

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairman Bruce Symes, Commissioner Jerry Daniels, Commissioner David Lee, and Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Terry Call, Zoning Administrator, Robert Johnson, County Counselor, Sarah Haney, Iola Register, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, Terry Johnson, citizen, and Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Sarah Haney led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Symes asked for public comment. There was none.

Commissioner Lee commented on the appearance of the Courthouse square. He wanted to pass along his appreciation for those that make it so.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported the FAA will complete the flight check on the lights this weekend. Discussion followed.

Mitch stated the liner is getting put down in the new cell.

Mitch reported on the 6" water pump that is down in the landfill. He has looked at Sourcewell and Surplus. It will cost \$60,000 for new pump or \$20,000 to fix the housing around the pump.

Chairman Symes mentioned Jeremy would not be at the meeting as the road and bridge crew is out chip sealing today.

Marcia Davis, Thrive Allen County, came to report on the Gas community conversation. The citizens stated their likes were that they had less people, taxes are affordable, 4 houses were built this last year and shorter lines on election day. Some items they feel could be better would be the trash or equipment in yards, more police presence during the day, and more business. Thrive then asked what they would like to see Gas like 20 years from now. The citizens stated more business, more people, street and gutters, more walking on south side of highway, flower shop, and the library open more hours. The top three things they would like to see; trash / equipment in yards, more policing during the day, safer walking area on south side of highway.

Marcia informed the commissioners the next community conversation will be in Savonburg on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Arylyn Briggs, citizen, joined the meeting.

Terry Call, Zoning Administrator, reported on the information he forwarded on last week about battery storage. He has reached out to the surrounding counties and got copies of their ordinances. He is checking ours to see if we need to have wording in our ordinances that just says this type of business will need to go before zoning board. These types of places are storage containers full of lithium batteries, and should there be a blackout they can pull energy from there. However, this could potentially be dangerous should it catch fire. Discussion followed.

Terry reported Jay Stodgell's Liberty Landing is still progressing. He does have a food truck out there on Thursdays that is going over pretty well.

Commissioners discussed having some meetings to promote the sales tax question. They are also looking at attending area events. Discussion followed.

Arlyn stated he has been speaking with Allen County citizens, and taxes are the major issue being talked about.

Chairman Symes moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Trade Secrets. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:02 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:07 a.m. No action taken.

Chairman Symes moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Non-Elected Personnel, Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:10 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:15 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioners approved a request for the usage of the bandstand for a revival week.

Chairman Symes reviewed an agreement of services submitted by Tri-Valley. Chairman Symes moved to approve the commissions signatures on the agreement. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) August monthly report for Attorney's office
- b) Letter from Division of Property Valuation informing we are in compliance

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$365,153.20
- b) Payroll – Enrollment for Esmerelda Vargas, Tyler Roush, Hector Tornel
- c) Clerks Journal Entries - #28

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Lee moved to adjourn, Chairman Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m. until Tuesday, September 10 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

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Bruce Symes, Chairperson

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David Lee, Commissioner

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Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk

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Jerry Daniels, Commissioner