

## **COMMISSIONERS & COUNCIL MEETING**

Jefferson County Courthouse, Room 103, 300 E. Main St. Madison, IN 47250

DATE 01-24-2019

Commissioner Robert Little called the meeting to order, and led The Pledge of Allegiance along with Ron Lee, David Bramer, Judy Smith, Ray Black, Pam Crozier, Chris Shelton, and Ray Denning. Commissioner Robert Little stated the reason for the joint session is to discuss the land purchase for the new jail. Commissioner David Bramer presented the information about the property, which is located at 4000+ N. U.S 421, next to Century Tube. The 63.76-acre property is available for \$360,000. An appraisal and contract between the property owners and Jefferson County has been submitted to County Attorney, Joe Colussi. Joe Colussi spoke and explained to the County Council and the public that the contract stipulates that the County would put \$50,000 down as earnest money for the property. The County would then have 75 days to do any title research, obtain permits or environmental testing. Within the 75 days, the County would have to opportunity to cancel the contract at any time for any reason, and would be refunded the full amount of \$50,000. Commissioner David Bramer made a motion to sign the contract to purchase the property for \$360,000. Commissioner Ron Lee seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

County Council expressed their concerns about the property, including aesthetic reasons, other land opportunities that may be for sale and concerns from neighbors. Chris Shelton mentioned the property located on Hutchinson Lane owned by the City of Madison. Further discussion followed regarding funding and future expansions that may or may not be needed. Councilman Ray Denning made a motion to begin the process of purchasing the property on 421 and in within the 75 days, continue to look for other land opportunities. There was not a second to the motion. Councilman Ray Black made a motion to table the contract for 1 week to approach the City regarding the Hutchinson Lane property. Councilman Chris Shelton seconded the motion. Motion passed 4/1 with Ray Denning abstaining.

County Attorney Joe Colussi will contact the sellers of the property to let them know the decision that was made at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner David Bramer made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ron seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sherry Eblen, Auditor

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Robert Little, President

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David Bramer, Member

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Ron Lee, Member