

**HENDRICKS COUNTY JOINT COMMISSIONER & COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 15, 2020**

The called joint meeting of the Hendricks County Commissioners and Hendricks County Council was called to order, via virtual conference by Council President David Wyeth on behalf of the Council and by Commissioner President Phyllis Palmer on behalf of the Commissioners on Wednesday April 15, 2020 with the following in attendance: Commissioner Matt Whetstone, Councilman David Wyeth, Councilman David Cox, Financial Administrator Tami Mitchell and Auditor Nancy Marsh. Attending virtual conference were Commissioner Phyllis Palmer, Commissioner Bob Gentry, Councilman Caleb Brown, Councilman Larry Hesson, Councilman Larry Scott, Councilman Eric Wathen and Councilman Brad Whicker. Commissioner Palmer turned the gavel over to Commissioner Vice President Whetstone. Commissioner Palmer led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered a prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF THE AGENT OF RECORD FOR HC HEALTH PLAN

Hendricks County Attorney, Greg Steuerwald brought forth a concern and ask for directions on Hendricks County's health insurance agent of record. Mr. Steuerwald stated Mr. Jeff Fox has left H. J. Spier. Mr. Steuerwald stated that we have a binding contract with H. J. Spier and has spoken to H. J. Spier asking if they have the capacity to perform the contractual duties and whether H. J. Spier wants to retain the contract. It was reported that Mr. Fox offered his services for the remainder of the year at no costs. Mr. Steuerwald stated the remainder of the fee with H. J. Spier would be in the range of \$35,000.00. Mr. Steuerwald stated that the current contract with H. J. Spier expires on December 31, 2020. Mr. Steuerwald stated H. J. Spier was amiable to have a discussion on the terms.

Councilman Whicker stated he was in favor of staying with Jeff Fox as the Hendricks County broker through Conner Health and Benefits. Councilman Whicker stated it is not the right time to make a move from the consultant/broker. Councilman Brown stated that he agreed with Councilman Whicker, but he is always in favor with investigating vendors and at this time he is indifferent to the request. Councilman Hesson stated that Jeff has done a remarkable job for Hendricks County and agrees it is a terrible time to make a change and was in favor of staying with Jeff Fox as the broker. Councilman Whicker stated that Mr. Fox made the possible move known to the Council at the end of 2019.

Councilman Whicker asked why not sever the contract. Councilman Brown asked for a clearer understanding on what we will miss if we stay with H. J. Spier. Councilman Wathen stated Mr. Fox had sent an email which explained that there is no one at H. J. Spier to handle our types of business and is concerned there will be no one there who can help us as we go into the new enrollment period. Councilman Whicker stated he felt we should dissolve the contract with H. J. Spier and enter into a contract with Jeff Fox based on his previous service and relationship with Hendricks County. Commissioner Palmer stated it was poor timing and was concerned with the ramifications of cancelling the H. J. Spier contract. Councilman Brown stated he agreed with Councilman Wathen's concerns but did not find it an issue to wait.

Human Resources Administrator Erin Hughes stated that the concierge service is still outstanding. Mrs. Hughes stated the only other outstanding item is the analysis of balancing the grid between traditional and high deductible health plans. Mrs. Hughes stated she would work with Financial Administrator Tami Mitchell and Auditor Nancy Marsh to balance the grid. Mrs. Hughes stated we will be looking for a concierge service whether we change consultants. Councilman Wathen stated we won't have a consultant for the next benefit meeting on May 6, 2020. Councilman Wathen suggested that we put out a Request for Quotes and we may need to pay two consultants at once until the termination of the H. J. Spier Contract.

Commissioner Palmer stated this was terrible timing in a terrible economic environment and she is in favor of honoring the contract with H. J. Spier. Commissioner Whetstone stated the Commissioners had discussed the situation and were in favor of maintaining the contract with H. J. Spier. Commissioner Whetstone stated if Jeff Fox can work out his own agreement with H. J. Spier to provide contract services to Hendricks County, it would be considered. Councilman Hesson stated he couldn't disagree more and is afraid H. J. Spier will not be able to offer the help we require.

County Executive Todd McCormack stated there is an assumption that H. J. Spier will not be able to provide the contract services. Mr. McCormack stated the contract goes both ways and H. J. Spier has an obligation to Hendricks County. Mr. McCormack stated he does not like the county to be put in the middle of the situation between Mr. Fox and H. J. Spier and is not blaming anyone, but it is not Hendricks County or our County Attorney Greg Steuerwald's responsibility to sort it out.

Councilman Wyeth polled the Commissioner and Council members. Commissioner Gentry was in favor of continuing with H. J. Spier; Commissioner Palmer was in favor on continuation with H. J. Spier and stated our contract has been with H. J. Spier for many years without any issue; Councilman Whicker stated he stands by his previous comments and pointed out that we had not heard from anyone from H. J. Spier; Councilman Brown stated he stands by his comments that he was indifferent to making the change. Councilman Wathen said he was in favor of sticking with H. J. Spier and leave it up to Mr. Fox to work out a contract with H. J. Spier; Councilman Scott stated he was in favor of staying with H. J. Spier; Councilman Hesson stated he agreed with Councilman Whicker and was in favor of retaining Jeff Fox as the consultant; Councilman Cox was in favor of staying with H. J. Spier; Commissioner Whetstone stated he was in favor of staying with H. J. Spier and let Mr. Fox work out an agreement with H. J. Spier which would allow him to work with Hendricks County and Councilman Wyeth was in favor of staying with H. J. Spier at this time.

It was the consensus of the group to put out a Request for Services, Letter of Intent or Request for Quote announcement which includes job duties, skill sets, qualifications, deliverables, overall specifications and costs.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REPORT FROM FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

Financial Consultant Greg Guerrettaz discussed the Sustainability Analysis Discussion Points he had emailed to each County Council member and each Commissioner. Mr. Guerrettaz stated he has gone through a lot of information and addressed the bonds as follows:

Mr. Guerrettaz stated he had, in writing, final documentation from Hall Render that Hendricks Regional Health removed the property tax backup when they refinanced their bonds and stated they are pure revenue bonds. Councilman Hesson expressed the concern that the county would ultimately be responsible for the hospital's debt if they would go bankrupt.

Mr. Guerrettaz reported that he served as Financial Consultant for both Hendricks County and the Convention and Visitors Bureau and stated the debt on the Convention Center is strictly Innkeeper's Tax revenue and the 2018 audited financials reported the Hendricks County Convention and Visitor's Bureau has 590% coverage on the bond.

Mr. Guerrettaz reported on the TIF areas reporting the Heartland Crossing TIF is ready to close out by the Hendricks County Redevelopment Commission; the Pittsboro TIF is well financed and able to sustain any loss of property tax revenue; the Ronald Reagan TIF has no bond and no exposure; the 70/39 TIF

Bond has no legal liability; the 70 West TIF Bond has no legal liability and the Westpoint TIF Bond has no legal liability.

Mr. Guerrettaz reported he is predicting a 30% loss to Innkeepers and Food and Beverage Taxes and a 5% loss in Property Taxes due to the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020.

Councilman Scott asked about reported ratings decline from Triple A to A+ due to the pandemic. Mr. Guerrettaz stated the bond rating agencies look at what setbacks entities are going to take. Mr. Guerrettaz cautioned members about public statements noting that the bond rating agencies have access to them.

Mr. Guerrettaz stated there was too much risk to have two bond issues.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW JAIL

Mr. Dustin Frye of BW Construction reported on the status of the work performed by RQAW. Mr. Frye stated their desire was to go to bid in August 2020 and is better to get on site earlier than later. Mr. Guerrettaz stated Hendricks County has a lot of financial tools to move ahead intelligently. Mr. Guerrettaz stated he did not envision any reimbursements from the bond, and we have tremendous flexibility that will protect the taxpayers. Mr. Guerrettaz stated we may want to do a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) and consider paying off the Wheel Tax Refunding Revenue Bonds of 2012 early. Mr. Guerrettaz stated to keep the tax rate level, the county should consider another project when the rates drop off for the 911 Bank Loan and 911 GO Bond. Mr. Guerrettaz said he envisioned at least a 6-month timeline before bonding and continue steps to achieve a good interest rate and a good price on the product. Mr. Guerrettaz is recommending to further look at timing and move forward.

Mr. Guerrettaz stated the Council was intelligent in adopting the Correctional Facility Local Income Tax to be effective in October 2019. Auditor Marsh stated we get in approximately \$867,000 per month and have a balance in the fund of 3.4 million dollars. Mr. Guerrettaz spoke on the stability on the Correctional Facility Local Income Tax and does not want the state to make a special distribution. Auditor Nancy Marsh stated she has been told to expect a special excess distribution on May 1st. Mr. Guerrettaz stated he hopes the state reconsiders that distribution because it will distort the level stability of the income tax.

Councilman Scott stated he would recommend staying the course noting that raw materials index has been going down for the last three years. Councilman Hesson asked about the prediction on the Income Tax Revenue due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Mr. Guerrettaz stated he expects a 20% to 25% reduction in income tax. Commissioner Whetstone recommended we push forward on the jail project and he thought income tax will get back on track. Commissioner Gentry inquired how the number went from fifty-seven million in the Feasibility Study to seventy million today.

Facilities Manager Kevin Cavanaugh presented a document of schematic design estimates reflecting a total project cost of \$83,525,646. Mr. Frye stated they had made every attempt to assume every possible per square foot costs in the feasibility study and the new number for the hard and soft costs, including the wetlands delineation and mitigation and the road extension and connection comes in at \$72,118,545, which is a difference of \$4,519,341 less than the original feasibility estimate of \$76,637,886. There are additional finance costs of \$11,407,101 which make the entire project costs of \$83,525,646. Mr. Frye stated the financial costs were not included in the original feasibility study. Mr. Guerrettaz stated there will be updated numbers for the finance costs. Mr. Guerrettaz said we should not pay extra to rush in this changing world.

Commissioner Whetstone stated the Commissioners had hit the pause button until they knew where the revenue was going in the current downturn in the economy. Commissioner Whetstone, with the consensus of Commissioner Palmer and Commissioner Gentry, stated their plan was to wait on a decision until after the Governor's next Executive Order coming on April 20, 2020. Councilman Brown stated that on the private side, they are encouraging projects to go forward and book work where there is guaranteed revenue to keep the ball rolling. Councilman Brown did not believe the Governor's Executive Order will offer additional information that would delay the project. Councilman Whicker stated that he agreed with Councilman Brown and would like for the bidding to be sooner than later. Councilman Scott said he is in favor of moving forward and it can be shut off if the need arises. Councilman Hesson stated he is full agreement to go forward. Councilman Wathen stated construction costs will continue, so why stop the design when we are in a favorable environment being prepared with the funding source. Councilman Cox stated he agreed with Councilman Brown if we have the cash, the design work should keep moving forward. Commissioner Gentry, using a baseball analogy, recommended we drive on and make sure there are steps taken to keep from balking.

Mr. Guerrettaz recommended using cash now even though we need to preserve cash for the 2021 budgets, and he may be recommending budget cuts. Mr. Guerrettaz stated that there are not very many entities in as good of financial condition as Hendricks County. Mr. Guerrettaz stated we can start using the Correctional Facility Local Option Income Tax to start paying expenses, preserving 20% for the operational portion and preserving the Local Cumulative Jail Fund.

Commissioner Whetstone stated the Council is in control of the dollars and if they are willing to put at risk dollars that may be needed for cash flow, he could be convinced to go either direction. Commissioner Whetstone stated the Commissioners had not stopped any projects but had put a pause on all county projects to be acted upon as we learn more information of the fiscal ramifications of the pandemic. Commissioner Whetstone stated he heard each member of the Council say they want to continue with the jail project immediately. Commissioner Palmer stated she heard at the March 10 Joint Meeting where we were talking about bonding everything, that Councilman Whicker would not put another tax burden on the taxpayers, and we should proceed with caution. Commissioner Palmer stated that the jail is our top priority and recommended being cautious moving forward. Commissioner Gentry stated the project is well planned and he is in favor of driving on with the design. The Commissioners do not want to stop the project but move cautiously.

Recognizing the jail to be the most important project currently, it was the consensus of Commissioners and County Council to keep moving on the jail as it has a dedicated revenue source taking advantage of the favorable bidding environment and costs of materials. Commissioner Whetstone said the Commissioners have approved the schematics. Councilman Wyeth said if we delay three more weeks, we are three more weeks behind. Mr. Guerrettaz said on the finance side, we are not in a hurry. Councilman Wyeth stated he felt we should move forward because we have cash in the bank for this project and we will have more discussions about this soon and everyone will stay connected with the process. Councilman Wyeth said we need to stay on track and keep the ball rolling. Councilman Brown is identifying the jail as a necessity and if we were not as financially capable of proceeding, we would be having a different discussion.

Commissioner Whetstone stated he and the other Commissioners have learned information they did not know in that the Correctional Facility Local Income Tax was bringing in \$867,000 per month for the remainder of 2019 and there is a current cash balance of \$3.4 million dollars.

Mr. Cavanaugh stated the design development phase of the contract will be \$1.75 million. We know the defined costs to the design phase Mr. Cavanaugh discussed the design phase of the road extension and wetlands mitigation projects. Commissioner Whetstone stated the Commissioners had approved the wetland mitigation contracts and asked for the Commissioners approval to proceed with the road extension. It was moved by Commissioner Whetstone and seconded by Commissioner Gentry to authorize Facilities Manager Kevin Cavanaugh and his team to proceed through the design development phase including the road extension, which will come from Mr. Cavanaugh's current budget with the money we have in the bank and come back when that is done to move forward with the road extension. Mr. Cavanaugh thanked the leadership for all their interest and support.

Mr. Guerrettaz stated he recommended a cautious approach and move forward noting that we can push the financing on hold for a year

IN THE MATTER OF RONALD REAGAN PARKWAY

County Engineer, John Ayers, stated that after the last joint meeting on March 10, 2020 and discussions with Financial Consultant Greg Guerrettaz, he realizes that this project is probably not moving forward at this time to take the next funding step. Mr. Ayers, recognizing the ramifications of the downturned economy, explained the impact of the delay and encouraged continuing the Ronald Reagan Parkway at the earliest possible opportunity. Mr. Ayers stated he had emailed a memo to each member of the Council and Commissioners exploring the alternative phasing and funding options for the Ronald Reagan Parkway. Mr. Ayers presented a spreadsheet to the Council and Commissioners in advance showing the increase in funding required between 2020 and 2025. Mr. Ayers estimated the Option 1 plan would be \$54,415,515 in 2020 and \$69,449,518.51 in 2025 and Option 2 and Option 3 are estimated to be \$56,320,000 in 2020 and \$71,880,177.60.

Mr. Ayers stated, to date, Hendricks County has invested \$14.5 million dollars in the planned 4-mile section from CR 600 N to CR 1000 N, including 7.2 million in right of way purchases. Mr. Ayers stated that he believes strongly, and that the Council and Commissioners agree, that Ronald Reagan Parkway should be built at the earliest possible opportunity. We have the right of way and we are close to having everything ready to go to a letting. Mr. Ayers wants to be ready if the opportunity arises. Commissioner Palmer reaffirmed that the Commissioners are committed to the Ronald Reagan Parkway and it has been a priority and the earliest we can get funding we should proceed. Councilman Wathen stated we have money to design everything and when the crisis is over, there will be federal stimulus funding available and we should still be working on all our design projects. Councilman Wathen stated it is not the time to sit back and recommended looking at options and being prepared. Commissioner Gentry asked Mr. Ayers to connect with Boone County regarding their commitment to the Ronald Reagan Parkway in Boone County.

Mr. Ayers thought there was an additional \$4.0 million dollars remaining in design, utilities and eminent domain and some of the numbers are unknown. Mr. Guerrettaz asked whether the special LOIT would be available for these expenses. Mr. Ayers stated yes but the Commissioners had previously asked him to preserve the special LOIT.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE

County Engineer John Ayers, recognizing the ramifications of the downturned economy due to the Pandemic, stated he realized the Highway Garage will be on hold. It was moved by Councilman Whicker to table. Councilman Wathen asked why we would table the project when we have a design contract appropriated.

Commissioner Whetstone stated he was hearing from the Council is keep going and keep designing until we hit a wall and asked for direction. Councilman Wathen stated that is not what he is saying at all. Councilman Wathen stated he is recommending designing these projects to be ready to go to take advantage of cheap construction prices, government bail public works projects dollars it doesn't makes sense to stop design because you do not know what is going to happen. Councilman Wathen recommended being ready to go and not stop the design phase of these projects. Commissioner Whetstone understood that the Council wants the Commissioners to move forward with design work but not construction. Engineer Ayers stated he has \$49,000 in his CCD budget for preliminary design. Mr. Ayers estimated that number will be approximately one-third of the design costs.

Auditor Marsh explained the appropriated budgets depend on the tax collection settlement on June 30 and December 31, 2020. Councilman Whicker stated that he understood and that he knows things will get tough but does not know if it will be tough enough to ask people to cut their 2020 budgets.

Councilman Wathen and Councilman Brown stated that it was their opinion that the design work should continue and not be delayed. Mr. Ayers stated the design would not be site specific as no site has been chosen. Commissioner Whetstone stated that even though the Commissioners had put a pause on all projects, he was hearing, without exception from each council member, that they are willing to go forward on the design aspect of approved projects. It was moved by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Wathen to recommend to the Commissioners to move forward on the design contract on *all* capital projects in the pipeline at this time. Motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Whetstone asked Commissioners Palmer and Gentry if they wanted to revisit their previous motion softening up the restrictions on moving forward on projects to allow Highway and John Ayers to go forward with design but not construct. Commissioner Palmer asked if the decision could wait until the next meeting. Mr. Ayers preference would be to get people back to work. Commissioner Gentry stated that if the Council is comfortable with the funding of the design, he agreed to move on and made it in the form of a motion. Commissioner Palmer stated she was not ready to decide at this time and Commissioner Gentry withdrew his motion.

IN THE MATTER OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF AVON FOR COUNTY ROAD 100 SOUTH

Discussion was continued from the last joint meeting regarding the Interlocal Agreement for CR 100 South Improvements where the Town of Avon is requesting the County to pay 14.5% of the project costs based on the portion the county owns. Avon Town Manager, Tom Klein was present to answer any questions. Mr. Klein stated that if the Town of Avon did annex the area, they will pay back the county's contribution. Mr. Klein stated they may get a better construction bid during this market which would mean the everyone's share would be less so there would be a benefit to keep this project moving forward. Mr. Klein stated he had talked with Avon's Financial Consultant Greg Guerrettaz and offered to have the county's percentage added to the TIF bond and then the county could pay it back in yearly increments through the life of the bond. Mr. Guerrettaz stated it is a 14-year bond so there wouldn't be a large outlay in 2020. Mr. Guerrettaz stated Avon takes the total risk and the payment would be a supplement to the TIF. Engineer Ayers said that method would lessen the sting, but the question would be where it is paid from.

Councilmen Brown, Whicker and Wathen stated they were more comfortable with a one-million-dollar contribution. Commissioner Whetstone stated that the Commissioners are comfortable with some contribution and stated there are two questions; how much we contribute and where do we pay it from.

Commissioner Gentry moved to contribute one million dollars and gift the portion of the road. Commissioner Whetstone seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Whetstone stated he didn't know if one million would satisfy Avon's funding needs. Mr. Ayers recommended we take the annually contribution to the TIF. Commissioner Gentry withdrew the motion. Commissioner Whetstone asked if the Council is willing to contribute and what is the tolerance level for annual payments over 14 to 20 years. Mr. Guerrettaz stated we would do it the same way we did 56th Street in Brownsburg. Commissioner Whetstone stated the Council needs to come up with an amount and at the end of the discussion, negotiate a turn lane into Gibbs Park. It was moved by Councilman Cox that the county participate in the interlocal agreement representing 14.56% of the project in the amount of \$2.8 million which includes the bridge which is the county's responsibility. Motion died for a lack of a second.

Councilman Whicker asked for direction from the Council on which fund the dollars can come from. Auditor Nancy Marsh recommended Food and Beverage and that we do not have lot of funds that have that kind of flexibility. Councilman Whicker stated he would prefer it not come from Food and Beverage. Greg Guerrettaz said it would be better to use Food & Beverage than General Fund. It will be 18 months until a payment would need to be paid. Commissioner Whetstone knows this is contrary to the number Commissioner Palmer and Commissioner Gentry have authorized but recommended a contribution of \$1.75 million and giving Avon the portion of the road in question. It was moved by Councilman Hesson and seconded by Councilman Cox to recommend to the Commissioners a commitment of \$1.75 million and the portion of the road in the county, to be paid yearly to the TIF with no interest. Councilman Scott asked which fund it is to be paid from. Councilman Hesson stated we could delay the decision on which fund. Auditor Marsh agreed and stated when the time comes it will need to be appropriated in the selected fund. Councilman Wathen reminded the Council and Commissioners the Town of Avon had recently denied a left turn lane for the Gibbs Park. Councilman Brown and Councilman Whicker stated he would be more comfortable with less than \$1.75 million and wanted to stay closer to one million. The question was called. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 4 (LH/LS/EW/DC) to 3 (CB/BW/DW). Mr. Klein stated that the Town is discussing the left turn lane for Gibbs Park. Commissioner Whetstone asked and received consensus from the Commissioners to move forward on the interlocal agreement with Avon. Mr. Klein thanked the Council and Commissioners for working with him.

IN THE MATTER OF THE TIF ANNUAL REPORTS

The TIF Annual Reports were presented for the 70 West TIF, 70/39 TIF, Westpoint TIF, Heartland Crossing TIF, Pittsboro TIF and Ronald Reagan TIF. Auditor Nancy Marsh stated the Hendricks County Redevelopment Commission received the reports by the required April 1, 2020; and the Council received, reviewed and accepted the reports on April 7, 2020 and will be submitted following this meeting by the April 15, 2020 due date. Auditor Nancy Marsh asked for clarification on the revenue available on the Westpoint TIF to repay Hendricks County and the bond holder since applications for two abatements have been requested within the TIF. Mr. Guerrettaz reminded everyone that the bonds were purchased at a discounted price so future requested should be looked at closely for leadership or direction for the Redevelopment Commission as we go forward. Our TIF goal has always been to get in and get out.

IN THE MATTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Administrator, Erin Hughes stated she would like to use Bamboo HR for performance reviews that will be due June 1, 2020. It was moved by Councilman Scott and seconded by Councilman Wathen to move forward with performance evaluations with Bamboo HR using the Goals section as soon as possible. Motion carried 7-0. *(Under wishes to be heard, Assessor Nikki Lawson asked for a one-month*

extension to July 1, 2020 performance evaluation deadline stating we are falling further and further behind with our regular work with the stay at home order and skeleton staffs. Auditor Nancy Marsh stated that the offices connected with property tax have been hammered and supported the extension. Because the performance review deadline is in the Hendricks County Policy Manual, it was moved by Commissioner Palmer and seconded by Commissioner Gentry to temporarily move the performance review deadline to July 1, 2020 to better accommodate the department heads and the budget process. Motion carried 3-0.) Commissioner Palmer recognized the Hendricks County employees for their efforts in working as a team on behalf of the taxpayers.

Human Resources Administrator Erin Hughes reported on the request from the Coroner Rick Morpew to be included in being exempt from the hiring freeze. Coroner Morpew had a concern that his deputy coroner staff are in the health and safety industry and with the COVID-19 pandemic, he wants to be prepared if his normal staff cannot work. Mrs. Hughes stated she had looked at his hours reported spoken to both Coroner Morpew and Chief Deputy Coroner Dan Chubbs and there is not an immediate need at this point. Auditor Marsh stated she had put the Coroner's request on the May 6 agenda.

IN THE MATTER OF THE LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Mr. Guerrettaz stated he is working on the Sustainability Study and hoped to get a preliminary report out in a week. Mr. Guerrettaz expressed interest in virtual conference meetings to address each major department on the revenue and expense sides and to make accurate projections on our cash balances.

IN THE MATTER OF OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

County Engineer Ayers brought forth an Interlocal Agreement between Hendricks County and the Town of Plainfield. Mr. Ayers stated that due to statute, the agreement required both the Fiscal Body and Executive Body signatures granting the Town of Plainfield additional authority at 600S and 600E which is all in the county jurisdiction. There is no money involved and gives the town the ability to buy the right-of-way and start construction. Todd McCormack stated the Commissioners had previously approved an interlocal agreement for this area for planning and zoning. It was moved by Councilman Cox and seconded by Councilman Whicker for the Council to execute the Interlocal Agreement. *Councilman Brown left the meeting at 4:50.* Motion carried 6-0. It was moved by Commissioner Gentry and seconded by Commissioner Palmer to accept the changes in the interlocal agreement as presented and that the Commissioners execute the Interlocal Agreement. Motion carried 3-0.

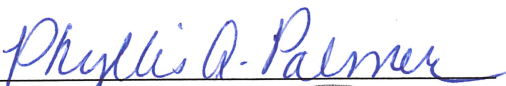
Highway Superintendent, Curt Higginbotham asked for clarification on whether Highway seasonal mowers would be exempt from the hiring freeze. Human Resources Administrator Erin Hughes stated only the Sheriff, Jail, Work Release, Health, and Emergency Management are exempt from the hiring freeze.

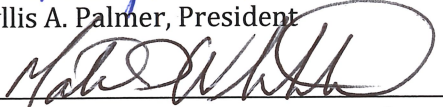
(Also, under Human Resources in the job evaluation discussion for continuity) Assessor Nikki Lawson asked for a one-month extension to July 1, 2020 performance evaluation deadline stating we are falling further and further behind with our regular work with the stay at home order and skeleton staffs. Human Resources Administrator Hughes stated the Bamboo HR performance review is less cumbersome than the former 7 to 10-page review. Councilman Scott agreed that the time could be extended to July 1, 2020. Auditor Marsh stated that the offices connected with property tax have been hammered and supported the extension. Since the performance review deadline is in the Hendricks County Policy Manual, it was moved by Commissioner Palmer and seconded by Commissioner Gentry to temporarily move the performance review deadline to July 1, 2020 to better accommodate the department heads and the budget process. Motion carried 3-0.

Auditor Nancy Marsh asked if it is understood that the First-Person Compensation Study on hold. Mrs. Marsh asked for the Council and Commissioners support her request to receive numbers and stated we have paid First Person over \$100,000 and would like to request that the Auditor's Office receive the numbers from the study so her office can make estimates. Councilman Scott asked that First Person Compensation Study be placed on the May 6 Council Agenda.

There being no further business to come before the Joint Commissioner and Council Meeting, it was moved by Councilman Wathen and seconded by Councilman Hesson that the Council be adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2020. Motion carried 6-0. It was moved by Commissioner Palmer and seconded by Commissioner Gentry that the Commissioners be adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday April 15, 2020. Motion carried 3-0.

HENDRICKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Phyllis A. Palmer, President

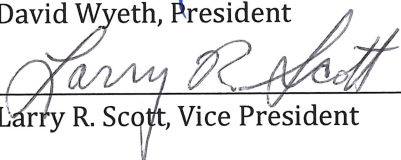

Matthew D. Whetstone, Vice President

Bob Gentry

Attest: _____
Nancy L. Marsh, Auditor

HENDRICKS COUNTY COUNCIL


David Wyeth, President


Larry R. Scott, Vice President


Caleb Brown


David Cox


Larry R. Hesson

Eric Wathen

Brad Whicker

Attest: 
Nancy L. Marsh