

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

JULY 09, 2015

**Kevin Greenfield
Chairman**

**Stephen M. Bean
Clerk**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Sheriff and State's Attorney present.

The Roll Call showed all members present with the exception of Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Dudley and Mr. Noland.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 11, 2015 MEETING

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2015 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Baxter, Bird, Brown, Drobisch, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, Jackson, Little, Mattingley, Meachum, Minich, Oliver, Potts, Smith, Taylor

Nays: (None)

AYES = 17

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

ZONING / SUBDIVISIONS

1. Mrs. Little presented Resolution Z-1158-7-15 which is regarding Case R-03-06-15, a petition submitted by Charles G. Hutchins Jr. for rezoning of approximately 7.21 acres from R-4 Single Family Residential Zoning to M-1 Light Industrial Zoning on property commonly known as 765 S. Wyckles Road in Decatur, IL in Harristown Township. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend approval of the subject petition to the County Board. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and voted to recommend approval to the County Board.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution Z-1158-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Mrs. Little presented Resolution Z-1159-7-15 which is regarding Case S-01-05-15, a petition submitted by Kate and Cody Rose for a Special Use Permit to operate a hair salon at their residence in (R-1) Single Family Residential Zoning on property commonly known as 5200 White Oak Ct. in Oreana, IL in Whitmore Township. After hearing the evidence, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to recommend approval of the subject petition to the County Board with 6 stipulations. The EEHW Committee met and reviewed the petition and recommended that the County Board approve the petition subject to the 6 stipulations recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Bird to approve Resolution Z-1159-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

A Public Notice from the Illinois EPA regarding proposed renewal of the Clean Air Act Permit Program Permit for Fuyao Glass Illinois, Inc. in Mt. Zion.

REPORTS

- Sheriff's Report – June 2015
- Tax Collector's Report – June 2015
- Treasurer's Fund & Investment Report – June 2015
- Coroner's Report – April 2015
- Auditor's Report – June 2015
- Public Defender Report – June 2015

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve the Correspondence and Reports and that they be placed on file by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. CLAIMS

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve the claims that have already been paid by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. APPOINTMENTS

4. Resolution G-4326-7-15 – Appointment to Macon County Health Board

Paige Toth, 440 Desert Rose, Mt. Zion, IL 62549
Term Expires: May 31, 2018

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-4326-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Patricia Dawson was now present at the meeting.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

5. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-4328-7-15 which is approving increase in appropriations in the Sheriff's FY 2015 budget for motorcycle program.

MOTION

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve Resolution G-4328-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED. (DAWSON SHOWED HER VOTE AS YES)

6. Mr. Mattingley presented Resolution G-4329-7-15 which is approving an increase in appropriations in FY 2015 Sheriff's budget for purchase of weapons and equipment, a re-appropriation from FY14 funds.

MOTION

Mr. Mattingley moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution G-4329-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

7. Resolution G-4327-7-15 – Executing deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved seconded by Mr. Drobisch to approve the Consent Calendar by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The EEHW Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

8. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-4330-7-15 which is approving a budget amendment for Workforce Investment Solutions FY 15 budget for a grant for Rapid Response Innovative Project – Health Care.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve Resolution G-4330-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Mrs. Little presented Resolution G-4331-7-15 which is approving a budget amendment for Workforce Investment Solutions FY 15 budget for a grant for Rapid Response Innovative Project – Manufacturing.

MOTION

Mrs. Little moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to approve Resolution G-4331-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

**MACON COUNTY EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER PRESENTATION
FOR Q2 – 2015**

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said the recipient of the Employee of the Quarter is Sonny Woods, and he was nominated by Jason VanAlstine. The first plaque is given to the State's Attorney's Office. It states: Macon County Employee of the Quarter presented to Sonny Woods in recognition of outstanding dedication and customer service for the Second Quarter of 2015. The individual recognition plaque states: Macon County Employee of the Quarter presented to Sonny Woods for outstanding dedication and customer service for the Second Quarter of 2015.

Jay Scott: Mr. Scott said Jason kind of stole his thunder on this because he was going to nominate Sonny, but he beat him to it. Jason's nominating papers used some of the following terms to describe Sonny: Unwavering dedication to the State's Attorney's office, always willing to take on new responsibilities, goes above and beyond, professional and courteous attitude, takes great pride in his position and in his work, comes in early and stays late, takes work home, works on weekends. He is a huge asset, not only to the office but to Macon County. Sonny has an outstanding work ethic and is a great example to other employees. Mr. Scott said he couldn't have said it better himself. To give them an example, a couple of weeks ago he and his First Assistant, Nichole Kroncke were working on a very involved 1st Degree Murder trial. During trial preparation they came in on a Saturday and Sonny was there with them and worked all day. The only time he stopped was to go and get sandwiches for them. That is the kind of dedication he has to the job. He didn't get anything extra out of that. Sonny is always fun to be around and a pleasure to work with. He has a wicked sense of humor as well. Sonny is just a fantastic employee, and Mr. Scott is very proud to have him as a colleague.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said on the legislative front they have been trying to follow closely what is going on in Springfield, and for the most part not much is going on in Springfield. Of particular concern today, is the threat of freezing property taxes. This is not just the county's General Fund levy, it would be everything listed on the property tax bill they are considering freezing. The general opinion is that property taxes is a county issue, not a state issue. They need to focus on their own budget situation. We are monitoring that and contacting our legislators. There is legislation pending and her understanding from different people she has talked to, is that there is concern about the county's court reporters who are paid by the state. If this legislation goes through, they

will continue to be paid during this process. She received an e-mail from Bruce at the Highway Department and they are paying close attention particularly to the MFT funds. They are curbing projects and monitoring projects accordingly so the county is not stuck out on a limb, but paying close attention to the funding of those.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

10. Mr. Dunn presented Resolution G-4332-7-15 which is approving an increase in the Circuit Clerk General Fund budget for Jury Fees for Fiscal Year 2015.

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-4332-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Negotiations Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

11. Mr. Meachum presented Resolution H-1947-7-15 which is appropriating funds for design engineering on a bridge over a drainage ditch on Nevada Road in Pleasant View Township.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Potts to approve Resolution H-1947-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

12. Mr. Meachum presented Resolution H-1948-7-15 which is approving the purchase of portable traffic analyzers.

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution H-1948-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Executive Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Siting, Rules & Ordinance Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Building Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

Sherry Procarione: Ms. Procarione said she would like to get a clarification on what governmental body has jurisdiction concerning the property taxes since that was brought up this evening.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little asked what she wanted clarified.

Ms. Procarione: Ms. Procarione said Mrs. Little had mentioned that the state is trying to make a decision on a property tax freeze. She was just wondering who has the proper governmental jurisdiction over the property taxes.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said within the statute they can freeze property taxes, so she did not word that correctly. However, the issue in her opinion and most of the people she has spoken to, is that property taxes fund county and local entities and government and programs and that sort of thing. They really have nothing to do with the state situation in Springfield, other than it makes it a campaign tool that they can use showing they froze our property taxes.

Ms. Procarione: Ms. Procarione asked if it is then state law that they are trying to do something. They must have some law in place then.

Mrs. Little: Mrs. Little said in the statute it talks about how much we can raise our levies and the limits that we do have. So, they have the authority to limit our taxing ability.

Ms. Procarione: Ms. Procarione asked if we would have to petition to have that statute changed if we wanted it different then. She agrees with Mrs. Little and has already called in, but she just wanted to make sure that was clarified because she wasn't quite sure after that. She believes local is best too.

There were no officeholders' remarks presented at the meeting.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said he was sure they had all seen the city council meeting Monday night. He and Steve were fortunate enough to attend that 3 hour and 30

minute meeting. It was brutal. Mr. Greenfield said the city council has several questions that he agrees need to be answered. He has had meetings with the mayor and city manager. He explained to them that the offer we have on the table now is our one and only offer we are going to make. He explained to them that we have no desire to rent from the city or the library board. Mr. Greenfield feels it is unfortunate that the city is just now aware of what is really going on. He thinks that he and Jay were both under the understanding that the library board had full authority to enter into this agreement, unfortunately maybe we were wrong. Mr. Greenfield has no animosity toward the city whatsoever if they chose to back out of this deal. He looks forward to working with them in the future with whatever projects we can agree on. There will be no hard feelings whichever direction they go. He has the utmost respect for the council, the mayor, and the city manager. Hopefully, their questions will be answered and we can move forward, but if not, we can stay here. We have a beautiful building here and we'll proceed as normal. He just wanted to give them a heads up. He hopes to know by the next county board meeting without a doubt one way or the other. Mr. Greenfield made it clear to the city manager that the offer we have on the table now is our one and only offer.

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch said they keep saying that they have the library and annex building on the books at \$4,100,000. He would like to know how old that opinion is and what they based that on, because of the recent appraisal obtained by the Decatur Building Commission that is basically \$1,000,000 less. That is a more recent measurement of value and that is quite a discrepancy. He didn't know if they had seen the appraisals that were done on it because we based a lot of our decisions on that appraisal, plus the engineering studies and architectural workup. With all of the cost that will be involved just to bring that structure up to today's standards, it will be quite costly. He didn't know whether they have seen those studies and workups. Mr. Drobisch didn't know what had been shared with them as far as that information.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield did not know what all the library has shared with them. It was his understanding that as of now they are supposed to have everything. Jay took the mayor and city manager on a tour through the building. He thinks they were shocked on some of the things they saw. Mr. Greenfield said whatever decision they chose he is fine with. He wants this to be a good deal for everybody. He really doesn't want to see the council vote 4 to 3 in favor of it. He would like to see a 7 to 0 or 6 to 1. In no way shape or form did the county try to slip anything under the table or hide anything from the city. The meetings we've had and all the work that Jay has put into this was upfront. He doesn't want anyone in the county to think the county was trying to slip something through the cracks here, because we weren't.

Mr. Drobisch: Mr. Drobisch said he thinks it was our understanding that the library board had the power and the right to do this, but apparently nobody was aware of this other issue.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said yes, apparently we were wrong. He also wanted to thank Mr. Dunn for all the hard work he has put in for the last two years. Jay has worked very hard on this project and has done a heck of a job with it. So, if it does fall through,

Mr. Greenfield is sorry for all the hard work Jay has put into it. He said if it doesn't work out then it doesn't work out. There are no hard feelings and we will move forward.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said the thing that bothers him about the whole situation is that governmental bodies are put in a position that seems like they are trying to acquire something at the expense of another governmental body. Mr. Oliver said as a taxpayer he feels like what is being proposed is the right thing to do because it will still be in the hands of the taxpayer. He doesn't know what the idea is that people have about being shortchanged or that the city is getting shortchanged, or that the county is coming to something they don't need or not getting a fair shake. Everything we are talking about pertains to the taxpayers. They pay for it and are going to pay to keep it. It will come out of the front pocket or side pocket whatever, but it is still going to be the taxpayer's money that is running those institutions. Mr. Oliver is wondering and wanting to know what is really behind the idea of why it can't happen. Who is dissatisfied with the way it is going to be, because in the end it is still going to wind up being the taxpayers problem? One governmental body versus another governmental body is a little sick to him. There is no way you can make him satisfied that we are in some kind of game thing, or some kind of plan to succeed one over the other.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said he thinks it will shake out in the next 30 days and we will see what happens.

Mr. Oliver: Mr. Oliver said it needs to and he thinks someone should get down to the answer of what is really holding it up, really what's the matter is. He just can't see that there is any gain for any particular governmental body.

MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION

Mr. Potts moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to go into closed session pursuant to Section 2(c) 11 for discussion of litigation involving the county by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Minich moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver to return to open session by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS:

13. Mr. Greenfield presented Resolution G-4333-7-15 which is agreeing to settlement of legal claim regarding taxes on Welcome Inn Hotel.

MOTION

Mr. Minich moved, seconded by Mrs. Little to approve Resolution G-4333-7-15 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Oliver moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to adjourn until Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.