

**ERIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024**

**ALL PRESENT**

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President Shenigo called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**County Administrator re Various Issues.**

Sales Tax - Preliminary sales tax collections for January sales totaled \$1.4 million, or 7 ½% more than last year. Year-to-date, sales tax collections total \$6.6 million, or 4% higher than last year.

Proclamation - there is a proclamation going before the Board today to acknowledge Child Abuse Prevention Month. Erie County Department of Job and Family Services has been active on social media to spread the word about child abuse and in commemoration of this, the Commissioners' and their staff wore blue at today's meeting to show support.

Water Rate Increase Public Hearing - Hank reminded the Board that next Wednesday will be the second public hearing regarding the City of Sandusky's water rate increase.

Mr. Old would like to ensure that the City is invited to this public hearing. Mr. Old stated it would benefit Erie County to understand how the City is in this position regarding their negative fund balance. Mr. Old stated the only people who are negatively impacted by this are the taxpayers. Mr. Solowiej stated he has submitted requests' for public records to the City to gain insight regarding this matter, and has not received records back as of yet.

Grant Funded Program - Mr. Old noted that several years ago, the county started allocating money from the Motor Vehicle License and Gas Tax Fund to a newly created fund to assist the townships in upgrading their roads. This program has invested \$3 million over three years in Township roads.

Mr. Old would also like to create an account for infrastructure grant projects that cities, townships and villages can utilize to assist with their infrastructure projects, similar to OPWC and CDBG grant funds. A committee will be created and \$500,000 will be the targeted funding amount for this year. The projects will be submitted to Erie County and onto the review committee to review and score the projects, with the Commissioners having the final decision on which projects would be awarded and the amount of the award. County Administrator Hank Solowiej is in support of this grant program to ensure that villages, townships, and cities have the chance to invest in their parks and recreation, roads, and/or safety services equipment. Mr. Shenigo added that many of these entities are smaller municipalities with much smaller budgets, therefore this grant fund program is a win-win situation.

Mr. Shoffner stated this grant fund program will be a game changer for the small communities and will have a positive effect on all the citizens in Erie County. This program will help these entities perform upgrades they otherwise would not be able to do.

Mr. Old stated that the application process will likely take place once per year, as the County's budget permits. It is the hope that the parameters of the program and scoring sheet will be finished by the end of this month.

Equipment Outlay and Request Form - Revised - Mr. Old inquired about the revised Equipment Outlay and Request Form that the Engineer's submitted for the Rear Cross Conveyor and shoulder conditioner (berm box). Hank stated that the power hydraulic was added, to increase the original request amount by \$10,000. The Commissioners will approve as long as the Engineer's Office eliminates the road grater, broom and flaggers.

#### **Public Comment.**

Rick Scheel, 4525 Galloway Road, Sandusky, stated he has been following the water rate issue in the newspaper and appreciated Mr. Solowiej's response to the City.

His comment today is regarding the traffic issue on Galloway Road. Mr. Scheel has spoken with Huron and Perkins Townships' law enforcement. The issue is commercial vehicles, such as cement mixers, are using Galloway as a short cut to get to Sports Force. There is a 20 ton limit on Galloway. He understands that these commercial trucks have to get a permit and then they can travel this road legally. He mentioned that Galloway Road is a neighborhood comprised of people of all ages and is concerned for their safety.

Mr. Shenigo stated he will speak to the Sheriff about this on-going issue, especially regarding the heavy trucks traveling that road.

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution **authorizing payment for services and supplies** provided for the following: STS Offerings: LTS-OSupplies.com; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-119)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an agreement with **Julie Young, RN**; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-120 - Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an agreement with **Jackie Griffin, RN**; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-121 - Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an agreement with **Shelby Rospert, RN**; Roll call: All Aye (#24-122 - Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into Amendment No. 1 to Exhibit A of the **Natural Gas Purchasing Program with CCAO Service Corporation**; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-123 - amending terms and conditions)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into a lease agreement with **FTG of Greater Ohio, Inc.**; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-124 - lease on HP E67550dh and HP M553dn copiers for Sheriff's Office effective 4/11/24 - 4/11/26 - \$2,150.00)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into a Total Print Management Agreement with **FTG of Greater Ohio, LLC**; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-125 - service, maintenance and consumable supplies on two copiers, HP E67550dh and HP M553dn for Sheriff's Office effective 4/11/24 - 4/11/26)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution executing payment of **Then and Now Certification** presented by the County Auditor, pursuant to O.R.C. 5705.41(d)1, and authorizing the drawing of warrant(s) in payment of amounts due upon contract or order; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-126)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing the County Auditor to make an **interfund transfer** re Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act Fund; and Public Assistance Fund; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-127)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing the County Auditor to make **budget modifications** re General Operating Fund: Commissioners General, Commissioners - Admin and General - Judge Tone; Motor Vehicle License & Gas Tax Fund; FY2020 OP Stonegarden Fund; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-128)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with **Margaretta Township Trustees**; Roll Call: All Aye (#24-129 - Old Railroad Road Resurfacing - \$111,111.11)

Mr. Old noted that the Engineer's submitted their township road work for 2024. Mr. Old is pleased that \$1.7 million in resurfacing work is being done this year in the Townships. Mr. Old believes this has been dramatically helped the County has given to the Townships for their road improvements.

Mr. Old noted that the Engineer's Office is spending a total of \$317,000 on professional services for the design of a bridge on Mason Road. He recalled that the Engineer's Office wanted to purchase software to design a roundabout.

Mr. Old inquired whether it would be in the best interest of the taxpayers if the Engineer's Office could purchase software to help the Engineer's Office design a bridge instead of hiring an expensive company to do it for them. Mr. Old believes that the Engineer and his staff have the credentials in order to design a bridge.

Board approves two Revised Auditor's Certificates for **Republic Services of Sandusky/Allied Waste** in additional amounts of \$25,000 and \$5,130 re trash hauling services for county facilities)

Board approves payment of Pay Estimate No. 4 to **American Structurepoint Inc.** in the amount of \$28,990.50 re providing professional services for Mason Road Bridge Mi-212 for County Engineer.

Board approves payment of Pay Estimate No. 5 to **Great Lakes Demolition Co., LLC** in the amount of \$33,489.47 re Perkins Avenue Structure S-004 Replacement for County Engineer.

Board approves Preliminary Estimate of Cost in the amount of \$158,904.16 re **placing chip seal on various Township roads** in Erie County for County Engineer.

Board executes **Proclamation** recognizing April 2024 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Board approves **Equipment Outlay and Request Form** for Sheriff's Office re fully equipped and outfitted road patrol vehicle in the amount of \$73,000 (utilizing state purchasing and ADAMHS Board will provide \$55,000).

Board approves **Equipment Outlay and Request Form** for Engineer's Office re Rear Cross Conveyor and shoulder conditioner (berm box) in the amount of \$31,500.

Board approves Personnel Action Form for **DOES** re **Chris Cullen**, part-time Seasonal Worker - Water Division employment effective 4/15/24.

Board approves Personnel Action Forms for **The Meadows at Osborn Park** re **Quinisha Burchett**, full-time STNA, resignation effective 4/2/24; **Rachel Fedele**, full-time LPN, rate increase due to completion of probation effective 4/4/24; **Shanine Peden**, full-time LPN, rate increase due to completion of probation effective 3/31/24; and **Jessica Shinski**, full-time LPN rate increase due to completion of probation effective 4/4/24.

Received cover letter and copy of **Jail Meal and Turn Key Report** for March, 2024, per O.R.C. 311.20.

Received copy of **estimate of construction, reconstruction, resurfacing or improvements necessary on public roads, bridges and culverts for townships in Erie County for 2024**, from County Engineer, per O.R.C. 5543.02

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **adjourns**; Roll Call All Aye

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