

## HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

December 21, 2011  
O'Fallon Township  
801 E. State St.  
O'Fallon, IL 62269

CALL TO ORDER at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Supervisor Gary Ahle, Highway Commissioner William Peach, Town Clerk David M. Witter, Trustees: Jeff Bevirt, Kenneth Joseph and Gary Hursey; Deputy Town Clerk/Recorder Debbie Allsup and General Assistance Administrator/Recorder Sheri Heil.

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to excuse Trustee Glenn Loyet and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

Others present: Gary Fohne, Douglas Scott, Gerard Helldoerfer, Pat Judge and Steve Ficker

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Kenneth Joseph to approve the minutes of the previous Highway Commissioner's Meeting as presented and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- ☆ 2 (two) trucks inspected
- ☆ Stock piling chips for oiling next year
- ☆ Garage work on all snow equipment; readied, checked and greased
- ☆ Checked and readied chains and V-plow on motor grader
- ☆ Checked culverts; picked up trash and tree limbs
- ☆ Placed millings by mailboxes and shoulders on road edges
- ☆ Completed stormwater check on creeks
- ☆ Completed spill removal course for gasoline and other liquids
- ☆ Replaced post for stop sign at Bowler and County Line Rd
- ☆ Replaced reflectors on Oak Hill
- ☆ Replaced post and sign run over on Simmons Rd
- ☆ Put new reference sign on Blackjack, Old Lebanon-Troy, Richwood School and Widicus Rds.
- ☆ The generator for the Food Pantry has been repaired and in working order

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Highway Commissioner William (Bill) Peach introduced Pat Judge and Steve Ficker from Gonzales Companies who were present to update the Board on the Borchers Lane and Rieder Road projects.

Pat Judge began with a brief resume and history of Gonzalez Companies. Judge then spoke about the Rieder Road project as to answer the question, will the interchange ever be built? Judge had associate Dick Gundlach meet with County Board Chairman, Mark Kern to inquire about the status of the proposed interchange. Kern said it is the #1 priority for IDOT and the Feds at Scott Air Force Base and that the County and IDOT will continue to aggressively pursue funding for the construction of the project. Judge also met with former IDOT District 8 (eight) engineer, Mary Lamie and was told it is on the top of the list. The Board was also given a follow-up letter from St. Clair County Engineer of Design, Thomas Holdener, P.E. stating the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has approved the Access Justification Report (AJR) based on engineering and operation acceptability. The project will be scheduled for a letting when funding becomes available. Judge summarized the letter stating that the County has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on engineering work already and will continue to for the next couple of years. The final approval of the AJR by FHWA will be considered after completion of the National Environmental Policy Act Process and approval of the Phase I Design Report. Holdener anticipates these phases being completed in FY 2012. The preliminary cost estimate for the proposed interchange and the reconstruction of Rieder Road from the Shiloh Valley Township Line Road to Scott Air Force Base Gate is \$23,000,000 (twenty-three million dollars). The County is very much on board to make this interchange happen, and are happy that O'Fallon Township is looking ahead to look at Rieder Road. Judge reminded the Board of the traffic studies show that once the interchange is in, there will be over 7,000 (seven thousand) cars running up and down that road and what is out there now is a major issue with relation to the railroad bridge overhead, height and lane restrictions.

Judge went on to talk about the Federal Transportation Bill. Instead of letting the whole Federal Highway Administration on a federal level go defunct, Congress continues to fund it at the same level for the last two years without passing a new Federal Transportation Bill. What everybody hopes will happen in the next 2-4 (two-four) years, there will be a new Federal Transportation Bill and the County is racing to get the interchange completely designed so when the Bill comes through, they are on top of the list, first in line and ready to roll. Judge once again assured the Board and attendees that between IDOT, County and politicians, this project will go through sometime in the near future.

Judge explained the breakdown of the project into 2 (two) parts for funding purposes. The bridge portion of the project, Judge said that they are going after Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) funding which provides 60% (sixty percent) of the railroad costs. The Township will be required to provide the remaining 40% (forty percent). The estimated railroad construction cost is: \$4,300,000 (four million three hundred thousand). The Township participation will be \$1,750,000 (one million seven hundred fifty thousand) Judge said the funding application deadline is late January but they are going to submit it by December 30, 2011. All of the planning and funding is looking 3-5 (three to five) years down the road and have everything in order when the interchange does go through. A brief discussion followed.

The roadway portion of the project also called Phase I Project Development Report which Gonzalez is already 34% - 40% (thirty-five to forty percent) completed. They are going for Department of Transportation (DOT) funding which provides 80% (eighty percent) of the roadway construction costs. The Township will be required to provide the remaining 20% (twenty percent). Estimated roadway construction cost is \$6,700,000 (six million seven hundred thousand). Township participation will be \$1,400,000 (one million four hundred thousand). Gonzalez did explain that the engineering for both bridge and roadway is not fully funded at this time and may need to be considered at the next budget hearing. Judge stated total engineering cost will be just shy of \$1,000,000 (one million). A discussion followed with regards to the funding, City annexation, Shiloh Valley Township and St. Clair County participation, traffic studies, number of lanes to be put in and the problem of Highway 50 being only two lanes.

Judge wanted to clear up the matter from previous meetings regarding the \$8,500 (eight thousand five hundred) repair bill on the Behrens storm sewer. Judge said for relationship purposes, the partners have decided to offer to give back to the Township and Road District by: taking over the management of the Township's CY2012 MS-4 storm water documentation; updating the Township building's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to maintain conformance. Judge noted that the value of these services is \$15,000 (fifteen thousand) as noted in the proposed 2011 budget. The actual approved budget was \$5,000 (five thousand) which Gonzalez will accept and save the Township \$10,000 (ten thousand) in fees. Judge then stated for record that the Township will still be required to pay the annual MS-4 fee of \$1,500 (one thousand five hundred) to RJN Group (a national engineering firm working for the Federal Government), as the fee must come directly from the municipal agency. Supervisor Gary Ahle went around the table to the Board for questions or comments. With consideration to the fact that this is something that has to be done, the Board was quite pleased with the offer that Judge presented. A discussion followed where Commissioner Peach gave a little background on the RJN Group and their function.

Judge spoke briefly about the Borchers Lane Project regarding the much lower bid compared to the others. Bottom line; Kurt Wehrle needed the work. He did not have any work lined up for next year, where the other contractors did. Judge then spoke briefly about the different plans for the road project. End result being, the residents wanted the least amount of tree loss on the road. The project and bids are set up in 2 (two) phases for budget purposes. Also, the bids that were submitted, are locked in for 9 (nine) months. This means, if we are not satisfied with the work the contractor does on the first part, we can look at the other bids submitted. Commissioner brought up the topic of inspectors on the job. The original cost was over \$40,000 (forty thousand). This was reconsidered and is now at \$24,000 (twenty-four thousand). Judge took over then to explain that Gonzalez Companies will provide part-time construction inspections to make sure that the contractor is installing things is correctly. The original quote was for a full-time inspector which Commissioner Peach did not want to pay that amount, so now there will be part-time inspectors. Quality testing by an O'Fallon firm will do separate material density testing.

Board questions/comments: Trustee Kenneth Joseph appreciated that Gonzalez came out and cleared up the issue of Behrens storm sewer. Trustee Gary Hursey appreciates everything they have done and for coming out with the update. Trustee Jeff Bevirt questioned about when the part-time inspections would be done. Judge replied that they will rely on Peach to contact Gonzalez to make sure that they are out on the job site at key points when the contractors are

working. Judge wants to try and coordinate with the contractors and figure out when inspectors need to be there and when they don't.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Peach brought up the approval of Tax Levy Ordinance No. 11-06 for the purpose of the Road and Bridge. Peach told the Board he is lowering the levy to a 2.50% (two and a half percent) increase, down from the 2010 levy of 4.16% (four point one six percent). Supervisor Ahle stated to the Board that Peach has lowered the amount and is now presenting this to the Board and they only have to acknowledge that it was presented and they have seen it. Ahle added that Peach has cut the levy percentage quite a bit. Peach stated that he is able to do this since they changed the law with the Motor Fuel Tax Fund. Trustee Gary Hursey and other Board members were pleased to see it lowered.

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance No. 11-06 for the purpose of the Road and Bridge as presented and seconded by Trustee Kenneth Joseph. Roll Call: J. Bevirt - aye; Ahle - aye; K. Joseph - aye; G. Hursey - aye. Motion carried.

READING AND APPROVAL OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S BILLS

Permanent Road Fund	\$	44,353.10
Road & Bridge Fund	\$	22,942.83

Highway Commissioner Peach dispensed with the reading of the Road District Bills.

A motion was made by Trustee Gary Hursey to authorize the payment of the Road District bills as written and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Roll Call: Bevirt-aye; Ahle-aye; Joseph-aye and Hursey-aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Kenneth Joseph to adjourn the Highway Commissioner's Meeting and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

The Highway Commissioner's Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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David M. Witter  
Town Clerk