

MINUTES OF A  
SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING MEETING  
OF THE  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COUNCIL  
JUNE 9, 2020

The special public hearing meeting of the St. Joseph County Council was called to order at 6:02 p.m., on  
June 9, 2020 by the President, Rafael Morton, via Zoom

Members in attendance were:

Mr. Robert L. Kruszynski  
Mr. Corey Noland  
Mr. Richard Pfeil  
Ms. Diana Hess  
Mr. Rafael Morton  
Mr. Mark P. Telloyan  
Mr. Mark A. Catanzarite  
Mr. Joseph F. Canarecci  
Mr. Mark Root

Present from the Auditor's office was Michael J. Hamann, Auditor and John Murphy, Chief Deputy Auditor.  
Council staff present was Mr. Michael Trippel, Attorney and Ms. Jennifer Prawat, Executive Secretary.

Mr. Catanzarite made the motion to reappoint Rafael Morton & John Ferrettie to the Early Intervention Board and was seconded by Ms. Hess. Rafael Morton & John Ferrettie are both reappointed to the Early Intervention Board

Mr. Noland made the motion to reappoint Anthony Douglas, James Foster, Phil Buckmaster, William DeLuca, Thomas England & Barbara Sanchez to the St. Joseph County Housing Authority and was seconded by Ms. Hess.  
Anthony Douglas, James Foster, Phil Buckmaster, William DeLuca, Thomas England & Barbara Sanchez are reappointed to the St. Joseph County Housing Authority.

Mr. Catanzarite made a motion to reappoint Mr. Mark Root to the MACOG Policy Board and was seconded Mr. Noland.  
Mr. Root has been reappointed to the MACOG Policy Board.

Belinda Gillespie to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals

Mr. Morton: I had a conversation with Rosemary Mandrici today because obviously there has been some on going concerns about qualifications of different, not just with Belinda but with different board members so I actually asked her to put something in writing so I could share this with Councilmembers this evening. She wrote back:  
Council President Morton,

Enclosed below is the statute for the County property tax assessment board of appeals(PTABOA). St. Joseph County elected to have a five-member board. The County Assessor serves as Secretary and is a non-voting member. I understand the Council is considering the re-appointment of Belinda Gillespie as member of PTABOA. Ms. Gillespie was a former Office Manager in the County Auditor's office for many years has served this County well as a free hold member of the Board.

The other members of the Board are Patti Kindler, Indiana Level III Assessor/Appraiser, and former Judge with the Indiana Board of Tax Review; Don Schefmeyer, a commercial appraiser, real estate developer, businessman, and former banker; Michael Rans, an Indiana real estate broker, Indiana Level I Assessor/Appraiser and (is going for his Level II as soon as the DLGF allows), and Pete Mullen, former County Auditor and businessman. This Board's has a wealth of real estate knowledge and is reflective of the community that we serve. If you need any additional information, please contact me.

Thank you,  
Rosemary

Because of the concerns, I wanted to make sure you heard it from her and she explained who's who on the board and which ones have the level II or III Assessor qualifications and according to Ms. Mandrici, the board is made up of enough people who have these qualifications to qualify and be ok as far as the state is concerned. Any comments on that on what I just read to you.

Mr. Catanzarite: Are you indicating that you have enough members as it stands right now with proper level of certifications?

Mr. Morton: Correct. Basically Mark, that is why I had her put it in writing because when I talked to her today, that was my main reason for calling her to let her know that there were concerns that if enough members as the board is made up of now, have the proper qualifications that are needed. I guess what she is also saying is, according to state statute, each member does not have to have those Assessor, different level of qualifications but, I assume, from what she is saying, the three that do, that suffices as far as what the state says that she has to have. Can you quickly run through those names again, I heard Pete Mullen, Mr. Rans right?

Mr. Morton: Belinda Gillespie, who is up for reappointment, the other members of the board are, Patty Kindler, Indian level III Assessor/Appraiser who took over for Ann Connors and former Judge with the Indiana Board of Tax Review; Don Schefmeyer, a commercial appraiser, real estate developer, businessman, and former banker; Michael Rans, an Indiana real estate broker, Indiana Level I Assessor/Appraiser and (is going for his Level II as soon as the DLGF allows), and Pete Mullen, former County Auditor and businessman.

Mr. Catanzarite: .... Fifth member even though it's a, she's a non-voting member? She's a fifth member?

Mr. Morton: No, she serves as the, are you talking about Rosemary?

Mr. Catanzarite: Yes.

Mr. Morton: She said in the letter the County Assessor serves as Secretary and is a non-voting member.

Mr. Catanzarite: I do know Belinda Gillespie, I recall that she worked for the Auditor's office, she was phenomenal county employee. That's my testament to her, do you need a nomination of Belinda?

Mr. Morton: If we don't want to do it tonight, I am not rushing it, I responded and wanted to talk to Rosemary and get her point of view and report that back to the full council because of the concerns and I asked her to break it down, each members qualifications and I asked her to put it in writing instead of me just trying to talk to you guys with it second hand and she said she'd be glad to do it and this is exactly what she wrote.

Mr. Catanzarite: I like Belinda because of her experience in the Auditor's office, many years in county government and she brings diversity both as a woman and an African American.... I like that, that's my recommendation.

Mr. Catanzarite made the motion to reappoint Belinda Gillespie to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals and was seconded by Mr. Noland. The motion passed by a voice vote; 9-0.

Ms. Hess made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2020 and May 12, 2020 meeting and was seconded by Mr. Catanzarite, the motion was passed by a voice vote; 9-0.

Mr. Catanzarite: Mr. President, may I deviate from the agenda and ask a favor?

Mr. Morton: Yes.

Mr. Catanzarite: Can I ask, given that today is the day and no matter where you stand on the issue, I would think we were united on the issue as a country but, given the fact that they had a memorial service and burial for George Floyd today, can we just have a small moment of silence for George Floyd.

Ms. Hess made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14 & May 12, 2020 meetings and was seconded by Mr. Catanzarite, the motion was passed by a voice vote; 9-0.

**1. First Readings:**

**BILL NO. 25-20:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE XV, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 154, PLANNING AND ZONING, OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE, AS AMENDED, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 12661 & 12641 MCKINLEY HIGHWAY FROM R: SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO I: INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO C: COMMERCIAL  
PETITIONER(S): PENN CIVIL TOWNSHIP AND PENN HARRIS MADISON SCHOOL CORPORATION  
Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee

**BILL NO. 33-20:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE XV, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 154, PLANNING AND ZONING OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE, AS AMENDED, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 31000 FILLMORE ROAD FROM A: AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO I: INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT  
PETITIONER(S): TODD L. KAMINSKI, JILL F. OUDHUIS AND TIM. V. KAMINSKI  
Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee

**BILL NO. 34-20:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE VX, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 154, PLANNING AND ZONING, OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE, AS AMENDED, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 30750 EDISON RD., 31000 EARLY RD., 31000 SR 2 & 30750 SR 2 FROM A: AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO I: INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT  
PETITIONER(S): KENNETH E. SEABASTY, JR. AND KENNETH E. SEBASTY, SR & ELAINE A. SEBASTY  
Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee

**BILL NO. 35-20:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE XV, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 154, PLANNING AND ZONING, OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE, AS AMENDED, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 14304 STATE ROAD 23 FROM R: SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO O: OFFICE DISTRICT PETITIONER: MITTAL PROPERTIES  
Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee

**BILL NO. 48-20:** AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AT A PUBLIC WAY OR PUBLIC PLACE LOCATED WHOLLY WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED PORTION OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, PUBLIC HWAY OR PUBLIC PLACE  
PETITIONER: LITTLE FLOWER VENTURES LLC  
Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee

**BILL NO. 49-20:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE XV, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 154, PLANNING AND ZONING, OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE, AS AMENDED, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT VACANT LAND IN THE SOUTHWEST QUADRANT OF LARRISON BOULEVARD AND EDISON ROAD FROM A: AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO I: INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT  
PETITIONER(S): KIMBERLI PHILLIPS & VALERIE WATERS  
Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee

**BILL NO. 50-20:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING TITLE XV, LAND USAGE, CHAPTER 154, PLANNING AND ZONING, OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CODE, AS AMENDED, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 14304 STATE ROAD 23 FROM R: SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICT TO C: COMMERCIAL DISTRICT PETITIONER: GFE ENTERPRISES, LLC  
Assigned to the Land Use Planning Committee  
Mr. Kruszynski reported that Bill No. 41-20 comes with a favorable recommendation.

Bob Risenhoover, this is a request to appropriate the APS grant for next year

Motion to pass Bill No. 41-20 was made by Ms. Hess and seconded by Mr. Catanzarite. Bill No. 41-20 was passed to-wit; 9-0

**BILL NO. 43-20:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COUNCIL AMENDING ORDINANCE 80-19 (2020 SALARY ORDINANCE FOR APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS OF THE COUNTY) PROVIDING A COVID-19 HAZARD PAY INCREASE TO THE COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE CONTINUED TO PROVIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES TO OUR RESIDENTS WHILE INCREASING THEIR RISK OF CONTRACTING THE VIRUS PETITIONER: SHERIFF

**2. Public Hearing/Public Comments: Fiscal Matters**

**BILL NO. 47-20:** AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING MONEYS FOR THE PURPOSE HEREIN SPECIFIED FOR THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS HEREIN LISTED OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**APPROPRIATE:**

A. Prosecutor  
Prosecutor PCA  
8099-36013-000-0048      Private Collection Agency      \$18,200.00  
TOTAL: \$18,200.00

Motion to pass Bill No. 47-20 was made by Ms. Hess and seconded by Mr. Noland. Bill No. 47-20 was passed to-wit; 8-0 Absent: Mr. Pfeil

**Land Use Planning:**

**BILL NO. 22-20:** AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PUBLIC WAY OR PUBLIC PLACE LOCATED WHOLLY WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED PORTION OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, PUBLIC WAY OR PUBLIC PLACE LOCATED AT A PORTION OF MARQUETTE BOULEVARD  
PETITIONER: ST. JOSEPH COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Mr. Noland reported that Bill No. 22-20 comes with a favorable recommendation.

Shawn Klein, Infrastructure, Planning and Growth, all the properties that abut this portion of Marquette are owned by the airport, it does not provide access to any other parcels and it does not connect in the streets, this vacation has the full support of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Growth.  
A motion to pass Bill No. 22-20 was made by Mr. Catanzarite and seconded by Ms. Hess. Bill No. 22-20 was passed to-wit; 9-0

**BILL NO. 23-20:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COUNCIL AMENDING TITLE VII: TRAFFIC CODE, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 73: TRUCK REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING SECTION 73.4 OVERSIZED/OVERWEIGHT REGULATIONS  
PETITIONER: INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING AND GROWTH

Mr. Noland reported that Bill No. 23-20 comes with a favorable recommendation.

Jessica Clark, County Engineer, before you tonight is an ordinance amendment to establish an oversized-overweight regulation section in the code and implement a new permit for oversized and or overweight vehicles traveling on our county roads. We recommend that establishing this permit to facilitate the necessary transportation of these loads in a safe and responsible manner throughout our community, we currently preform this analysis at no cost however, we do incur costs for performing this review and request to initiate a fee (inaudible) requests require consultant review (inaudible) conditions on a bridge which is another cost to the county. This ordinance will establish the permit fee, the initial fees for consultant review and fines for noncompliance, the permit form itself will be available online and on our website as an online fillable form, thank you for your consideration and we recommend your approval for the amendment.

A motion to pass Bill No. 23-20 was made by Ms. Hess and seconded by Mr. Kruszynski. Bill No. 23-20 was passed  
to-wit; 9-0

**3. Miscellaneous**

**BILL NO. 46-20: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3.16 OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, INDIANA 2013 HUMAN RESOURCES POLICIES AND BENEFITS MANUAL BY INCLUDING LANGUAGE ALLOWING CONTINUATION OF PAY FOR EMPLOYEES WILLING BUT UNABLE TO WORK DURING THE RE-OPENING PERIOD FOR COUNTY WORK FACILITIES PREVIOUSLY CLOSED DUE TO EMERGENCY  
PETITIONER: COMMISSIONERS**

Ms. Hess reported that Bill No. 46-20 comes with a favorable recommendation.


Andy Kostielney, President, St. Joseph County Commissioner, this is something you are somewhat familiar with, we discussed this at your last meeting, this is just to clean up the position of, we are going to continue to pay our employees who are unable to come in or work from home and also we did not want them in the County City Building at that point, this just cleans up the Board of Commissioners pass this at our meeting about three weeks ago, we are asking council to do the same thing. Also, Pete Agostino is here if you have any questions.

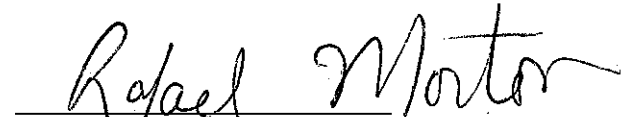
A motion to pass Bill No. 46-20 was made by Mr. Canarecci and seconded by Ms. Hess. Bill No. 46-20 was passed  
to-wit; 9-0

**4. Unfinished Business**

**5. New Business**

**6. Adjournment:** Mr. Morton stated that the meeting was adjourned 6:31 p.m.

  
Auditor, St. Joseph County

  
President, St. Joseph County Council