

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

March 26, 2024

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 12th day of March, 2024, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 20th day of March 2024, a proof of publication filed in the Clerk's office. Copies of the agenda were posted in the courthouse, delivered to each Commissioner, and kept current and available to the public at the Clerk's office.

Chairman Hirschman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll Call: Gary Rasmussen, Aye; Kathy Hirschman, Aye; and Jessie Urbanski, Aye. Also, present is County Clerk, Brenda Klanecky.

Chairman Hirschman stated to those in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is available for review and indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting is being held.

Public Comment- Howard County Emergency Manager, Allen Wilshusen stated that Todd Duncan with NIRMA would be attending this afternoon's safety meeting to discuss courthouse security. Also, there will be a mock tornado drill tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m.

County Road Discussion – Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen stated the Roads Department has been out clearing snow since yesterday. Should start receiving stop signs from the State of Nebraska, the railing on the Boelus bridge was installed, and the department will begin working on trees on Dannevirke Road, 9th Avenue located east of Liberty Road (drainage), work on a road in the northern part of the County, spraying weeds, get the traffic counter set up on the Naper Road bridge. This bridge is estimated replacement cost of \$800,000.00. Any new bridges will require guard rails be installed.

Mail –

Howard County Unclaimed Property

NIRMA Seminar Series

Email Update on Front Step Project

Email regarding Hospital budget

Opioid Payment

Final Funding Crime Commission Grant# 25-CB-0513

Unfinished Business- None

Public Hearing-Vacate Woitaszewski Subdivision –Rasmussen made a motion to open the public hearing at 9:00 a.m. and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith presented the vacate of the Nelson Loup Hwy 11 Subdivision application by Linda and Andrew Woitaszewski located in 29-13-11. Per State requirement, the Woitaszewski's need to vacate the subdivision (7.3 acres) so they can split off 16.7 acres which will not be required to be a subdivision. The zoning board has approved at their last meeting. Rasmussen made a motion to close the public hearing at 9:07 a.m. and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Urbanski made a motion to approve the vacate of the Nelson Loup Hwy 11 Subdivision and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Public Hearing-Conditional Use Permit-John Ropp-Odor Footprint –Rasmussen made a motion to open the public hearing at 9:15 a.m. and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith was present to discuss the application for a conditional use permit for a commercial feedlot for John Ropp. The Planning and Zoning Board denied the permit 9-0. The Planning and Zoning Board suggested that Mr. Ropp apply for a farm feedlot odor footprint and ask for a conditional use permit. Following discussion, Urbanski made a motion to close the public hearing at 9:21 a.m. and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Urbanski made a motion to deny the Class 1 Feedlot Odor Footprint and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Public Hearing-Conditional Use Permit-Mark Serbousek-Small Wind Turbine – Rasmussen made a motion to open the public hearing at 9:30 a.m. and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith and Mark Serbousek were present to discuss placing a small wind turbine on his property. Mr. Serbousek has received approval from the Howard Greeley Public Power District. The wind turbine would be 76 feet tall from the ground to the top tip of the blade. The Planning and Zoning Board voted to approve the wind turbine at their last meeting, 8-1. This turbine would be for Mr. Serbousek's own use for his house and building. Only one wind turbine per quarter is allowed. Rasmussen made a motion to close the public hearing at 9:42 a.m. and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Urbanski made a motion to approve the conditional use permit for Mark Serbousek's small wind turbine and seconded by Hirschman. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Nay; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

M & T Administrative Subdivision – Howard County Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith, presented the M & T Administrative Subdivision located in 29-13-11, due to family estate planning to separate off 3 acres. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the M & T Administrative Subdivision and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; Urbanski, Aye.

Jon Kuck-Extend Minimum Maintenance Road – Howard County Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith and Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen were present along with Jon Kuck to discuss Gordon Road north of 6th Avenue. Mr. Kuck purchased 15 acres of ground in the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of 1-13-10. The maintained road end at 640 Gordon Road. Mr. Kuck would like to extend maintenance another 500 feet of Gordon Road to a driveway on his property. Mr. Kuck had come to the Planning and Zoning to obtain a building permit to build a house on the property. Urbanski made a motion to approve the Highway Superintendent to do a road study for an additional 500 feet on Gordon Road and bring the information back to the Board of Commissioners within 30 days and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmusen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. This item has been placed on the April 23, 2024 agenda at 9:00 a.m.

Copier Quotes-Planning and Zoning/Extension –Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith, was present to discuss quotes received for a colored copier to be shared between the Planning and Zoning and the Extension offices. The lease will end on the current copier with no options to purchase. Several quotes were received. The most cost-effective quote was to lease a Canon 3930i for 48 months from Capital Business. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the Canon 3930i colored copier and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Veteran's Service Committee Appointment-A letter was received from Veterans Service Office Donald Shuda regarding County veterans service committee member John Van Winkle who passed away on January 14, 2024. Mr. Shuda is submitting the name of Dale Rasmussen for the Board's consideration to replace Mr. Van Winkle. Rasmussen made a motion to approve replacing Mr. Van Winkle with Dale Rasmussen and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. The Clerk will notify Mr. Shuda.

Scrap Tire April 6, 2024 Update- Emergency Manager, Allen Wilshusen was present to go over the details of the upcoming Scrap Tire event taking place on April 6, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Currently Mr. Wilshusen has two students to volunteer from Centura Schools and one from St. Paul Schools to help. The City will provide a payloader and one man and the County will provide a payloader and two men. Forms were provided for the Commissioners to review to be used the day of the event.

Windows Update/Bidding Process for Windows/Approve bid Spec Sheet- Hirschman stated she has met with several window companies and would like to move forward with letting out bidding for the windows. In the specs would like to include Low E Standard Glass and on the first floor will be tempered glass. Eight sets of windows would be obscured glass, warranty, have a sun defense glass on the east, west and south sides of the buildings, fiberglass frames, some of the windows will be fixed, foam filled frame and the hardware will be brown. Will advertise in the local paper for two weeks and send out to interested window companies. Would like to have the bids back by April 19, 2024, and open bids the 23rd of April, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., so the windows would be done in 2024. Urbanski made a motion to move forward with the bidding process plan and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Tax Sales Report-Treasurer, Sara Roy-Treasurer, Sara Roy met with the Board to present a list of delinquent Real Estate Taxes sold at the Public Tax Sale on March 4, 2024, and explain how the process works. No action taken.

Urbanski left the meeting to attend a funeral at 9:50 a.m.

Consent Agenda - The Board reviewed the payroll and claims dated 3/26/2024 and the minutes dated 3/12/2024 as presented. Motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Hirschman to approve the Payroll and Claims dated 3/26/2024: General-\$223,060.38, Roads-\$65,498.64, for a total of \$288,559.02, and the minutes dated 3/12/2024. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Hirschman and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent. Meeting adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners will be April 9, 2024.

Dated this 26th day of March, 2024.

Kathy Hirschman
Howard County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Brenda Klanecky
Howard County Clerk