

SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER	JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER	LEGAL COUNSEL
RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER	MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK	NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2020-00903)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 3, 2020.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners Cirino, Young and Hamercheck were present.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board at this time

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A RELEASE BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE ENGINEER'S OFFICE AND PROGRESSIVE INSURANCE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE NOISE BARRIER WALL REPAIR ON SR 2 (20200903\E01)(E-3)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. Michael DeLeone, explained that the noise wall along SR 2 west of the SR 615 interchange was damaged due to an accident leaving the wall severely damaged and not functioning as designed. This resolution will allow for reimbursement and the repair of the wall. A resolution will be on the agenda next week authorizing an agreement for the repair. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

2. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES SOLID WASTE OPERATING FUND (20200903\U01)(UT-2)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

3. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,333,000.00 FOR SOM CENTER ROAD UNDER I-90 WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO. 424-W AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening September 30, 2020)(20200903\U02)(UT-8)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Rothlisberger stated that this is part of the 2020 Capital Improvement Plan for a waterline that runs under I-90 at SOM Center Rd. (Rt. 91). The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

4. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$632,300.00 FOR GAS COLLECTION CONTROL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS FOR LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE FACILITY PROJECT NO. 429-L AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening September 30, 2020)(20200903\U03)(UT-8)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. Rothlisberger explained that this project will be extended into the expansion area of the landfill and will reduce and practically eliminate the noxious odors. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

5. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$137,448.74 FOR SANITARY SEWERS FOR CARDINAL MEADOW SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF MENTOR (JOB NO. 20-26)(20200903\U04)(UT-9)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. Rothlisberger explained that this and the following resolution pertain to two proposed subdivisions located in Mentor. The work is being privately funded by the developer as part of a subdivision and will become a part of the public system once the work is completed. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

6. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,710.50 FOR SANITARY SEWERS FOR MENTOR INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY PARK IN THE CITY OF MENTOR (JOB NO. 19-43)(20200903\U05)(UT-9)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. Rothlisberger explained that this will also be privately funded by the developer. He stated that although these projects are going to be privately funded, the Utilities Department must have a value of the project for their year-end finance report. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

7. RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT SEPTEMBER 11, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$131,849.82 (20200903\JFS01)(JFS-14)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

8. RESOLUTION TO REJECT THE PETITION AND TO RENAME SAID PORTION OF VROOMAN ROAD LOCATED IN LEROY TOWNSHIP TO OLD VROOMAN ROAD (20200903\C01)(C-87)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. James Gills, Lake County Engineer, explained that the proposed name change (Old Vrooman Road) would be best suited for this portion of Vrooman Road. He stated that naming the road "Vrooman Road Extension" would give the appearance of an ongoing road. He thanked the Board for their cooperation throughout the whole Vrooman Road/Vrooman Road Bridge Project. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

9. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$502,802.56(20200903\BC01)(C-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

10. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$755,024.94(20200903\BC02)(C-17)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

11. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20200903\BC03)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

12. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20200903\BC04)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Mr. Rothlisberger stated they continue to receive very good prices for their projects being bid out. He said that the Green Drive bid that opened yesterday came in 20% under the engineers estimate. Commissioner Young asked if the bids are coming in 20% below estimated across the board. Mr. Rothlisberger stated that most have come in lower than estimated but there have been some others that came in higher than estimated.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd updated the Board on several items which included working with Budget Director Mr. Michael Matas on research and financial planning strategies for the CARES Act funding that the County will be receiving. The Board and Mr. Boyd discussed in detail the specifics of what this funding could be used for as well as the needs of County departments and the political subdivisions. He continues to work with the Health Commissioner, EMA Director and Lake Health on COVID-19 related items. The Building Department has eclipsed the 2019 revenue already as of August (2020). Commissioner Cirino and Mr. Boyd discussed property tax and sales tax collections. Mr. Boyd stated that the collections were down slightly but better than expected. Commissioner Hamercheck asked for an update on the Loan and Grant Program for local businesses. Mr. Boyd stated that the Review Committee meets every week to review and approve applications. As of August 17th, there have been 48 grants and 7 loans given with 30 out of the 55 being either women’s enterprises or minority owned. Their next meeting will be next Tuesday (due to the Monday Labor Day holiday). There is approximately \$300,000 still available. Commissioner Cirino suggested speaking with HUD to see if it is possible to open these funds up to Mentor. Mr. Boyd stated that Mentor has a large enough population to receive their own CDBG funding and that the County is not permitted by law to contribute additional funds.

The Board and Mr. Boyd discussed the opiate litigation. Mr. Boyd stated that they continue to have weekly conversations, data continues to be collected, and no trial date has been set yet.

Commissioner Hamercheck added that Lake County is one of the bellwether counties chosen by the Courts.

Mr. Boyd gave an update on the Senior Study stating that they (Mr. Boyd and Mrs. Barajas) continue to meet and discuss with the consultant what the future delivery of relevant services will look like, both during this pandemic and after. Several other topics discussed were long term action items and guidance from the State of Ohio regarding the reopening of senior centers. The Study should be completed by September.

Mr. Boyd stated that he received correspondence from Leroy Township Trustee, Mr. Chuck Klco, on behalf of the Township, thanking the Board for their decision of agenda item #8 pertaining to the Vrooman Road name change. Commissioner Young asked if he (Mr. Boyd) had any updates on signage for the wineries. Mr. Boyd stated that he has left a message with the ODOT District 12 Deputy Director and he is waiting for a call back. He will update the Board once he speaks with Mr. Picuri. Commissioner Young stressed the importance of the winery and accommodation signage. Commissioner Hamercheck thanked Mr. Boyd for working on this with ODOT.

ENGINEER – Mr. Gills stated that for the most part the bids that they have received have been 10% - 20% lower than estimated. He explained that his office is still feeling the effects of the closures this year due to the pandemic. With the low cost of fuel people are driving more and flying less and while they are seeing an increase in their revenues, they are still not where they ought to be. They will be cautious with future projects until they see what the revenues may be due to the pandemic closures.

FINANCE – none.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

CLERK – Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next regular Commissioners Meeting will be Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 10:00 am. She stated that there are two vacancies on the Senior Advisory Panel and anyone interested can fill out an application on the Commissioners website. County Offices will be closed Monday, September 7, 2020 in observance of Labor Day.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - Commissioner Cirino gave an update on House Bill 6 stating that he has had conversations with people in both the House and the Senate. The Senate seems to have a studied and more deliberate approach of what needs to be done rather than a kneejerk reaction. There needs to be development of a replacement bill should HB6 be repealed. Commissioner Cirino addressed energy credits, stating that HB6 has a number of provisions and safeguards in place for the periodic review of the financial condition of Energy Harbor (formerly First Energy) or any entity that would be receiving energy credits. This safeguard has been in HB6 since the beginning.

NEW BUSINESS: - Commissioner Hamercheck stated that Lake County has always been looked at as a bellwether County. He has paid very close attention to the recent public safety criticism and he has been deeply concerned by some discussions where people have become afraid to call the police. He discussed the students in Chardon that displayed a flag in support of the one of their coaches that is in the safety forces and somehow it was viewed negatively. He shared his time teaching Safety Town and how children should interact with officers. Lake County can be a model for other counties and states, Lake County has good people and we all need to be active not reactive. Captain Warner of the Sheriff’s Department has started a very successful pilot program for Telecommunicators which is fully accredited through the Auburn Career Center and is being looked at nationally as a model. Commissioner Cirino complimented Commissioner Hamercheck for his statements. He stated he finds it disappointing that political figures around the country have not condemned this disrespect for the law. The Board discussed the disrespectful events directed at law enforcement that are happening all around the country. Commissioner Hamercheck complimented several religious leaders in Lake County that are making a real difference and who recently kept an open dialogue with the peaceful protestors in the Painesville Square. Commissioner Young stated that faith and belief in our citizenry is what keeps this country together.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board at this time.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this eighth day of October, 2020.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

RON YOUNG, VICE PRESIDENT

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK