



MACON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

2405 N. Woodford St. Decatur, IL 62526

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MINUTES

September 26, 2012

The Macon County Transportation Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, September 26, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. located at the Macon County Office Building, 141 S. Main St., Decatur, IL.

Transportation Committee Members Present:

Bryan Smith

David Williams

Kevin Meachum

Don Westerman

Jay Dunn

Gary Minich

Highway Department Support Staff Present:

Joe Moretti, Assistant County Engineer

Mark Funk, Road Supervisor

Amanda Askew, Office Assistant

Others Present:

Ryan Voyles, Herald & Review

Kevin Bird, Hickory Point Township Commissioner

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bryan Smith at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Bryan Smith

David Williams

Kevin Meachum

Don Westerman

Jay Dunn

Gary Minich

Approval of the Minutes:

Kevin Meachum made a motion to approve the minutes from August 22, 2012, seconded by Gary Minich. Motion Carried 6-0

Approval of the Bills:

Jay Dunn made a motion to accept the bills as presented, seconded by Kevin Meachum. Motion Carried 6-0

No Public Comments

No Old Business

New Business:

Resolution to renew Township Maintenance Agreements:

Bryan Smith explained that there is no need for a Resolution on this. We went through this last year, if you remember, it seems to be working very well. All the Highway Commissioners, the County Engineer, and Residents are very pleased with the way it works. We just need a poll of the Committee. Do you have anything to pass along to Mr. Bird before he gets them signed from the Highway Commissioners? Gary Minich stated there are four agreements, are there more of these coming. Joe Moretti replied I do not think he has any plans for more, these are the smaller and less traveled areas. Bryan Smith stated we have South Macon, Mt. Zion, Pleasant View, and Blue Mound. Gary Minich

asked out of curiosity who does the work for Decatur Township. Mark Funk replied we do. Jay Dunn stated the County. Gary asked if there was an agreement with Decatur Township somewhere. Mark Funk replied Decatur Township does not have any equipment or manpower. Ever since I have been here for 32 years, Decatur Township has just always hired us to do the work. Gary Minich stated they just hire you on an as needed basis. Mark Funk replied yes. I tell the Public when they call with complaints to call Gordon Brenner. He will then go out and look at the problem and he may ask us to do the work. Gary Minich stated so it's per job, basically you haggle out what it's worth. Mark Funk replied yes, there are jobs like seal coating, I give him an estimate and he sees how much he can afford in his budget to do. Jay Dunn asked there is no formal contract, correct? Mark Funk replied, no. Kevin Meachum stated I am in favor of it. Bryan asked if anybody else had any other comments or problems, if not we will let Mr. Bird know to proceed in that direction.

Ordinance Approving Intergovernmental Agreement:

Bryan Smith stated as you know this is for Rural Transportation. We have already passed it as a Resolution but IDOT wants it in the form of an Ordinance. David Williams made a motion to approve, seconded by Kevin Meachum. Motion carried 6-0.

Ordinance to Provide Public Transportation:

Bryan Smith explained that this is the same thing. Motion made by David Williams, seconded by Gary Minich to approve the Ordinance. Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution to approve the purchase of a 2013 Dodge Durango:

Bryan Smith explained that this is a replacement vehicle for the County Engineer. He had it in next year's budget to replace, but he had room this year to do it. The Coroner would be getting his Trailblazer. The Coroner is in need of a vehicle as soon as possible. The bid price is \$7,300 under the sticker price. Bruce said that his current vehicle has 135,000 miles on it. The Highway Department sent bid packets directly to all the local dealers, and we did not receive any back from them. Don Westerman asked who are we buying it from? Bryan Smith replied it is Liberty Auto City out of Libertyville, IL. Don Westerman asked if there was a State bid that we can cabbage onto. Joe Moretti replied I do not believe there was, they have some fleet vehicles. Don Westerman asked if this was bid on specifics, not necessarily a Dodge. Bryan replied specs, yes. David Williams asked when can we anticipate delivery of the vehicle? Mark Funk replied I am not sure if the vehicle was on the lot or if it was something that they have to order, I am not sure on that. Bruce would have more of the details. Kevin Meachum stated I talked to him today and I do not remember him saying when it was going to come in. Bryan Smith stated it is nice that we can share the vehicles like that. Kevin Meachum made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2013 Dodge Durango, seconded by David Williams. Motion carried 6-0.

County Engineer's Report:

Bryan Smith stated Mr. Bird is not here tonight, Joe is here in his place, and I would like to mention that Bruce is being honored with becoming the new President of the Illinois Association of County Engineers (IACE) it will be for a year. There has never been a County Engineer from Macon County that has served in that position before. That is quite an honor; he will be the 99th president of that organization. Kevin Meachum stated this is pretty big honor for Macon County and Bruce to be the president of IACE. They have a pretty big network and have a big influence on IDOT and how they do some of their work, especially at the County level. I am proud to see Bruce receive this honor.

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Joe Moretti stated on County Highway 26 (Country Club Rd.) they are getting ready to pour another section of pavement that will take it almost down to the maintenance entrance at the Zoo and tie into Fulton. They have got the storm sewer down past the Children's Museum. They have informed the Contractor that they need to Boo at the Zoo in mind to make sure that the entrance is clear. After that the Zoo closes.

The bridge on County Highway 25 in Argenta started. The piling has been driven, the abutments are in place and they are starting to tear down the existing structure.

On County Highway 30 (Elwin Blacktop) we are nearing the completion of that project. We striped it today and as soon as the Highway Department gets all the signing done we will open it up completely. There will be a few minor items left to do and that project will be complete. It turned out very nice.

On Firehouse Road there is a bridge repair project under way there. The pile repairs are done they are getting ready to pour the pier caps and the abutments. Then they will proceed to reset the beams back on that bridge. So it is moving along pretty well.

The bridge on Glasgow Road in Illini Township is scheduled to start the first of October. They have had the Pre-con and they are working on getting everything set up and ready to go.

The bridge in Austin Township that Schmidt will be doing will start during the lag time on the County Highway 25 Bridge.

Mark Funk stated our Maintenance guys have been pulling up shoulders along the edges of some roads with drop offs. We have just started doing some ditch work up on Washington Street Road (CH 58). Then we will start mowing.

We have a gentleman that is going to retire November 9, 2012, and one of our discussions we had with the Transportation Committee is that we had a gentleman on the side ready to be hired. I wanted to know if it would be a possibility to hire him a little sooner so we can get his feet wet. He has been a Snow Bird for us and he knows the County Highways. I wanted to get your approval to go ahead and start him. Kevin Meachum asked if he was on the list of the two we hired. Mark replied yes. Kevin Meachum stated the only thing I have a problem with is if the money is budgeted in the line item that he has for salaries and benefits for this additional person for one month. That would be the only thing that I would question with bringing someone aboard before one leaves. David Williams asked when does the other person officially retire? Mark Funk his last day will actually be December 31. Kevin Meachum stated we would be paying an extra employee. I have questions about the extra expense that Macon County Highway will be occurring on the payroll and benefits line. That is probably a finance question before any of this Committee can make a decision on that. Jay Dunn stated it is just a question of whether it is in his budget or not. Joe replied Bruce suggested that we hire him earlier because of being short-handed knowing that we were losing an employee at the end of the year. Bryan Smith explained that he had no problem if it is in the budget and I say we let him move ahead as long as it is properly budgeted. Jay Dunn stated I would imagine it is because Monte was officially gone as of August 24th. David Williams asked if the individual that is leaving not have the ability to contribute during snow storms does he, isn't he the individual that lost his license. Mark Funk replied yes. David Williams stated it might not be a prudent thing to get this person on. Bryan stated I say just let him do it. Kevin Meachum replied if he has it in his budget. Don Westerman asked if this was the only other applicant

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we have considered. Mark Funk replied yes. David Williams explained that we had indicated that he would be the next person on. Kevin Meachum just remembered a conversation with Bruce about three months ago; Bruce cannot hire anyone without our approval. We have to make a motion to do it. David Williams made a motion pending the availability of funds in the budget to hire a new employee, seconded by Jay Dunn. Motion carried 6-0.

Miscellaneous Business:

Jay Dunn asked what the history was on why the Engineer has to get approval from this Committee. Bryan Smith replied it is in his contract. Jay replied I know it is but why, he is the only one in the County that has to go through the Committee to hire someone. If I was the Engineer I would have a problem with it. Kevin Meachum stated I do not think we have ever not taken the County Engineers recommendation but truthfully we should look at that when we renew his contract in about 5 years. David Williams stated I think that was something that was put into the contract when Mr. Wolf was in his position. Mark Funk stated I think that started back when Bill Munson was there.

Don Westerman asked about the water main being put in on County Highway 20. I do not remember that coming before this Committee for approval. Joe Moretti replied they have to go through the permit process. They are a utility almost every utility we have is along right-of-way. David Williams explained we authorized Mr. Bird to approve that type of work. Bryan Smith added that it was because of delays. Don asked if a private Contractor got the permit. Joe Moretti replied yes the Contractor did, they have to be held accountable for doing the work properly. Don Westerman asked whose decision that was, the County Engineers. Joe replied yes.

No Closed Session

Adjourn:

Jay Dunn made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Don Westerman. Motion Carried 6-0

Meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

The next Transportation Meeting held at the Macon County Office Building will be Wednesday, October 24, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:
Kathy Gerhold & Amanda Askew
Macon County Highway Department