

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2015 MEETING

The committee chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Livingston County Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, Illinois and roll call was taken.

Present: Bill Flott, Bob Young, James Carley, Justin Goembel, Paul Ritter and Bill Peterson.

Absent: Daryl Holt.

Additional County Reps: County Board Chair Marty Fannin, County Administrative Resource Specialist Alina Hartley, State's Attorney Seth Uphoff, Non-Committee County Board Members Mike Ingles and Mark Runyon.

Committee Chair Flott noted the agenda, relating that item 2b has been withdrawn. Justin Goembel then moved, seconded by Paul Ritter that the agenda for this meeting be approved as amended. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Minutes of the September 8, 2015 committee meeting were referred to the committee. Bob Young moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that these meeting minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

ETSB Report:

ETSB Chair Mike Ingles reviewed a printed ETSB Report for this October 6, 2015, of which copies had been handed out to the committee members. Mr. Ingles explained that the new details of this report are the underlined comments under each section, and it is these underlined areas of which Mr. Ingles focused his review. The CAD system is hoped to be fully functional in April or May of next year. Mr. Ingles commented on the finance section remarking that staff and some ETSB members are working on a five year budget. Mr. Ingles then asked for support of HB 4305 which would release emergency telephone funds that are passed through the state. HB 4305 has been introduced to allow for the payment of multiple pass through funds, as the state of Illinois continues to deal with its' budget predicament. He related that Motorola is working on a solution to improve the radio system coverage in the Dwight area. Mr. Ingles then commented about how Streator is considering an agreement to be served by Liv Com, and how it would be wise to have such an agreement in place by the end of year before new state procedures are implemented. Mr. Ingles then presented copies of the draft ETSB budgets for next year. Mr. Ingles commented that the 911 reserve funds are being depleted. So it is hoped that along with the five year budget plan being worked on that a long term funding plan may also be drafted. In response for a question, Mr. Ingles confirmed that if Streator would reach an agreement with Liv Com they would need to switch to the StarCom radio system at their own expense. Mr. Ingles emphasized that the Streator agreement is not a done deal, as Streator continues to consider their options.

Review of Livingston County Zoning Case SF-3-15: This zoning case has been withdrawn by the applicants for consideration at this time.

Review of Livingston County Zoning Case ZT-3-15:

The report provided to the committee pertaining to this zoning case was acknowledged. This report included a copy of the application and language regarding this proposed zoning case. This report also noted that the Livingston County Regional Planning Commission and the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals are recommending the approval of this proposed six month extension to the existing moratorium on the Livingston County Zoning Regulations concerning Wind Energy Conversion Systems, and the filing WECS special use applications. The committee briefly discussed this proposed moratorium extension.

Bob Young moved, seconded by James Carley, that the Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee of the Livingston County Board recommend to the County Board that the County Board should approve the proposed zoning text amendment to Chapter 56, Schedule VIII, Code of Ordinances Livingston County, Illinois, proposing a six month extension of the moratorium on Livingston County, Illinois, delaying the processing or acting upon any special use application for the construction and operation of a wind energy conversion system. This motion passed by a voice vote of all ayes.

Update on the Continuation of the Process of Reviewing the County's Wind Energy Regulations:

Committee member Paul Ritter remarked that he had received several calls pertaining to marking pipes being left in the ground within the previously proposed Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy project area. Allyson Sand a manager of business of development for Invenergy, the corporation that had proposed the Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy project was present at the meeting. Ms. Sand explained that they are aware of the matter and that they plan having a crew remove the marking pipes and fill the holes. Ms. Sand related that Invenergy plans on sending letters to the land owners explaining their plans, regarding these marking pipes. Mr. Ritter then inquired as to if the holes would then be filled with bentonite to relieve and concerns over contamination of any water sources. Andrew Downey a project consultant for Invenergy, whom was also present at this meeting, related that these holes would be filled with bentonite or clay. Mr. Downey went on to relate that these were piezometers that marked the proposed Pleasant Ridge Wind Energy project turbine locations, which were also used for soil sample tubes. The sites were sampled to use as guides as to what type of foundation would need to be constructed for the individual turbines. Mr. Downey remarked that if the project construction had started then these tubes would have been removed as part of the construction process, but they are now waiting for the crops to be harvested before removing these tubes and filling the holes.

Livingston County State's Attorney Seth Uphoff then informed that committee that he has been in contact with the attorney general's office requesting that they expedite their review of his request for an opinion on the Indian Grove Township resolution issue, in that this issue may be tied to a referendum. The attorney general's will work to expedite their initial draft review of the matter, but they are unsure on how long the administrative review of this opinion will take. Mr. Uphoff then commented that he had reviewed some of the other wind energy regulation issues and that he is willing to meet with the committee when desired by the committee.

Solid Waste Report:

A copy of the planning commission monthly synopsis of landfill information and correspondence was presented to the committee members and was discussed. This synopsis focused on the landfill gas system and remarks that the new cell area constructed earlier this year has been approved and is now in use.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:

The issue of the regulation of drones will be an issue the committee will be briefed on in the future.

Public Comment: None

Review and Approval of Bills:

An invoice in the amount of \$ 2,543 from Deigan and Associates, LLC for Professional Services for the period of July 28, 2015 to September 24, 2015 relating to landfill monitoring and technical reviews of Republic/Allied Waste's Livingston and Streator Area Landfills, for environmental/solid waste landfill consulting service to Livingston County was submitted to the committee. The amount for the charge for the mileage on this invoice was discussed. Bob Young moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this statement be approved for payment. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment:

Then Justin Goembel moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this meeting be adjourned. This motion was approved unanimously.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Charles T. Schopp, Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission