

Commissioners Meeting October 15, 2024

Present: Jim Seiler, Tom Brown, Heather Gries, Auditor Melissa Bunner, and Attorney Joshua Claybourn

Meeting was called to order by President Gries at 3:00 P.M.

Minutes

Seiler made a motion to approve the minutes for the Commissioners meeting and Executive Session both dated October 1, 2024. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Claims

Brown made a motion to approve claims as presented. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VSO / Butch Meredith

For week of September 23, 2024, Veterans assisted: 88 Phone Calls: 112

For week of September 30, 2024, Veterans assisted: 100 Phone Calls: 116

Health Department / Mindy Spinks

"Nursing Update" for September 2024:

There were four (4) communicable diseases reported. There were three (3) Vector Borne reported.

Environmental Inspector Report for September 2024:

On-Site Systems Permit issued: Two (2)

Total number of OSS permits issued (2023-2024) not installed: Nine (9)

Completed OSS installations: Three (3)

There were zero (0) new commercial on-site system permits issued.

New: Twenty-Six (26)

Repair: One (1)

Replacement: Five (5)

Renewal: One (1)

Complaints: None

Sheriff's Department / Sherri Heichelbech

No Report.

Highway Department / Dale Kenney

At the last meeting dated October 1, 2024, there was a bid opening for the Highway Department supplies for 2024. There are nine (9) bid packages. There was a motion to take all bids under advisement. **Seiler motioned to accept all bids. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Planning Commission / Kay Erwin

September 2024 Permits issued:

Residential (1) \$75,000

Addition / Remodel (1) \$18,000

Cell Tower (1) \$10,000

Accessory Buildings (2) \$262,000

Duplex (2) \$460,000

Totals for 2024:

Residential: \$6,362,000

Addition / Remodel: \$892,221

Duplex: \$1,285,000

Accessory Buildings: \$2,273,844

Cell Tower: \$40,000

Vacation: \$0

Building Inspector / Todd Hays

No Report or update.

Economic Development

Jonathan Blake with R.J.L. Solutions provided an update. There are currently two (2) prospective economic development projects that could result in significant investments in Spencer County. They are being called Project Spark (2024-01) and Project Turbine (2024-02).

There are two (2) READI 1.0 projects remaining. Orchard Estates and the Back 9 Development. The Back 9 Development did not meet deadline requirements. The recommendation to revoke the \$500,000 from Back 9 Development and reallocated to the Orchard Estates project has been approved. This will keep the investment in Spencer County.

READI 2.0 applications will be accepted until noon on October 25, 2024.

**It Takes A Village
Report for September 2024**

Total Dogs: 23	Total Cats: 12	Total Animals: 35	
Owner Surrender:	Dogs: 15	Cats: 5	Total Animals: 20
Strays	Dogs: 8	Cats: 8	Total Animals: 16
Return to Owner:	Total Animals: 6		
Died in Care:	Total Animals: 1		
Adoptions:	Dogs: 20	Cats: 12	Total Animals: 32
Euth Medical:	Total Animals: 0		
Community Cat:	Total Animals: 4		

Property Maintenance / Autumn Winkler
No Report.

Visitors Bureau / Melissa Arnold

Arnold presented the 2025 Spencer County Visitors Bureau Budget. She discussed income, expenses, marketing, operations, employee benefits, mortgage and capital expenses. Cash flow overview is as follows:

Balance EOY 2024:	\$412,128
Projected 2025:	\$550,225
Projected Expenses:	\$590,119
Projected 2026 Beg Balance:	\$372,234

AEP Ordinance

Ordinance No. 2024-10 was presented at the last meeting as the first reading, titled "An Ordinance To Support The Reliability, Availability, And Diversity Of Electric Generating Capacity In Spencer County." **Seiler motioned to approve on second reading. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Contracts

Auditor Bunner presented a contract proposal from WTH for parcel splits. There is no change in monthly amount only change with language. Instead of being renewed every year, this will have an automatic renewal. Any price increases will be communicated beforehand so it can go through the approval process. **Brown motioned to approve. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Auditor Bunner presented the VSP Renewal. There are three (3) options. First option is to keep everything the same with no cost increase. The second option increases the frame allowance to \$150; thus, increasing the cost. The third option increases the frame allowance to \$180 also increases the cost. **Brown motioned to approve the renewal keeping the same allowances. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Soil & Water

Soil & Water sent a letter regarding the 2017 Ford Escape Service Plan. The plan will expire on October 18, 2024. They are asking to repurchase the extended service plan. **Seiler motioned to table the request. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

ARPA

Auditor Bunner provided an update on the ARPA funding. There are currently four (4) projects that have been awarded but still have a balance. They are as follows:

Town of Santa Claus	\$600,000
Highway Dept:	\$52,798.25
Rockport & Roll:	\$100,000
Habitat for Humanity:	\$29,000

If they money will be spent in 2026, then nothing needs to be done. For those who will not be spending all the money in 2024 will need to have contract. There is also a balance of \$525.65 left to award. **Brown motioned to award what is left to the Highway Department. Seiler seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Legal Report

The draft of the employee handbook is done. Claybourn will review and bring to a future meeting. One thing to consider changing is the sick time. As the policy states it must be taken in ½ day increments. The request is to consider it being taken in one hour increments. There was discussion regarding maternity leave pay.

Claybourn discussed the zoning codes and how they are currently separate but will be incorporating them into the county codes.

Claybourn discussed sending a letter to LEDC about denying payments as he was instructed.

Old Business

No report.

New Business

Brown motioned to award The Way \$20,000 of Opioid funding. No second. Motion died. Gries asked that this be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Seiler motioned to adjourn the meeting. Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.
The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 P.M.**


President



Attest:


Auditor, Melissa L. Bunner

