

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2016 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, Justin Goembel, Daryl Holt, Paul Ritter and Bill Peterson.

Absent: James Carley.

Additional County Reps: County Board Chairman Marty Fannin, County Administrative Resource Specialist Alina Hartley. Non-committee county board members present included Vicki Allen and Carolyn Gerwin. Several citizens of the county were also present at this committee meeting. Ad Hoc committee members present included Jeff Reinkemyer, Bekah Fehr and John Slagel

As the Committee Chair Flott was late for the beginning of the meeting committee Vice-Chair Young noted the agenda. Bill Peterson 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 January 28, 2016 and February 2, 2016 committee meetings were referred to the committee. Bill Peterson moved, seconded by Justin Goembel, that these meeting minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB) Report:

County Administrative Resource Specialist Alina Hartley reviewed ETSB Chair Jim Woolford's Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB) report to the Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee. In relation to last month's report there have been no changes in personnel or finances. In regard to the radio system discussions on the Dwight issues continue on how to address reception issues in this area of the county. In regard to the Spillman CAD system, the system began to go live on March 1st, the system is being phased in as all components are readied for the system, and Spillman representatives are maintaining a presence, for the time being, to address any issues. With Streator to have representation on the ETSB, which current ETSB member John Tibbs is to resign to allow for the Streator representation on the ETSB. The ETSB had a discussion on becoming an autonomous entity, in part because of the regionalization of 911 networks. Consideration of this transformation will continue as the pros and cons of such an entity are examined. Bill Peterson moved, seconded by Daryl Holt, that this committee accept this ETSB report. This motion was approved by a voice vote of all ayes.

Review of Case SF-1-16; Pertains to a request by Pete Walter for the approval of a final plat of subdivision. Notice of public hearing was made in reference to this proposed final plat of subdivision, and the property owners surrounding the subject property were notified of the proposed subdivision and of the public hearings. Mr. Walter is proposing to divide a 7.40 acre parcel of land into two lots. The proposed north parcel would be 3 acres in size and the proposed south lot would be 4.4 acres in size. The subject property for this subdivision request is located in the Southwest Quarter of Section 22 of Forrest Township. The zoning administrator presented his report and information about this proposed subdivision.

The committee was informed that the Livingston County Regional Planning Commission had reviewed this subdivision proposal at their meeting on Monday March 7, 2016, and that the planning commission recommends the approval of this proposed subdivision. Justin Goembel then moved, seconded by Daryl Holt, that this committee recommend the approval of Livingston County Zoning Case SF-1-16 – Pete Walter 1 & 2 subdivision. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Committee Chair Bill Flott having arrived took over chairmanship of the meeting.

Update on Wind Energy Issues:

Bob Young remarked that Bill Flott, John Slagel, Dean Steidinger and the zoning administrator had met to discuss the updated working draft. Mr. Young continued to explain the new draft would be presented at this meeting, with plans to discuss it at the April committee meeting. Committee chair Flott then asked that the committee members review this new draft during the next month making notes on the document and that they bring it back next month. Then the zoning administrator presented a new version of a working draft of the wind energy regulations. This new working wind energy regulations draft document reflects the suggestions for final changes made at past committee meetings. The highlights of this new draft document was presented the Committee. The ad-hoc committee will continue until at least until and including the April committee meeting.

Solid Waste Report:

A copy of the planning commission monthly synopsis of landfill information and correspondence was presented to the committee members. This synopsis focused on the landfill gas system issues. Host fee information from the last month was also presented to the committee. Dialogue then took place on the monitoring of the litter along the highway and how this is to be picked up within the next 10 days. The contact numbers for the landfill were then discussed.

Discuss Draft Regulations for Solar Farms:

Mr. Schopp included formalized draft solar farm regulations text amendment in his committee hand out material, with the text similar to what was presented at last month's committee meeting. After a brief discussion Daryl Holt moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, to recommend that this Agriculture, Zoning and Emergency Services Committee recommend that the Livingston County Board direct and instruct the Livingston County Zoning Board of Appeals to send notice and conduct public hearings on a proposed zoning text amendment to Chapter 56, Article VIII – B Solar Farms, Code of Ordinances, Livingston County Illinois, proposing new Solar Farm regulations, as outlined the draft text amendment. The Chairman and Secretary of the County Board are authorized to sign the application for a zoning text amendment and submit it to the attention of the Livingston County Zoning Administrator for processing. This motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Smith Douglass Intergovernmental Agreement:

An intergovernmental agreement of which the City of Streator is proposing with Livingston County pertaining to the Smith Douglass property is being reviewed by the State's Attorney's office and will be discussed further at next month's committee meeting. The background of the Smith Douglass property was discussed.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee: None

Public Comment: Roger Wahls representing the Livingston County Farm Bureau invited the committee members to the upcoming Farm Bureau legislative breakfast.

Review and Approval of Bills: None

Adjournment:

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

This meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Charles T. Schopp, Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission