENTAL CONTRACT

Mark Evans stated the Extension Office lease currently comes from the Commissioner budget. Auditor Berish had asked for it to be moved to the Extension budget. It's due to expire on 12/31/24. Pershing sent a statement that there were minor adjustments to account for changes in utility costs.

4-year renewal - increase \$100 per quarter
3-year renewal - increase \$200 per quarter
2-year renewal - increase \$300 per quarter
1 year renewal - increase \$400 per quarter

Woodall suggested 2 years considering what phase the annex building is at currently. Berry and Helmer agreed.

ASSESSOR – PTABOA

Don Bodalato presented the Commissioners with his suggestions for the PTABOA board appointment approval:

Don Badolato – Assessor
Jason Hartman – Democrat
Virginia Whipple – Republican
Beth Hinckle – Democrat
Lisa Sink – Republican
Alexandra Mohringer – Unknown Party Affiliation

Berry made a motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Jim Peck, Highway Engineer presented:

1. Completion of Co Rd 800 N & Co Rd 1000 N
2. CO Rd 775 E from US 36 to Co Rd 500 N
3. Asphalt paving Co Rd 1200 N – 2.5 miles
4. Manhattan Rd – Traffic sign inventory – revised contract with USI Consultants.
5. US 36 bridge replacement to be completed on 8/21/24
6. Detour on State Road 236 for bridge and culvert replacement

7. INDOT to schedule a meeting to discuss damages to Co Rd 600 N and Co Rd 900 E. Rick stated he's been approached by homeowners regarding their outside AC units stuffed with dust. He would like to check on the crop damage.

MINUTES

August 5, 2024 - Helmer made a motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

August 8, 2024, Joint Session – Woodall made a motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MAIL

The Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

NEW BUSINESS

Ensley stated that the phone in the elevator is not dialing out. DJ Hendrick with KDMIT, has been working on it. Ensley presented a contract with Kings III Emergency Communications. He stated there is an obligation to run a test once a month. Helmer made a motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Berry stated he wanted to recognize Woodall for being the county representative for the State Fair. Woodall stated Putnam County's covered bridges were acknowledged by the National Register for Historical Landmarks.

OLD BUSINESS

Health Department – Helmer stated he spoke with Dennis Weatherford, and he wants the Health Department to stay at the hospital and wanted to set up a meeting with them. Brian Williams asked if he could move forward with getting appraisals for the work needed at the old Feld's building. Berry and Helmer stated they do not want them to move forward with it. Helmer stated the building needed too much work.

Woodall stated the annex committee met again. They will be meeting with Ice Miller. He stated they are hoping to move forward and get the bid requests out this winter.

Lane Ralph, Putnam County resident presented a letter from the public access council. He stated the Putnam County Tourism Bureau is not representative of the people of Putnam County. He stated they don't allow public access to their information, and they receive \$350,000 a year. He stated the county needs to revisit the contract they have with them. He stated the League of Women Voters has tried for 5 years to get copies or see their financial records, minutes, etc.

ADJOURN

Berry made a motion to adjourn. Helmer seconded it. Motion carried unanimously.

David Berry, President

Tom Helmer, Vice President

Rick Woodall

**Attest: Auditor's Office
Evelyn Williams**