

Dewitt County Board Meeting
Jan 18, 2018
6:00pm

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Newberg.

Roll was answered by: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg.

To Dana Smith

You are hereby directed to call a meeting of the Dewitt County Board. The purpose of said meeting is to conduct the business of the County.

Motion by Perring second by Tilley to approve County board Minutes from Dec 2017. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Betsy Shifflet spoke to the board on the wind farm changes. Home owners should be notified within 1 ½ mi. not by the board but by the applicant. The Height of the wind turbine in regards to the lights on the turbine should be looked at. The Set back change from 3 times the height to 6 times the height with owner having the right to wave the set back. Noise levels not found to be in compliance should be shut off and left off until a fix is found. The group would also like a property value guarantee. Installation of aircraft detection system should be put in. Wildlife studies should be done. Electro magnet study should be done. Also Text changes on decommissioning financial coverage. Betsy would like to see the remainder of all changes sent to the land use committee for further consideration.

John Highland spoke to the board. He would like a moratorium on all special use permits for wind farms for up to 18 mo. Rutledge and Harp should be put on the moratorium to help all for the time to come.

Brian Hug Attorney for the Shifflets and neighbor. His question to the board is: What is the vision for Dewitt Co? The people of DeWitt County should know what is coming for the residents of DeWitt County. Ferguson ask Hug what the time period for McLean Co. wind farm permit process was as Hug was an attorney for the County through the process. Hug stated it was a very long process. Hug felt a very robust ordinance should be adopted in the beginning.

Tom Swierczewski spoke to the board from Alta farms and Tradewinds.

The setback of 3 times the height as current and flicker are in good standing. A home owner should not have to get permission to have a wind tower. If the county would make the setback to six times the height the county will not have wind farms. Securities and reclamation bonds will be taken out. Swierczewski and Associates are here to help the county get a good set of ordinances.

Motion by Newberg second by Tilley to re-appoint Karen Meadows to the Merit Commission with term set to expire 5-16-2023. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Motion by Newberg second by Whitted to re-appoint Jay Wickenhauser to the Merit Commission with term set to expire 7-23-2021. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

The Illinois Department of Veteran' Affairs & the Illinois Bicentennial Committee will be honoring 200 veterans on December 3, 2018 in Chicago. The forms to nominate a veteran from DeWitt County are available in the County Clerk's Office.

Motion by Whitted second by Perring to refer to the Regional Planning Commission for its consideration, an amendment of the text of Section 153.30(B)(6)(A) of the DeWitt County Code of Ordinances to read as follows: "The financial resources for decommissioning shall be in the form of a reclamation bond, and irrevocable letter of credit or shall be deposited in an escrow account with an escrow agent acceptable to the Zoning Enforcement Officer. Final approval on the form of the financial resource shall rest solely on the County Board or its designee. The financial resource shall be reviewed and adjusted accordingly every three years based on the engineer's estimated cost. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Abstain: Ritter. No: Tilley Motion carried.

Motion by Whitted second by Wickenhauser to refer to the Regional Planning Commission for its consideration, an amendment to chapter 153 of the DeWitt County Code of Ordinances to add the following text: Any wind tower or electric-generating wind device proposed to be erected within 1.5 mi of the corporate limits of an incorporated village or municipality shall be subject to the approval of said incorporated village or municipality before a special use permit shall be granted for said proposed wind tower or electric generating device. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Abstain: Ritter. No: Tilley. Motion carried.

Motion by Whitted second by Ferguson to refer to the Regional Planning Commission for its consideration, whether the text of Chapter 153.27 (A) and (B) of the DeWitt County Code of Ordinances should be amended to limit the height of wind turbine towers and whether the distance for setbacks should be increased. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Abstain: Ritter. No: Tilley Motion carried.

Motion by Ferguson second by Whitted to contract with Kirby Risk to replace the lights at the County building and jail with LED lights at a cost to the County of \$7,000.00. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Ferguson to send the remaining suggested amendment back to the Land Use for review with in light of the other information that was provided this evening.

Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Abstain: Ritter Motion carried.

Motion by Ferguson second by Rogers to have King Lar convert the boiler controls to electronic at a cost of \$12,975.00. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Motion by Ferguson second by Ritter to have King Lar replace the compressor on the McQuay condensing unit for \$1,870.14. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Motion by Redman second by Tilley to pay all bills. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Motion by Redman second by Ferguson to approve the Sexual Harassment resolution. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Motion by Ferguson second by Whitted to enter into executive session On Pending Litigation. With all in favor at 8:00pm.

Motion by Whitted second by Ritter to resume open meeting at 8:25pm.

Motion by Ferguson second by Ritter to authorize State's Attorney to settle pending litigation as directed by the County Board. Aye: Nimmo, Perring, Pruser, Redman, Reece, Rogers, Ritter, Tilley, Whitted, Wickenhauser, Ferguson, Newberg. Motion carried.

Motion by Tilley second by Pruser to adjourn at 8:30pm.