

Joint Commissioner and Council

Long Range Building Planning Meeting

November 20, 2007 – 4:09 pm

Meeting called to order by President Rininger. Commissioners Rininger, Logsdon, Gogel, Board Attorney Lueken, Councilmen Spaetti, Ebert, Winsett, Cochenour, Kress, Kroeger, Bunner, and Council Attorney Wetherill were present.

Spencer County Public Safety Building

Lisa Gehlhausen of Indiana 15 stated that Jan Crider, who is on the selection committee for the homeland security grant, has encouraged the county to reapply for the grant to build the Spencer County Public Safety Building. Gehlhausen explained that the deadline for application is January 31st, but Crider would like to receive it by late December so she can review the application and make any suggestions if necessary. Tom Schipp of Universal Design revised the cost, estimating that there would be an approximate 5% increase in the total cost of the project. The total cost is now estimated at \$5,144,507 with the county share increasing to \$1,764,704. Emergency Management Director Perdue stated that if the county had a major earthquake neither the courthouse nor the jail would be in a condition to house a dispatch center or a communications center. Kress asked about the use of asphalt versus concrete. Gogel stated it could be bid both ways. Winsett questioned if the building needed to be downsized. Gogel stated that the building needs meet the county's needs for several generations. Cochenour asked what offices would move. The Extension office, Plan Commission, Health Department, Coroner,

EMS/Dispatch, and Veteran Services are the offices that would be moving. Wetherill questioned the move of the health department. Kroeger asked if inflation was figured into the estimate. Schipp stated inflation was figured for a year in advance. The commissioners and councilmen decided to hold another joint meeting on Tuesday, December 4th at 7:30 am to make a decision.

Old Jail

Rininger stated that several different groups now have their own ideas as to how the old jail should be used. The commissioners were waiting on a ruling by the City of Rockport on use of the building by The Way before a decision was made. Mayor Packer explained that after Mr. Conner made his presentation to the Rockport Board of Zoning a petition was suppose to be filed and it never was. No one was present from The Way. Joe King stated that if the courthouse ever needed an annex that is the only area available. Also more storage room is needed for the county. John Limp, owner of Rockport Printers adjacent to the old jail, stated that having a halfway house next to his property would be detrimental to his business. Al Perdue, EMA Director, stated that he is in need of a place in the southern part of the county to safely store the EMA boats. Mayor Packer stated that having The Way on Main Street and at the entrance of the bluff is not appropriate. Tom Utter, speaking in favor of The Way, stated that when you look at all of the problems that are caused by addiction, The Way will be a benefit to the area. It was agreed to add the old jail to the agenda for the meeting on December 4th. Logsdon requested written opinions and statements from all those involved who have an interest in the old jail for consideration at the meeting.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Gogel seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

County Council,

President

Attest:

Cindy Shelton, Auditor
