

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

February 19, 2018

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
William T. Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner
Terry L. Niblett, District 2 Commissioner
Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner
Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Bobby Peacock, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 19, 2018, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and asked for the agenda to be amended to include an executive session after public comments as the first order of business. Commissioner Howell made a motion to amend the agenda and add the executive session for the purpose of discussing legal matters and acquisitions. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes to the motion. Chairman McCranie then led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional. Commissioner McCranie prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Glynn Pittman – Mayor of Chester

Mayor Pittman thanked the board for the opportunity to address them and recounted numerous break-ins of houses and homes vandalized in Chester as well as a camp house. He said the local Shorty's had been robbed two times in four months with the last time being in broad daylight. He said when the citizens complained to the local sheriff and deputies they were told to talk to the mayor and councilman and were also told that only four (4) deputies were on patrol at night. He said the city had previously employed a night watchman but he no longer worked for them. He said he needed guidance and wanted to work with local officials to be a part of the solution and was asking for help.

B. Sharon Cobb Flanagan – Dodge County Farmers Market

Sharon Cobb Flanagan reported that more people were attending the market and the produce was good.

Approval of Minutes

A. February 5, 2018 Regular Meeting

The chairman asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 5, 2018. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the Accounts Payable check list for questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Niblett making the second. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

B. Fred Parker – Antioch Dump Site

Parker thanked the board for allowing him time to talk to them and for all they do to serve our county. He said he appreciated the devotional from Commissioner Cheek and as pastor of Antioch #1 Baptist Church he knew the board was aware of the problems with the dumpsters next to the church cemetery. He said he would arrive early for all services to allow time to clean up the trash on the grounds. He said the dumping of animal carcasses and other trash created a bad smell especially during the summer months. He said that people also dump live cats and dogs at the dumpsters and the church had a flea infestation after a litter of kittens was born under the church that required fumigation at the expense of the church. He said the church now owns property on both sides of the church with the deeding of the Friendship United Methodist Church after it closed. He asked that the board make it a priority to address the situation. Chairman McCranie thanked him for coming with the information and Commissioner Howell asked to speak on the matter. Howell said he had gone to the site on the previous Saturday and Sunday to look at the mess. He said he would like to make a motion to move the nine (9) dumpsters at the Antioch site to the Gresston site which was four (4) miles away. Chairman McCranie asked that the motion be delayed until after the executive session and Commissioner Cheek said she was in favor of moving the site to Gresston.

C. Approval of Drug and Alcohol Policy

County Manager Peacock said that the DOT policy had been revised and would need to be approved for the Transit operation. He said the revision addressed the opioid drug problem and that was the primary change from the previously approved policy. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the policy seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in the affirmative.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Watkins said he had been by Five Points earlier and the new roof on the precinct house was finished. He said that the work was satisfactory and the transaction should be completed to purchase the materials.

County Manager Report

Alvin McNair said the trash problem in the Gresston district and Friendship Church Road area was bad and an attendant was needed at the Gresston dump site.

Byron Whiggum said the dumpster problem at Antioch was affecting a place of worship, final resting place, voting precinct, and a ladies house and something should be done.

Alex Hardy said there was a county wide trash problem and if lack of funds was the problem, he thought property owners would support a tax increase.

Sharon Cobb Flanagan asked if there was a way to find out if the citizens would favor a tax increase to pay for the trash issue or a SPLOST for trash and asked they let the people vote.

Move to Executive Session

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal matters and land acquisition. Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted yes.

Return to Regular Meeting

At the end of the Executive Session, Commissioner Niblett made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Commissioner Howell said he would like to re-enter his motion to move all the dumpsters from the Antioch site to Gresston. He said the board would continue to search for answers to the trash problem. Commissioner Niblett made the second to his motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjourn

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted to adjourn the meeting.