

THE SHELBY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2020, AT 8:00 A.M. PRESENT WERE COMMISSIONERS NIGH, PARKER, COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COUNTY AUDITOR

MINUTES:

MOTION TO TABLE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 31, 2020 WAS MADE BY NIGH, SECONDED BY PARKER, APPROVED 2-0

COUNTY AUDITOR/TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM:

THE COUNTY AUDITOR PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSIONERS THE NEW TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT. SHE EXPLAINED HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS AND FEELS LIKE SINCE OUR COUNTY EMPLOYEES DIDN'T LOOSE ANY MONEY DURING THIS COVID TIME AND THE FACT THAT THE EMPLOYEE HAS TO PAY IT BACK STARTING IN JANUARY. IF THE EMPLOYEE LEAVES EMPLOYMENT BEFORE THE EMPLOYEE HAS PAID ALL OF THEIR MONEY BACK, THE COUNTY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MONEY NOT PAID BACK. MOTION TO NOT DEFER TAX DOLLARS WAS MADE BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NIGH, APPROVED 2-0

COUNTY CLERK / POLLING LOCATIONS 2020:

THE COUNTY CLERK PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH THE TEN POLLING CENTERS LOCATION. MOTION TO APPROVE THE 10 POLLING CENTERS WAS MADE BY PARKER SECONDED BY NIGH, APPROVED 2-0

SHERIFF:

N/A

HIGHWAY:

N/A

CLAIMS:

MONTHLY CLAIMS– MOTION TO APPROVE MONTHLY CLAIMS WAS MADE BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NIGH, APPROVED 2-0

TRANSFER/ADDITIONALS:

N/A

KYLE BARLOW/ SOLAR PLANT:

AT THIS TIME COMMISSIONER NIGH HAD A REQUEST FROM COMMISSIONER ROSS THAT THEY TABLE THIS UNTIL NEXT WEEK, HE HAD AN UNEXPECTED DEATH IN THE FAMILY. PARKER ADVISED THAT HE ALSO TALKED WITH COMMISSIONER ROSS AND ROSS NEVER MENTIONED THIS, AND SINCE EVERYONE IS HERE AND SOME HAVE TAKEN OFF WORK, THEY SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH THIS AND CHRIS CAN LISTEN TO THE MINUTES IF HE CHOOSES. NIGH LEFT IT UP TO PARKER AND PARKER ADVISED HE WOULD LIKE TO MOVE ON.

AT THIS TIME JOEL PARKER CAME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS TO SPEAK. PARKER ADVISED THAT HE IS A 3RD GENERATION FARMER AND IS NOW RAISING A 4TH GENERATION FARMER, HE GRADUATED FROM PURDUE UNIVERSITY AND IS A SOUTHWESTERN GRADUATE. PARKER BELIEVES IN SOLAR AND GREEN FARMING BUT HE BELIEVES IN THESE THREE COMPONENTS SOIL, WATER, AND SUNLIGHT. MR. PARKER WENT ON TO TALK ABOUT ALL OF THE DIFFERENT PRODUCTS THAT CORN AND SOYBEANS ARE USED IN, FROM FOODS, TO SOAPS, PET FOODS. INDIANA IS IN THE TOP 10 FOR CORN AND 3RD IN SOYBEANS. SERIOUS FACTORS NEED TO BE LOOKED AT SHELBY COUNTY HAS LOTS OF PRIME FARMLAND AND THE LAND THEY ARE LOOKING AT OF THE 4,116 ACRES 3,905 ACRES OF THE LAND IS PRIME. THIS LAND ALSO HAS A 6%-18% SLOPE. HOW MUCH FARMLAND HAS INDIANA LOST ALREADY FROM 1940-1974 ESTIMATED TO JUST AT 3,000,000 AND WE ARE ON THE AVERAGE OF LOOSING 85,000 ACRES PER YEAR? THE US IS A FOOD EXPORTING COUNTRY. LOSS OF FARMLAND TO DEVELOPMENT IS UN-REVERSABLE. THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS BESIDES THE PRIME FARMLAND IN SHELBY COUNTY. WE NEED TO PREVENT THIS. OUR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR SHELBY COUNTY IS AG BASE, NOT INDUSTRIAL. THESE ARE SERIOUS FACTORS THAT NEED TO BE LOOKED AT.

KYLE BARLOW – HE PASSED OUT A PACKET WITH THE AGRONOMY PACKET. PROTECTING PRIME FARMLAND IN INDIANA. THIS WAS WRITTEN BY 2 PURDUE AGRONOMIST AND 1 AG ECONOMICS PROFESSOR. WE KEEP LEARNING ABOUT THESE SOLAR PANELS MORE AND MORE EVERYDAY. THIS ARTICLE IS ON RISK OF SOLAR PANELS, THESE BECOME ELECTRONIC WASTE AT THE END OF THEIR LIFE, WE ARE NOT PREPARED FOR THIS KIND OF WASTE. REMEMBER NUCLEAR PLANTS CAN RUN 80 YEARS, WHERE SOLAR PANELS ONLY LAST 25-30 YEARS, THE GOVERNMENT IS PREDICTING THAT BY 2050 THAT THERE WILL BE 78 MILLION METRIC TONES OF SOLAR PANELS TO BE GOTTEN RID OF. THESE ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE RECYCLED. THESE PANELS HAVE A CHEMICAL CALLED PFAS (A FOREVER CHEMICAL THAT DOESN'T GO AWAY) THAT DOESN'T BREAK DOWN AND HAS BEEN LINKED TO MANY HEALTH ISSUES. WE WILL GET IT IN OUR FOOD, FURNITURE, WATER AND MANY OTHER WAYS. WHY WOULD WE JEOPARDIZE OUR LOCAL FOOD AND WATER SUPPLY (IRRIGATION SYSTEMS)? I ASK YOU WHERE ARE THE PEOPLE IN FAVOR OF THIS, NO ONE HAS COME OUT AND SPOKEN FOR IT. THE SHELBYVILLE NEW QUOTED COMMISSIONER CHRIS ROSS THAT SAID THIS IS A COMPLICATED ISSUE. IF IT IS SO COMPLICATED WHY DON'T WE ENACT A MORATORIUM TO TAKE A LITTLE LONGER TO LOOK AT THINGS. I DON'T FEEL YOU GUYS HAVE EVEN LOOKED AT THE PACKETS WE GAVE OUT LAST WEEK. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE COMMISSIONER ROSS, OR NIGH TO MOTION TO ENACT A MORATORIUM, LETS TAKE SOME TIME TO LOOK AT THINGS. WE ARE NOT GOING AWAY; WE WANT TO PROTECT OUR LAND.

AT THIS TIME COMMISSIONER NIGH ASKED IF ANYONE ELSE WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK. NO ONE SPOKE.

COMMISSIONER PARKER WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR ALL OF THE NEW INFORMATION THEY BROUGHT FORWARD. PARKER ADVISED HE MADE THE MOTION LAST WEEK AND THE MOTION FAILED DUE TO NO SECOND. WE NEED TO GET THIS INFORMATION TO THE PLAN COMMISSION TO LOOK AT. NIGH ADVISED THE PLAN COMMISSION ALREADY HAS IT ON THEIR AGENDA TO TALK ABOUT. THEY CAN BRING A RECOMMENDATION BACK TO US AFTER THEY LOOK AT THINGS. WE AS COMMISSIONERS CAN'T CHANGE THINGS WITHOUT THE

RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLAN COMMISSION. NIGH ADVISED THAT IF THE GROUP OF PEOPLE AREN'T FOR IT, THEY WON'T SIGN UP FOR IT. MR. BARLOW ADVISED THERE ARE 4 PEOPLE THAT ARE STILL SIGNED ON. WHAT WILL IT HURT TO GIVE 6 MONTHS TO REVIEW SO THEY CAN'T FILE? NIGH ADVISED HE WILL NOT MAKE THE MOTION FOR THE MORATORIUM. WE HAVE ALREADY DONE THIS AND NO ONE FOUGHT IT, BARLOW ADVISED THAT IS BECAUSE IT WASN'T IN OUR AREA AND WE DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT. NIGH ADVISED THAT HE THINKS THIS REACTION IS A PANIC YOU GUYS ARE HAVING. NIGH WAS THEN ASKED WHAT WOULD IT HURT TO DO ANOTHER 6 MONTHS TO LOOK AT FOR A SAFETY NET. NIGH ADVISED THERE ARE ROOMERS ABOUT IT BEING UP IN HIS AREA, BUT HE HASN'T HEARD ANYTHING, NOBODY HAS APPROACHED ME, EVEN THOUGH SOME OF YOUR GROUP ARE SAYING THEY HAVE. SUSAN WEAVER ASKED NIGH, SO YOU SAY NO ONE HAS BEEN IN YOUR AREA AND YOU HAVE NOT PERSONALLY BEEN APPROACHED, BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORS, NIGH ADVISED HE HAD ONE NEIGHBOR TELL HIM LAST WEEK THAT THEY HAD BEEN APPROACHED, AND THEY JUST TOLD THEM THEY WEREN'T INTERESTED. SO, IT IS IN YOUR AREA.

BARLOW ADVISED WE HAVE A VERY WEAK ORDINANCE, WE ARE NOT LIKE OTHER COUNTIES THAT HAVE TO HAVE SOIL TESTING, WATER TESTING, HAVING TO RECORD THEIR LEASES. YOU GUYS PUT MORE INTO PEOPLES DRIVEWAYS SAYING HOW LONG THEY HAVE TO BE, HOW WIDE, IF THEY HAVE TO PLANT TREES AROUND IT. I HAVE ONE MORE QUESTION, DOES ANYONE OF YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS, BUSINESS PARTNERS FRIENDS OR ANYONE YOU KNOW GOING TO FINANCIALLY BENEFIT FROM THIS, NIGH ADVISED NO AND PARKER ADVISED HE HAS BEEN APPROACHED AND HAS TURNED THEM DOWN. NIGH THEN ASKED IF YOU RESPECT THE RIGHT TO DO IT IF YOU WANT IT. BARLOW ADVISED WE AREN'T ASKING TO TAKE PEOPLES RIGHTS AWAY; WE JUST WANT TO EDUCATE PEOPLE.

ZONDA STEAD - COMMENTED THAT OUR DRIVEWAY ORDINANCE IS 6 PAGES LONG BUT OUR SOLAR FARM ORDINANCE IS ONLY 4 PAGES LONG, THIS DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT. NIGH ADVISED HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW LONG EVERY ORDINANCE IS. SHE ADVISED THAT HER WELL WILL NOT BE MORE THEN 10 MILES AWAY FROM THIS AND THEREFORE MY WELL WILL BE AFFECTED.

NIGH ADVISED HE HAS A LOT OF FAITH IN THE PLAN COMMISSION AND THAT THEY ARE LOOKING THINGS OVER. THIS IS A VERY MIXED BOARD, SOME THAT HAVE TO BE ON THERE BY STATE STATUE, A COUPLE FARMERS. THEY DID PUT A MORATORIUM ON AND THEY WORKED ON IT.

SUSAN WEAVER – SO THEY MAY REVIEW IT, BUT DOESN'T IT COME BACK TO YOU FOR THE CHANGE. NIGH ADVISED NO, THEY ONLY BRING CHANGES THAT THEY RECOMMEND TO US AND AT THAT TIME WE VOTE ON IT AND I WOULD SUPPORT THEM, BECAUSE THEY LOOK INTO THINGS AND STUDY THEM. MY MAIN CONCERN IS THAT IF YOU ARE NOT WILLING TO PUT A MORATORIUM IN PLACE HOW ARE YOU GOING TO VOTE IF THEY DO OR DO NOT MAKE ANY.

ERIC SMITH - YOU SAID THE FIRST TIME THEY PUT THE MORATORIUM IN PLACE, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THEM ANOTHER 6 MONTHS.

BARLOW IS ALSO CONCERNED THAT SOME PEOPLE ON THE PLAN COMMISSION STAND TO FINANCIALLY GAIN FROM THIS AND SHOULD STAND BACK AND NOT VOTE ON THE CHANGES.

NATHAN MCCAIN – HOW MANY ACRES HAVE BEEN APPROVED IN MORRISTOWN, NIGH ADVISED 1,500 ACRES. SO, YOU ARE GOING TO FILL THE GROUND WITH CONCRETE, WHO IS GOING TO CLEAN THIS UP, IS THE COUNTY. NIGH ADVISED THERE ARE PROVISIONS IN THE ORDINANCE FOR THE CLEAN UP,

COMMISSIONER PARKER AT THIS TIME THANKED EVERYONE AND HOPES THAT THE PLAN COMMISSION REVIEWS THIS AND COMES BACK WITH CHANGES. WE SEEM TO BE GETTING INTO THE REPEAT STAGE AND MAKES A MOTION TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY NIGH, APPROVED 2-0

MISCELLANEOUS:

DONNA COOK / NEW E-911 DIRECTOR:

DONNA WANTED TO TAKE THIS TIME TO HAVE BARRY RITTER INTRODUCE YOU TO THE NEW E-911 DIRECTOR. AT THIS TIME BARRY RITTER CAME UP AND INTRODUCED JASON ABEL TO THE COMMISSIONERS AND WANTED TO WELCOME HIM. THE COMMISSIONER'S WELCOMED HIM ABOARD.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD. A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY PARKER SECONDED BY NIGH, APPROVED 2-0

AYE:

NAYE:

ATTEST:

AMY L. GLACKMAN

SHELBY COUNTY AUDITOR