

MIAMI COUNTY SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
June 21, 2011

Council President Ralph Duckwall called the meeting to order and Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Kendall is absent.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Dick Wiles introduced the new 9-1-1 Director to the Council. Cliff Garner was hired as the 9-1-1 Director starting 6-20-11. The Council welcomed Mr. Gardner.

MINUTES

Councilwoman Mull had a correction to the minutes. On the second page under Public Comment a word was left out. It should read as follows, "Alan Hileman stated that he has family that works for the County and that not getting a raise for several years really hurts and he hopes that there will be consideration paid to the request". Councilman McAuliffe moved to approve the May 17, 2011 meeting minutes Councilman Hunt 2nd the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

IT

John Powell, IT DIRECTOR came before the Board to talk to them about the possibility of getting a 10 year commitment from the Council to keep the current IT staff. Peru Utilities would like to be included in our Virtualization project but wants to make sure we have the IT staff for it. Peru Utilities currently pays \$25,000 per year for IT services from the County. Leah Aikman, Peru Utilities, said it would be pretty simple to add them but difficult to take them off which is why they are looking for a commitment. Council President Ralph Duckwall asked what kind of agreement had been made between the County and the Utilities. Nothing has been decided yet. There will need to be an Inter-local agreement as well as an ordinance. No action taken.

WIND FARM ORDINANCE FEE SCHEDULE

Darrell Wooten, Planning and Zoning, brought a fee schedule before the Council for their review. The Plan Commission has reviewed and accepted. Councilwoman Mull asked what happens when the towers are no longer in use. Decommission of the towers is covered in the ordinance. What roads and the repair of those roads is also addressed in the ordinance.

President Duckwall asked about the variance/exception clause. Mr. Wooten explained that it only applies to Wind Farms and not all projects would have a need for it.

Commissioner Boyer stated that Ordinances and fees need to be uniform across the State. Mr. Wooten said some of our fees are less than surrounding counties.

Mr. Wooten also stated that he would like the fees to go into a non reverting fund because he feels that an additional inspector will need to be hired to be on site at all times.

Councilman Donaldson asked about imminent domain. Commissioner Boyer said that would apply to these projects.

The Council agreed that they would like to keep things simple and Councilwoman Mull made a motion to accept "attachment 1" fee schedule. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

Jane Lilley, Miami County Auditor, informed the Council that the June Settlement has been completed. The Auditor's office did the settlement electronically (for the 1st time) which saved the County money. All reports and forms were sent electronically as well. The savings include checks, paper for copies, wear and tear on the copier, toner, and the cost for copies over our allotted amount. Peru City, which is our largest unit, was very appreciative. They received the settlement early, the money was in the bank, and the reports were easy to print. They thanked the office for working hard to make their jobs easier as well as ours. Ralph Cory, Deer Creek Trustee also said he was happy with the change. Included with that is the monthly checks for COIT, LOIT and CEDIT and settlement checks for FIT, and CVET which were done electronically.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Harp asked if the wind farms would be paying taxes and how the Wind Farms would help the County. The fees paid to the County to create the wind farm would be a benefit to the County. In all reality, the Wind Farm would probably ask for an abatement which would bring those dollars in increments over approximately a 10 year period.

Mr. Hileman stated he appreciated the Council asking questions and people being able to provide the answers.

Joyce Clark asked if the agendas could be sent out/posted a little earlier than they have been and could they be a little more detailed. The Auditor replied that she would try to post/send them out a little sooner. There was also a question about putting them on the website. The Council will check with John Powell to see if that would be possible. .

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman McAuliffe. The motion was 2nd by Councilwoman Mull and passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Lilley
Miami County Auditor