

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
MAY 11, 2022

Commissioner R. Michael Keith called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room.

ROLL CALL

Chairman R. Michael Keith, present
Commissioner Robin A. Gorman, present
Commissioner Sherene Hess, present

Also, in attendance were Solicitor Matthew T. Budash and Chief Clerk Robin Maryai.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Keith led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVE MINUTES...APRIL 27, 2022

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of April 27, 2022.

COVID UPDATE

Thomas Stutzman reported Indiana County has been elevated to high rate. IRMC and CDC reported an increase in percentage of covid positive testing in their results. CDC reported that the average increase is less than 0.1% of fully vaccinated populations over the last 7 days which has been consistent over the last several months. No new covid deaths have been reported; total is 356. Indiana County has had 539 seasonal flu cases documented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Cloonan from the Indiana Gazette introduced their new editor, Michael Johnson.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were no Executive Sessions.

PROCLAMATION...TRAVEL & TOURISM WEEK

After a proclamation was read, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to gratefully honor IRMC and proclaim the week of May 8 – 14, 2022 as National Hospital Week and the week of May 6 – 12, 2022 as National Nurses Week in Indiana County.

POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES ENFORCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM / DISTRICT ATTORNEY

At the request of Michael Schmidt, District Attorney's Office, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously approve that an application be submitted for PennDOT Police Traffic Services Grant for FY 2023. This is a one-year grant in the amount of \$21,750.00 that will assist with patrolling for impaired driving, aggressive driving, occupant restraints and pedestrian safety. This grant is 100% reimbursable and will be used by local police departments administered through the District Attorney's Office.

PCORP LOSS PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the PCorp Loss Prevention Grant Program Application in the amount of \$10,000.00. If approved by CCAP, these funds will be used to purchase additional smoke detectors and alarms for large office areas.

ORDINANCE 2022-0511A...LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE

Matthew Budash, County Solicitor, explained the General Assembly of Pennsylvania passed Act 76 of 1977 known as Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Law, which authorizes local taxing authorities to provide tax abatements for certain deteriorated industrial, commercial, and other real property. Burrell Township approved an ordinance on February 16, 2022 exempting improvements for said properties within the township for a period of 10 years. A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Ordinance 2022-1511A for eligible properties shall likewise receive abatement from County real property taxes in accordance with the Township Ordinance.

ORDINANCE 2022-0511B...LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE

Matthew Budash, County Solicitor, explained the General Assembly of Pennsylvania passed Act 76 of 1977 known as Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Law, which authorizes local taxing authorities to provide tax abatements for certain deteriorated industrial, commercial, and other real property. Burrell Township approved an ordinance on March 25, 2022 exempting improvements for said properties within the township for a period of 7 years. A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Ordinance 2022-1511B for eligible properties shall likewise receive abatement from County real property taxes in accordance with the Township Ordinance.

AGREEMENT OF THE PURCHASE OF LAND FROM DOVERSPIKE REAL ESTATE PARTNERS

The County entered into an agreement of sale of real estate at a prior meeting with Doverspike Real Estate Partners. Since the meeting it was discovered that there was an error in sales agreement with the respect of listing of two parcels. One owned by Doverspike Real Estate Partners and an adjoining property owned by Lynn A. Doverspike. It was not intended that both properties be listed in the original agreement. After discussion between the parties, an agreement of the sale for both properties was drawn and would then would transfer to the county.

At the request of Matthew Budash, County Solicitor, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement for the Purchase of Land from Doverspike Real Estate Partners in the amount of \$550,000.00.

AGREEMENT OF THE PURCHASE OF LAND FROM LYNN A DOVERSPIKE

At the request of Matthew Budash, County Solicitor, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement for the Purchase of Land from Lynne A. Doverspike in the amount of \$60,000.00.

OTHER BUSINESS

The board announced the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be held on May 18, 2022 from 6:00 – 7:00 and is a virtual meeting, the Airport Master Plan Meeting is May 23rd

from 6 – 8 p.m., and the Airport Show will be held July 9 – 10. Robin Maryai reminded voters that voted ballots can be returned to the Courthouse up until 8:00 p.m. on May 17th.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING..., MAY 25, 2022 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board at this time, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Secretary

R. Michael Keith, Chairman