

**GRANT COUNTY AREA PLAN COMMISSION
GRANT COUNTY OFFICE COMPLEX**

Minutes

June 10, 2020

6:30 PM

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Briede called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with all members present except Mr. Bonham, Mr. Monroe, Dr. Bothwell, and Stephanie McCulley.

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Maynard moved and Mr. Caudill seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 meeting. Mr. Brankle, Ms. Pollan, Mr. Caudill, Mr. Leming, Mr. Maynard, Mr. Mowery, and Mr. Briede voted yes. Motion carried.

4. Public Hearings (there were no public hearings)

5. Reports

5.1 Litigation

APC Attorney, Mr. Elliott discussed the CAFO litigation and noted that Robert Eherenman, who is acting as the APC counsel in the appeal litigation, informed us that Holloway's attorney had filed the appellant's brief with the Indiana Court of Appeals and that he would be filing a response by July 1. Bruce said he expects to get a draft before then which would be circulated to the board. It could be a couple of months or more before a decision is made. He also reported that Area Plan had court hearings scheduled for Ross Fousnight (fire house) and Joe Isaacs (falling down barn and salvage yard). He said that Area Plan was also putting together a civil complaint against multiple deficient properties owned by a single person in Jonesboro.

5.2 Executive Director

Mr. Strange reviewed his proposal to convert the building inspector position to a full time position and putting it into the 2021 budget to be submitted to council. He also discussed the decision not to request cloud-based computer software at this time in the 2021 budget due to the potential impacts to the county financial picture due to the pandemic.

6. Correspondence and Other Business

6.1 Next scheduled meeting – August 3, 2020

6.2 Agriculture Extension Agent – Larry updated board. Due to new Indiana legislation (Senate Enrolled Act 20) the Extension Office representative on the plan board has to be a resident of the county. Stephanie is not a resident of Grant County. The commissioners have two options – designate the surveyor or the surveyor’s designee or a resident of the county with an agricultural interest to serve on the plan commission board. The commissioners are taking this into consideration and are expected to act before the October deadline.

6.3 Area Plan Software Purchase – Larry explained that he considers obtaining cloud based software to support Area Plan’s permitting, inspection, and code enforcement activities is very important to enable the department to operate more efficiently but the potential financial climate due to the pandemic precludes asking Council for a large expenditure in this current 2021 budget cycle.

6.4 Discussion of 2021 Demolition Request – Larry explained that in the proposed budget that he is not requesting a \$50,000 appropriation (such as was requested and received in the 2020 budget) because he believes current funds will cover what we have court orders to demo. Chuck Briede expressed concern that if we don’t put this in the budget that the existing available funds would be lost but Larry explained that this particular line item is an appropriation to a secured fund that is outside the general fund and the existing funds (about \$55,000) are safe.

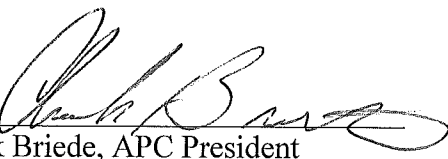
6.5 Consideration of the proposed 2021 APC budget – Mr. Strange reviewed the proposed budget, which: 1) includes proposal for a 3% staff wage increase; no request for additional unsafe funds appropriation in this years budget; request for conversion of a part-time position to full- time (building inspector) and some minor reductions in other areas to reflect realistic use of those funds. He said he was requesting approval to submit this to the Auditor’s Department by June 30 which would then put it into the council review process.

Mr. Tyson moved and Mr. Maynard seconded a motion to approve the proposed 2021 Area Plan Budget to be submitted to council.. Mr. Brankle, Ms. Pollan, Mr. Caudill, Mr. Leming, Mr. Maynard, Mr. Mowery , Mr. Mowrey, and Mr. Briede voted yes. Motion carried.

7. Public Input – No one requested to provide input.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Briede adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.


Chuck Briede, APC President