

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 7, 2021 9:00 AM

ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS:	Rick Woodall, President Thomas Helmer, Vice President David Berry
ATTORNEY:	James Ensley, Attorney
AUDITOR:	Kristina Alexander, Auditor
COUNCIL:	Larry Parker Dave Fuhrman
AUDIENCE:	12 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on June 7, 2021, at 9:00 AM at the Putnam County Courthouse. Rick Woodall opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Don Gedert had asked to be on the agenda but did not show up. Planning Director Lisa Zeiner was in the audience and was able to explain the situation. Their department had asked him and everyone else for a document of manufactured vs. modular homes/insulating requirements. Ms. Zeiner stated this was not something new. It had been in the code but never followed. Don Gedert was the only person giving push back.

COUNTY NOISE ORDINANCE

Rick Woodall said he had people in the county complaining and asked if there was a county noise ordinance. Jim Ensley said it had been talked about in the past. But the county did not have one; he will research and report back. There would need to be public hearings. The Commissioners want to research it but said they wanted to be careful on how they approached it.

HERITAGE LAKE

Paul Sojka lives in Heritage Lake on a cul-de-sac and came to the meeting to see if anything could be done with the road. It was in terrible shape. Mike Ricketts stated unfortunately due to funding the county looks at traffic when they make the road plan. Dead end roads or cul-de-sacs have low volume traffic so there was no plan in the foreseeable future to fix. As the county has stated before if Heritage Lake would incorporate; they would have access to funding to help get the roads fixed. They recommended Mr. Sojka to go to the board meetings at Heritage Lake.

MOWING AROUND COVERED BRIDGES

The Highway Department does not have the manpower to do it right now. Rick Woodall had asked Sheriff Stockton about it. In the past DOC could help do this but things have changed with their budget; they only have one person on his road crew. Sheriff suggested maybe approach the Visitors Bureau since the covered bridges were a tourism attraction. Sheriff would help when they could but could not commit to a regular basis.

Eric Wolfe sits on the Visitors Bureau board; he went out with Commissioner Woodall and took pictures of the nine covered bridges and the land around them to show the current condition and work needed to clean up the area around the bridges. They submitted the pictures to local lawn services to get a quote.

Two lawn services responded: Newgent Lawncare in Greencastle \$4,285 & Green Street Maintenance in Fillmore \$11,500. The quotes included cleaning up the current land around the bridges and then mowing every other week through October.

Rick Woodall made the motion to accept Newgent Lawncare quote. The county would pay \$3,000 from the covered bridge fund and the Visitors Bureau would pay \$1,285. Tom Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PUTNAM COUNTY PARK FUND

Rick Woodall stated he had a list of items necessary to create a board. The board would consist of people appointed by the Commissioners, Council and the Judges.

COVID SMALL BUSINESS GRANT

Rick Woodall said 26 applicants submitted for funding. They had all been verified and approved. He signed the document with OCRA last week to approve receiving the grant money. Once the money was received the county had five days to distribute it. Tom Helmer made the motion to approve the 26 applicants. Dave Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PLAN COMMISSION

Plan Commission Director Lisa Zeiner stated the Council had approved a full-time inspector for the department. However due to problems finding a full-time inspector they currently had two part time inspector positions. Ms. Zeiner stated due to the high volume of permits they have issued she would like to have a full-time inspector at the approved \$38,000 salary and add the position of a part time inspector with a budget amount of \$19,000. If the Commissioners approved today, she would request to be put on the Council's agenda and ask for the additional \$19,000 needed to pay the part time inspector.

The Commissioners asked the two Council members in the audience how they felt about this request. Dave Fuhrman stated he felt the Council would be cautious on approving any new position outside the budget process. He felt this should wait until the budget hearings in August for 2022. Larry Parker stated if she came before their board, they would want to see a spreadsheet illustrating the work being done in the office to justify the position. And to see the revenue stream the office was generating.

Tom Helmer made the motion to approve pending Council. Rick Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT APPOINTMENT

Don Walton was on the board in the past. Board meets once a quarter. Tom Helmer volunteered to serve on the board.

READI PROGRAM AND PARTNERSHIP

Kristin Clary said State had went to a region division and there was a funding revenue of \$50M for each region. The Council had to approve entering in a region with other counties to seek funding. There was a meeting tomorrow night in Hendricks County which Rick Woodall, Dave Fuhrman and Kristin Clary would be attending to get more information.

USAGE OF FIRING RANGE

Jerrold Baugh would coordinate with Sheriff. Jim Ensley said he had submitted a certificate of insurance. Dave Berry made the motion to approve pending insurance review. Tom Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

Jim Ensley stated we have moved out of the emergency phase called by the Governor. Now if you want to allow it the county would need an ordinance. He suggested having one in place in case it was ever needed. Commissioners asked him to research and start a draft.

DRAINAGE BOARD CREATION

The Commissioners asked Jim Ensley to advertise a meeting for July 6, 2021 at 10:30 am.

NEW MAYSVILLE PROPERTIES OWNED BY COMMISSIONERS

Jim Ensley said they were still working on the properties.

MICROFILM AT STATE

Tabled from last meeting. Dave Berry made the motion to approve the State securing the microfilm. Tom Helmer seconded. The motion carried.

COUNTY EMPLOYEES PARKING AROUND THE SQUARE

Letter drawn up by Commissioners after collaboration with the city. Commissioners asked the Auditor to put it in each office mail folder. Starting June 14th, no courthouse employees should be parking in the two-hour parking around the courthouse square.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

Rick Woodall would like the Commissioners and Council to meet and create a five-member board to review and create a plan. They would have public meetings to let people come in and give suggestions/presentations on how to spend the money. Dave Fuhrman would bring it up at their June 15th meeting.

HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Rick Woodall said he and Auditor Kristina Alexander have been in meetings with Keystone regarding the county insurance. Due to six large claims this past year our premium with Anthem would increase 11%. They shopped other plans but felt it was in the county's best interest to remain with Anthem. The Commissioners set a special meeting for June 11th at 11 a.m. to decide on how to address the increase in premium.

ACCIDENT ON STAIRS AT COURTHOUSE

Recently a gentleman fell down the stairs in the courthouse. It had been suggested to the Commissioners to make the southside steps down only and the west side steps up only to eliminate people coming down the west side steps where they get smaller for the turn. The Commissioners took suggestion under advisement.

MORRISON PROPERTY

Trudy Selvia came to the meeting and said she was trying to get ahold of their attorney. She would need a Commissioner to go with her on the property. Shooting for a date in the beginning of July.

CLAIMS

May 20, 2021 – Rick Woodall made the motion to approve. Dave Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

May 27, 2021 – Tom Helmer made the motion to approve. Rick Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

June 3, 2021 – Dave Berry made the motion to approve. Tom Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

June 3, 2021 – (jury) Rick Woodall made the motion to approve. Dave Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

June 7, 2021 – Tom Helmer made the motion to approve. Rick Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PAYROLL

May 21, 2021 – Dave Berry made the motion to approve. Tom Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

June 4, 2021 – Tom Helmer made the motion to approve. Dave Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

May 17, 2021 – Tom Helmer made the motion to approve. Rick Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MAIL

The Board of Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

ADJOURN

Dave Berry made the motion to adjourn. Rick Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Rick Woodall, President

Dave Berry

Tom Helmer, Vice President

Attest: Auditor's Office