

AGRICULTURE, ZONING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2022 MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Jason Bunting, Tim Shafer, Gerald Earing, and Joel Barickman

Absent: Paul Ritter, Steven Lovell, and Scott Mennenga

Committee Chair Bunting commented about the agenda for this June 7, 2022 meeting. With no needed corrections or amendments noted, Tim Shafer moved, seconded by Gerald Earing that this agenda be approved as presented. This motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Committee Chair Bunting then referred to the minutes of the April 5 and April 14, 2022 committee meetings. Gerald Earing then moved, seconded by Joel Barickman that the April 5, 2022 and April 14, 2022 minutes be approved as presented. This motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Business:

Briefing on Solid Waste:

The zoning administrator then provided an update on the Livingston and Streator landfills to board members.

The zoning administrator gave an overview on the correspondence between Republic and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency that his office had received copies of. It was noted that there was an observed increase in the amount of ammonia, arsenic, boron, chloride, chromium, lead, nitrate – pH, specific conductance, sulfate, and total dissolved solids. However, after four analyses were conducted on each of the increased parameters, it was determined that the landfill is not the source for the confirmed increases.

Committee Chair Bunting then informed committee members that since the last meeting, he had observed a semi leaving the landfill on Route 23 who was losing a large amount of leftover litter from the trailer. Bunting noted that he immediately contacted the zoning office and was put into contact with Bill Janes from the landfill who did further investigation from there to help correct the issue going forward.

Update of Solid Waste Plan:

The zoning administrator then noted to committee members that the county's solid waste plan needs to be updated. The committee members were presented with a draft updated plan which showed corrected dates on the existing solid waste plan. The zoning administrator also noted that there may be a need for the plan update to reflect the changing in how some municipalities collect their solid waste. The zoning administrator told committee members that the existing plan could

simply be updated as proposed in the draft update, or a company could be hired to do another in-depth analysis of the county and completely redo the plan in its entirety.

Committee Chair Bunting suggested that this matter be moved back to next month's meeting so that committee members had an opportunity to review the proposed update and decide what the committee's next step should be in regards to this matter. All committee members agreed with that course of action.

Discuss Solar Energy Development Road Agreements:

The zoning administrator then discussed potential road use agreements regarding solar farm development in the county and whether or not it should be implemented as part of a solar farm special use permit. Due to the fact that the weight and scale of solar development is much less than that of wind farm development where road use agreements are required, there was a question as to whether road use agreements are necessary for solar development.

The zoning administrator suggested that there could be a condition attached to the approval of solar farm special use permits going forward that the developer contact the proper township, county, state, or municipal road representative(s) about the proposed solar project. The committee members were also provided with a rough draft of what the condition would look like. The committee members agreed that it would be a good idea to include as a condition for the approval of special use permits regarding solar farms.

Resolution: Allies in Agriculture:

Committee Chair Bunting then noted a symbolic resolution that had recently been passed by the local farm bureau regarding the recognition of the importance of agriculture both nationally and locally. Committee Chair Bunting recommended that this resolution be passed forth to the full county board for approval.

After some discussion about the source of the statistics included in the resolution and a recommended correction, Gerald Earing moved, seconded by Tim Shafer that the resolution be passed on to the full county board for approval.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

Other Issues to Come Before the Committee:

The zoning administrator then mentioned upcoming solar developments in the county that would be coming before this committee in the coming months.

Public Comment:

The floor was open for public comment.

Review and Approval of Bills:

There was one bill in the amount of \$1,422 that was owed to The Deigan Group for environmental consulting work performed.

Tim Shafer moved, seconded by Joel Barickman that the bill be paid as presented.

The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

Adjournment:

With there being no further business to come before the committee, there was a motion by Gerald Earing, seconded by Tim Shafer to adjourn. The motion was carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m..

Jesse J. King, Assistant Administrator
Livingston County Regional
Planning Commission