

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY AT 5:00 P.M.

The Switzerland County Council met in regular session pursuant to law and by being duly advertised.

Those present: council: Mike Jones, Rachel Schuler, Tom Conroy, Jeff Darling, Steve Crabtree, and Terry Hall, the sheriff, Roy Leap, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and council attorney, Cody Kendall, attended by phone. Glenn Scott was absent.

The meeting was opened by Roy who also led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were not available at this time.

#1 REORGANIZATION

Tom Conroy made a motion to nominate Mike Jones as president; this would be Mike's 30th year in this position, and Rachel Schuler as Vice President. The motion was seconded by Steve. Mike called for other nominations. There being no others, nominations were closed. Mike called for the vote. The vote was unanimous in favor of the nominees.

#2 SIRPC BOARD APPOINTMENT

Gayle explained that there is an opening on the Southeaster Indiana Regional Planning Commission board due to the death of Ron Hocker. This is a county appointment. Mike had approached Matt Hocker about taking his father's seat, but Matt declined due to scheduling problems on the board's meeting nights. The opening will be referred back to the commissioners for an appointment.

#3 VARIOUS OTHER BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Terry made a motion to make the following board appointments:

SISWD – Rachel Schuler
SIRPC – Jon Bond
School Endowment – Tom Conroy
Extension Board – Glenn Scott
Alcohol Beverage Comm. – Bernie Gaudin
Fire Chief's Association – Terry Hall
Economic Development – Judy Firth
Attorney – Cody Kendall

Steve seconded the motion and all agreed.

#4 CASINO REVENUE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Gayle presented the Casino Revenue Appropriation Ordinance for approval. After discussion, the Council asked that the ordinance be changed from the way it has been done in the past, where the amounts for each entity were increased to cover any additional distributions, to showing the actual amount each entity receives based on their percentage. Gayle will re-write the ordinance and present it at the February meeting.

#5 SPAY/NEUTER FUNDING

Rachel made a motion to fund the County Spay/Neuter Program with \$10,000.00, seconded by Jeff and all agreed.

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#6 COMPENSATION FOR SECRETARY TO COUNCIL AND COMMISSIONERS

Cody was to look into the idea of compensation for the secretary to the council and commissioners, which is the county auditor. He stated that most counties do this but he did not know how it is handled in order to stay within the Indiana Code. Gayle is to check with other counties who do this, or the state auditor, and find out how it is handled.

#7 CARY LOUDERBACK LETTER

Rachel brought up a recent letter from Cary Louderback the council members had received. Mike mentioned that Soil and Water has a board that governs them. Cody said that he would look into who has the authority over Soil and Water and will be at the next meeting with a memo that lays out what action council can take.

#8 PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT

Mark Archer reported on 2013 activity. There was one additional permit for a new home: 35 in 2012 and 36 in 2013. Permits for new barns were also up one: 49 in 2012 and 50 in 2013. Room additions were up from 10 in 2012 to 15 in 2013. There were more permits for electrical work in 2013. This was followed by some discussion on structures built without permits.

With no further business to come before council, Steve made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jeff. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Attest: _____

Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana