

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2020 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: Jason Bunting, Paul Ritter, Gerald Earing, Patrick Killian, Steven Lovell and Tim Shafer.

Absent: John Slagel.

Others Present: Additional County Representatives included: Non committee County Board Members, Jim Blackard, Linda Ambrose and John Vitzthum, County Executive Director Alina Hartley, County Network Computer Systems Administrator Jon Sear and County Finance Director Diane Schwahn.

Committee Chair Jason Bunting commented about the agenda for this July 14, 2020 meeting. Tim Shafer then moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this agenda be approved as amended. This motion was approved by a roll call vote; Bunting-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Earing-Yes, Killian-Yes, Lovell-Yes, Shafer-Yes, Slagel-Absent.

Committee Chair Jason Bunting then referred to the minutes of the June 2, 2020 committee meeting. Patrick Killian moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that these meetings minutes be approved as presented. This motion was approved by a roll call vote; Bunting-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Earing-Yes, Killian-Yes, Lovell-Yes, Shafer-Yes, Slagel-Absent.

Business:

Solid Waste Report – Review of a synopsis of solid waste related documents:

Printed copies monthly synopsis document reviews were presented to and reviewed with the committee members. These reports and discussion on these reports for Livingston Landfill focused on reports regarding the landfill gas system, groundwater testing results and the Streator Area Landfill split sampling program report. In regard to the landfill gas system some perimeter methane gas monitoring probes were found to be obstructed after repairs were made the gas methane levels returned to normal levels. New cell construction has been suspended because of COVID19 related issues. The new cell construction planned to be completed next year. Deigan and Associates provided a typed report regarding the Streator Area Landfill's annual program for split sampling and testing of ground water wells. Diegan and Associates conclusion is; Based on their observations and the respective groundwater analysis from this sampling event, it is in their opinion that Republic Services is following proper sampling/laboratory analysis and the applicable permit requirements. Monthly host fee information was also provided to the committee, these figures showed an increase from the recent previous months. Along with the completion of the new cell area next year, new gas system work is also proposed.

Recycling Matters:

A discussion took place in regarding the 2020 electronics recycling event in Fairbury that took place on June 20, 2020. Two full trailers of electronics were collected that day, and three fourths of a third trailer was filled a few days later, with electronics that the City of Fairbury had collected and stored. Thanks for everyone's assistance with this project.

Confirmation was also made that Livingston County will again participate in the state electronic recycling program, with two more events being planned in 2021, through the same recycling company.

Wind Energy Update:

The considerations of new wind energy development in the county are moving forward, but they continue to be delayed because of the COVID 19 Pandemic situation.

Solar Energy Update:

While the community solar projects continue to be delayed, with a lack of state legislative action, small residential and farm solar systems continue to be developed.

Review County Zoning Regulations Related to Airports:

A discussion took place in regard to the Livingston County Zoning Regulations related to airports. This discussion focused on setback distances and the potential county board approval of airport special uses, and the definition of airports. The setback distances discussion centered on some existing small private airports in Livingston County which are located on the same property as the user of the airport, and the most recent airport proposal of which setbacks from the closest adjoining residence were questioned. The committee agreed that this setback issue be further investigated, and further reviewed by the committee. Setback requirements and issues for private airports located on the same property as the airport user, and setbacks for airports adjoining residents with no interest in any proposed airport. The review of airport definitions will also be reviewed, in part as if multiple definitions may be considered. Such as a definition for a small airport on a users property and more business related airports. The committee members discussed about how separate airport developments will have unique circumstances and these unique circumstances should be part of decisions in reviewing any new airport developments.

FY2021 Budget & Capital Requests:

The proposed budgets for regional planning and zoning, solid waste, and ESDA were remarked on, with the most significant change reflecting the addition of the new assistant position. Patrick Killian moved, seconded by Paul Ritter to recommend the approval of the budgets as submitted. This motion was approved by a roll call vote; Bunting-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Earing-Yes, Killian-Yes, Lovell-Yes, Shafer-Yes, Slagel-Absent.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:

Public Comment: None

Review and Approval of Bills:

An invoice with a total amount of \$4,561.50 from Deigan and Associates, LLC for Professional Services for the period from May 15, 2020 to June 11, 2020 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. Steven Lovell moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this committee approve the payment of this invoice. This motion was approved by a roll call vote; Bunting-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Earing-Yes, Killian-Yes, Lovell-Yes, Shafer-Yes, Slagel-Absent.

Adjournment:

Steven Lovell moved, seconded by Paul Ritter, that this meeting be adjourned. This motion was approved by a roll call vote; Bunting-Yes, Ritter-Yes, Earing-Yes, Killian-Yes, Lovell-Yes, Shafer-Yes, Slagel-Absent.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Charles T. Schopp, Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission