Minutes 2015

Tuesday February 24, 2015
Boardroom of the Commissioners
622 Croghan St., Fremont, OH  43420

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Session began at 8:00a.

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Throughout the day the following occurred..........................

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Commissioners reviewed numerous mailings. Several other items for other offices were signed and/or reviewed by the Commissioners. Minutes from session 02.19.2015 were reviewed and approved. Invoices were approved in electronic and paper fashion.

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County Administrator discussion: CA discussed matter of CHIP funding and the fact that a collaborative effort needs to be established this funding cycle with the City of Fremont in order to qualify for more funding. This relationship could net an extra $100K for use in Fremont and throughout the county. CA also requested funding for new flags for distribution to the Elks to replace the flags in Flag Park. Commissioners approved same by consensus of opinion as there are already funds placed in the countywide line item for such supplies.

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Duane Kimmet, Facility Management, met with the Commissioners. Points of discussion:

- work continues on the matter of the VAVs at the jail in the heating/cooling problems
- planning on the security matters for the courthouse continues
- courthouse holding cell bench is in for install next week
- would like to make the Health/Ag building the next one for the VoIP cutover, requested that he be allowed to use outside contractor for the matter of pulling new cabling
- fuel matter was requested by Commissioners to be tracked on pricing when an order is placed
- Commissioners left session for a few minutes to place eyes on the area of the courthouse where they are considering moving the building to one entrance

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At 9:10a Commissioner Polter moved to enter Executive Session for the express purpose of the discussion of possible sale/purchase of property. Commissioner Thatcher offered a second to the motion. The ensuing vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Robin Williams was invited to session. At 10:00a Commissioner Polter moved to exit Executive Session with a second to the motion offered by Commissioner Thatcher. The ensuing vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

From this Executive Session a preliminary document was signed allowing Ms. Williams to act as agent for the Commissioners for the possible sale of the building at 500 W. State St.
Michael Burkett, a Board member for the Lady of the Pines, and Sister Mary Ella Bradley, Executive Director, met with the Commissioners. The discussion centered on the matter of the County Auditor elect, Jerri Miller, (formerly CVB Director) addressing the matter of the hotel lodging excise tax. Sister Bradley is the Executive Director of the facility. She provided a brief explanation about the facility. She noted that the facility falls under the definition of a hotel only from the perspective that they do offer sleeping arrangements. She offered that the Pines provide a respite for time away as opposed to a hotel which operates simply as a temporary housing operation. The Pines is a retreat center and only operates as such and solely emphasizes that the Pines offer a place to allow persons to come to quiet realization of God. They do not seek to operate at any profit. Commissioners questioned what the difference is between the Pines and any bed and breakfast that might be in existence. Sister offered again that their operation is fully religious and believes that the Pines should be exempt from the lodging tax. Commissioners indicated that they are probably not going to intervene in trying to see the Pines be allowed to be exempted. Burkett referenced the 1989 excise tax enactment and he indicated that the Pines is a spiritual/religious place and he proposed that the Commissioners could, by resolution, allow this tax to be deferred from the payment of the tax. Commissioners will approach the CVB to discuss this matter prior to making any final decision.

Then & Now Certificates: none

Personnel actions taken: none

Travel requests approve: none

Public forum portion of session proceeded.

Citizen attendees: none

Media attendees: none
RESOLUTIONS CONSIDERED ON THIS DATE

*** RESOLUTIONS ***

2015 – 64

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SANDUSKY COUNTY SUBCOMMITTEE FOR LOCAL OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION (OPWC) PROJECTS

M - Thatcher  S - Schwochow  VOTE – all, yes

2015 – 65

AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS IN WELLNESS PROGRAM AS AN EXTENSION OF SANDUSKY COUNTY’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

M - Schwochow  S – Polter  VOTE – all, yes

2015 – 66

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DISTRICT 5 INTEGRATING COMMITTEE

M - Polter  S – Thatcher  VOTE – all, yes

2015 – 67

(rescinds 2015-43)

AUTHORIZING THAT A REVISED DATE & TIME BE SET FOR THE OPENING OF BIDS ON BEHALF OF THE SANDUSKY COUNTY ENGINEER FOR THE F. HOEFLICH DITCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT #142

M - Thatcher  S – Polter  VOTE – all, yes

2015 – 68

ENTERING INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAXIMUS CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF COST ALLOCATION PLAN

M - Polter  S - Schwochow  VOTE – all, yes

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County Auditor, Bill Farrell, met with the Commissioners. Sales tax is up again from this time a year ago. Casino income is down which was projected at $700K. He hopes that this quarter’s decline is only a one-time event. Revenue is slow but it is always slow at this time of the year. Payroll records are at the appropriate rate of 8%. Expenditures are at the appropriate level for the first two months of the year.

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Commissioners recessed at 11:20a for lunch with plans to return to discuss the future of the County Administrator position. At 1:00p Commissioners reconvened and due to wanting to explicitly discuss the possible appointment of staff Commissioner Schwochow moved to enter Executive Session with Commissioner Thatcher offering a second to the motion. The ensuing vote was unanimous in the affirmative. At 2:15p Commissioner Polter moved to exit Executive Session with a second offered by Commissioner Thatcher. The ensuing vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

From this Executive Session the Commissioners indicated that there will be a change in the current structure of the County Administrator position. The future will hold that the position is going to split out administrative and clerical duties thus changing the complexion of the overall position.

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At 2:20p and with business concluded for the day Commissioner Polter moved to adjourn with a second to the motion offered by Commissioner Thatcher. The ensuing vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Attest: ___________________________________

Clerk to the Board

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners, Sandusky County, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy from the official record of said Board of County Commissioners as recorded in its Journal.

Clerk, Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County, Ohio