

NOBLE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 1:00 PM
1:00 PM NOBLE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
NOBLE COUNTY NEW ANNEX

PRESENT:

George Bennett
Trey Forbes
Tom Janes
Brandon Chordas
Doug Harp
Max Franklin

ABSENT:

Mary Wysong

ALSO PRESENT:

Jackie Knafel, Noble County Coordinator
Dennis Graft, County Attorney
Anita Hess, Noble County Commissioner

George Bennett, Council President, brought the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 pm

MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as corrected with a motion from Max Franklin. Tom Janes seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Max Franklin reported on his recent meeting at the Northeastern Center.
Branson Chordas reported that he had attended a recent Mental Health Seminar and found the information very interesting.

APPOINTMENTS

Grace Caswell, CVB Director, has requested an appointment to the CVB Board. Her recommendation was Matt Dice. Doug Harp moved to approve the appointment of Matt Dice to the Convention and Visitor's Bureau Board. Brandon Chordas seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

SALARY ORDINANCE

The 2024 Salary Ordinance was presented to the council by Shelley Mawhorter, Noble County Auditor. Max Franklin moved to approve the ordinance as presented. Tom Janes seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

LAND SELL

Anita Hess, Noble County Commissioner, came before the commissioners with an offer from Barnyard Land and Lakes LLC for the purchase of 11 acres +/- just east of the Noble County Landfill. This is owned by the Noble County Commissioners. The commissioners had 2 appraisals done back in 2021. At that time there was an auction advertised and two people showed up at the auction and at that time neither of them was interested in purchasing at the appraisal price. Now one of the people (Barnyard Land and Lakes LLC) has sent in a purchase agreement in the amount of \$78100.00. After a lengthy discussion and suggestions of reappraisals, and notifications of the sell being more widely advertised, Doug Harp moved to reject the purchase agreement, have a new appraisal done and do more advertising of the land

for sell. Max Franklin seconded and the motion carried 6-0. There will be further discussion at the January meeting.

HIGHWAY

Zack Smith, Highway Engineer, was present to update the council on the highway department:

- CCMG - HMA 2023-01 Closed out
- CCMG – HMA 2023 -02 will start early spring
- Zack indicated that there may be a bit more money in 2024 for the CCMG projects and he will submit projects accordingly.
- LPA projects - Zack reported that Bridge 136 and 44 on in progress and that the pre-con meetings was held for Bridge 136 which to start in January.
- Right of Way work is being done on Bridge 69.
- FY 2029 LPA projects will be opening soon and Zack plans to submit 2 bridges and the Baseline Road Project.
- Permitting Software - after some discussions, this project will be tabled until further notice.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

Zack Smith, Project Manager, reported on the renovation of the courthouse:

- When the bids finally came in, the new cost was at \$11.6 million. Zack and Weigand went to work of finding ways of reducing that cost and now are presenting \$11,229,327.00 as the cost estimate. There were some major finds in the demolition process such as flooring on the 1st and 3rd floor that contributed to the higher cost. In putting figures together, it is believed that between CEDIT Rainy Day and ARP money plus the small loan that this project can still be accomplished.
- Although there is a need for exterior work, Zack is looking at some small repairs that will prevent roof leaks and push major repair out for a few years and do as a bond project.
- With the information provided and a financial plan in place, Doug Harp moved to proceed with the renovation project. Brandon Chordas seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

VACANT BUILDING

Zuehsow DeKalb LLC is requesting a vacant building deduction for the old Moose Lake property on 500 S. They will be renovating the property into a rehab facility. The kitchen at this time will be the main focus and will enable meal preparation to two other locations in Auburn and Fort Wayne. Doug Harp moved to approve the deduction for two years. Tom Janes seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Single Source Medical LLC.

Matt Shipman along with Jerry Busche presented a resolution to the council which will change the name on the company which was granted an abatement from SSM IMPLANTS LLC to Single Source Medical LLC. Brandon Chordas moved to accept the resolution as presented. Trey Forbes seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

CCD

Doug Harp moved to approve the following CCD Claim:

- All-Phase \$175.00
- Equiparts \$2525.25
- Shambaugh & Sons \$910.50

Tom Janes seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

TRANSFERS

Sheriff

- Decrease 1000-11120-007 Deputy \$10,000.00
- Increase 1000-11119-007 Jail Commander \$10,000.00

Doug Harp moved to approve with a second coming from Max Franklin. Motion carried 6-0.

Prosecutor Criminal

- Decrease 1000-12203-010 Deputy \$6,000.00
- Increase 1000-12402-010 Office Manager \$6,000.00

Doug Harp Motion Trey Forbes Second Motion carries 6-0.

CCD

- Decrease 1135-36100-206 Building Repair \$1,500.00
- Increase 1135-45303-206 Sheriff Repair to jail \$1,500.00

Brandon Chordas moved to approve. Tom Janes seconded and motion carried 6-0.

Clerk Election

- Decrease 1000-15301-003 Absentee voting board \$2,000.00
- Decrease 1000-15308-003 precinct board member \$2,000.00
- Decrease 1000-22700-003 meals \$700.00
- Decrease 1000-36500-003 equipment repair \$1,000.00
- Decrease 1000-44100-003 Furniture & equipment \$1,000.00
- Increase 1000-36200-003 Service Contracts \$6,700.00

Trey Forbes moved to approve the above transfers. Doug Harp seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

HIGHWAY

MVH restricted

- Decrease 1173-23300-116 culvert & tile \$16,892.17
- Increase 1173-46000-116 Striping \$16,892.17
- Decrease 1173-23201-116 bituminous Material \$18,412.01
- Increase 1173-36101-116 Preservation Treatment \$18,412.01
- Decrease 1173-23400-116 Calcium Chloride \$7,737.38
- Increase 1173-36101-116 Preservation Treatment \$7,737.38

Tom Janes moved to approve. Trey Forbes seconded and motion carried 6-0.

CEMA

- Decrease 1000-17207-035 Perm part time \$12,500.00
- Increase 1000-11230-035 CEMA Director \$12,500.00

Doug Harp moved to approve this transfer with a second coming from Trey Forbes. Motion carried 6-0

CLERK

- Decrease 1000-11104-001 Deputy \$2,000.00
- Increase 1000-13700-001 Part time /overtime \$2,000.00

Doug Harp moved to approve. Brandon Chordas seconded and the motion carried 6-0

VSO

- Decrease 1000-13301-008 Education & Training \$1,208.37
- Decrease 1000-38600-008 Burial of Soldiers \$3,017.89
- Increase 1000-38700-008 Memorial Day Expense \$4,226.26

These transfers were approved with a motion from Max Franklin. Tom Janes seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

ADDITIONAL

The highway department has requested an additional in the amount of \$25,000.00 for 1176-36100-104 Building/equipment repair. Motion to approve the additional was made by Max Franklin. Brandon Chordas seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Noble County Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 PM until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the council being January 2, 2024

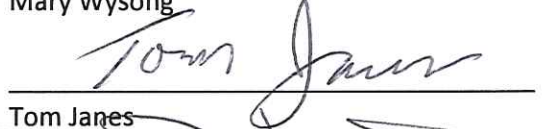
Dated this 22 day of January, 2024

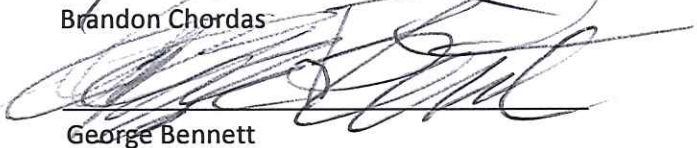

Trey Forbes

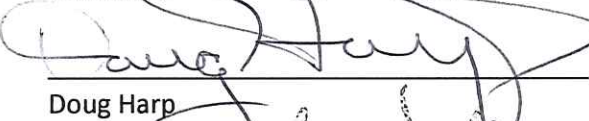

Max Franklin


Mary Wysong


Brandon Chordas


Tom Janes


George Bennett


Doug Harp

ATTEST: 
Michelle Mawhorter, Noble County Auditor