

JOINT MEETING

Wednesday, June 18, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

The Switzerland County Council and the Switzerland County Board of Commissioners met in public joint session pursuant to law and by being duly advertised.

Those present: commissioners: Mark Lohide, Steve Lyons, and Josh South council: Tom Conroy, Jeff Darling, Terry Hall, Mike Jones, Rachel Schuler, and Glenn Scott, the county attorney, Wil Goering, the chief deputy, Richard Lock, the auditor, Gayle Rayles, and the commissioners' assistant, Bruce Williams. Steve Crabtree and council attorney, Cody Kendall, were absent.

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

Commissioner Lyons chaired the meeting.

#1 Kathy Kelly – SIRPC – Housing Grants

Kathy spoke for approximately 20 to 25 minutes concerning the following topics:

1. Traffic count program; up to 10 counts are allowed in 2014. John Day, interim highway supervisor, and his foremen are to look at the list. Kathy will contact John.
2. Kathy requested that the commissioners sign a support letter so that SIRPC can apply for brownfield grants. Our application for this year was denied. She will reapply later – the grants are for assessment only and not cleanup. Josh made a motion to sign the letter, seconded by Mark and all agreed.
3. Mike Jones asked about the housing re-hab grants. Kathy advised it was probably too late to apply for this grant for this year but a new round of grants will start in February 2015. The maximum grant amount is \$350,000.00 and requires a 10% match. Kathy would write the grant. She suggested that the county apply for HPG (Housing Preservation Grant funds through the USDA Rural Development) money to defray the cost of the 10% match for the Local Housing Grant. Jeff made the motion to have SIRPC apply for the HPG money on the county's behalf, seconded by Terry and all agreed.

#2 Chip & Seal – Bear Creek Repair Options

The chip and seal work has been funded for \$531,000.00 and is due to begin after the county fair.

A discussion followed in reference to the road slip repairs on Bear Creek, Adkinson Hill Road, Popcorn Ridge Road, Red Hog Pike, and Wade Hill Road.

Jeff suggested that the commissioners and John Day provide a priority list, to the council of the roads needing repaired.

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John Day suggested that the commissioners use the chip and seal money for road slip repairs. No action was taken at this time.

#3 Election Issue

Josh provided a graph comparing voter turnout from 2006 to present in Dearborn County, Jefferson County, Ohio County, Ripley County, Switzerland County, and statewide.

The vote centers were discussed and a suggestion was made to use the vote centers for a couple more years and then re-evaluate the election process.

#4 Future Joint Meeting Dates

The commissioners and council agreed to meet quarterly at 5:00 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of the third month of the quarter (March, June, September, and December).

#5 Casino Revenue Percentage Review Date

Council agreed to use the July 30th date originally scheduled for the budget meeting. Mark asked that the council not cut the commissioners' budget.

#4 Courthouse Exterior Upkeep

At present there is not a budget for courthouse maintenance. A priority list of needed repairs was suggested.

#5 Ordinance Codification

The project description was discussed along with the plan to pay for this work. The county would pay \$3,165.00 in 2014 and \$5,000.00 per year for 2015 and 2016. This project had been discussed at the June 16th commissioners' meeting. Steve and Wil explained the benefits of this project.

Terry made a motion to approve the codification project, seconded by Rachel and all agreed; with the commissioners and council agreeing to split the cost.

#6 State Audit Fees for Economic Development

Gayle asked about recovering the state audit fees of \$5,800.00 from the EDC since the additional fees were the result of any audit on their federal grant. It was agreed to recover the money out of their casino revenue over 4 draws.

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#7 Other Business

There was a discussion on the need for additional restrooms and repairs at the Markland Park as well as more parking.

Rosemary Bovard asked about the cost of the Burton house that was demolished and if there was any progress on the phone bill cost. Josh offered to meet with CenturyLink to review their services anytime after July 1st. Gayle is to schedule a meeting.

With no further business to come be for the session, Tom made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Glenn and all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Commissioners:

Council:

Attest: _____
Gayle A. Rayles, Auditor
Switzerland County, Indiana