

BROOKINGS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

The Brookings County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 with the following members present: Dennis Falken, Alan Gregg, Mary Negstad and Deanna Santema. Donald Larson was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Falken called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the November 17, 2009 commission meeting was approved without objection from the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was approved without objection from the board.

The consent agenda consisted of the minutes from the November 10, 2009 commission meeting.

Welfare Matters: case #09-143 for rent was approved.

Travel/Education Requests: Bev Chapman, Vicki Buseth, and Stacy Steffensen to attend the 8-County Meeting November 16, 2009 in Watertown, SD; Martin E. Stanwick to attend the Safety & Loss Control Conference November 18-19, 2009 in Chamberlain, SD; Cindy Schmit to attend the South Dakota Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee and Victim-Witness Subcommittee Meeting November 18-19, 2009 in Sioux Falls, SD.

Personnel Action Notices: Heather Kulwicki-Ekmund from full-time correctional officer to part-time correctional officer at \$14.25.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Planning and Zoning Director Robert Hill updated the board on zoning complaints at a trailer park south of Brookings and a complaint near Lake Hendricks, a drainage complaint in Sterling Township and a drainage commission meeting in Kingsbury County. He also discussed information received from Western Area Power Authority on the Buffalo Ridge III project and the safety briefing and project update on the Buffalo Ridge II project. Hill also updated the board on the pipeline presentation he gave in New Orleans.

Extension Educator Jon Kieckhefer updated the board on the youth development position, the upcoming Community Leaders Meeting, the 4H Recognition Event and a computer purchase for the Extension Office secretary.

Sheriff Marty Stanwick updated the board on inmate, 24/7 and SCRAM numbers, and car-deer accidents. He also discussed the new speaker system installed in the courthouse to broadcast information in the case of a fire, severe weather, or a possible lock down situation.

Weed and Pest Supervisor Gary Egeberg updated the board on the District Weed Meeting.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Commission Assistant/Human Resources Director Stephanie Vogel presented the Commission/HR report.

Vogel discussed correspondence received from a concerned citizen regarding proposed changes at SDSU, the addition of property to the Historic Register, and the Department of Labor Grievance Hearing. She also reminded the board that she will be out of the office this week attending the SHRM Leadership Conference in Alexandria, VA.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Commissioner Gregg reported on the Mental Health Board Meeting and the Legislative Preview and Intergovernmental Meeting.

Commissioner Negstad reported on the Legislative Preview and Intergovernmental Meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

As scheduled, a public hearing was held at 9:00 a.m. to hear the Second Reading of Ordinance #09-01: An ordinance providing for the amendment of the 1997 Revised Zoning Ordinance, adding Article 24.00: Transmission Pipeline Risk Overlay District.

Vice-Chairperson Falken opened the public hearing. Planning and Zoning Director Robert Hill gave an overview of the proposed ordinance. Vice-Chairperson Falken called for proponents and opponents. Vice-Chairperson Falken closed the public hearing.

Motion by Gregg, seconded by Negstad to approve and authorize Vice-Chairperson Falken to sign Ordinance #09-01: An ordinance providing for the amendment of the 1997 Revised Zoning Ordinance, adding Article 24.00: Transmission Pipeline Risk Overlay District.

Hill provided additional information on the ordinance. Roll call vote: Gregg "aye," Negstad "aye," Santema "aye," Falken "aye." Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #2009-01

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE 1997 REVISED ZONING ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, BROOKINGS COUNTY has previously adopted the 1997 Revised Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Brookings County, South Dakota, Board of County Commissioners deems it necessary, for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, and the general welfare of the County, to amend the 1997 Revised Zoning Ordinance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY BROOKINGS COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, that the 1997 Revised Zoning Ordinance of Brookings County be amended as follows:

SECTION A. That Article 24.00, TRANSMISSION PIPELINE RISK REDUCTION OVERLAY DISTRICT be added.

SECTION B. In all respects the 1997 Revised Zoning Ordinance shall remain unchanged and is hereby re-ordained.

FIRST READING: November 10, 2009

SECOND READING: November 17, 2009

Dennis Falken
Vice-Chairperson, Brookings County
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Vicki Buseth

Brookings County Finance Officer

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS AND DISCUSSION CONTINUED

Commissioner Santema reported on the 8-County Meeting.

Commissioner Falken reported on the 8-County Meeting.

REGULAR BUSINESS CONTINUED

The board took a ten minute recess.

The board heard from Randy Hanson with the proposed YES Center and the possible use of the Research and Technology Center for County Resource and YES Center space.

Commissioner Santema questioned the inclusion of the Volunteer Service Bank and that the county is under no obligation to include them in any move. Hanson said that the Volunteer Service Bank was included in the plans for the possible move because they are part of the current Resource Center facility. Commissioner Falken said that he feels they can make the assumption that the intent is to relocate everyone out of the current Resource Center space because the Swiftel Center wants all of that space for their future plans. Hanson said their goal is to see if the Research and Technology center can house the county offices and then use the remaining space for the YES Center.

Commissioner Santema questioned whether or not it has been affirmed that the R&T Center could be used because of the federal dollars and requirements that are tied to the facility.

Brookings Community Development Director Mike Struck said that the city is still waiting for official confirmation, but they have received a verbal confirmation from the EDA and he feels comfortable that they will approve the city's change of scope request for that facility. Struck did say that if the city sells the building, there would be a penalty of approximately \$500,000 due to federal funds initially used to build the R&T Center, but that ends in December of 2017.

Commissioner Falken asked if the city was interested in partnering with this project. Brookings City Manager Jeff Weldon said that if the county is not interested in lease the space in the R&T Center the discussion ends. And the city is also facing remodeling costs at the current Resource Center to meet their needs.

Commissioner Negstad asked Weldon what the Resource Center space is worth to the city. Weldon said that he cannot put a dollar amount on it, but if there is interest to go forward, they can look into that. Negstad said that she believes the Resource Center is worth more to the city than the R&T Center is to the county.

Weldon said that he does not believe the city council will go along with paying half the cost of the study on the R&T Center because it benefits the county and the potential YES Center. He said that since the county toured the R&T Center, he hasn't heard from anyone if there is interest in the R&T Center. Weldon added that he does not want to give the impression that the city is trying to bully anyone out of their office space.

Commissioner Falken said that he does not believe that the commission is ready to move forward with any action. He said that he doesn't have a problem with relocating the county offices currently at the Swiftel Center to the R&T Center, but that the YES Center would need currently occupied space.

Commissioner Gregg suggested that Weldon come back to the commission with a couple different proposals. Weldon said that he doesn't believe that it is up to him to come to the county with proposals. He said that if the Extension offices and YES Center want the R&T Center and it does work to lease, the decisions have to be made by the county, Extension and the proposed YES Center representatives.

Commissioner Santema said that the county doesn't really need to move their offices out of the Swiftel Center. Commissioner Gregg said that is why is suggested Weldon brings proposals to the county because the county's offices at the current Resource Center can stay where they're at. Weldon said that he needs to know if the county is interested in moving to the R&T Center if he's going to spend the time working on possible proposals. Commissioner Falken said that he believes that the county has been unfair by not responding to the city with their interest in the R&T Center, but he said until they know the costs it will be hard. But Falken also noted that the only reason they're discussing the potential move is because the city wants the County Resource Center space. Falken also said that it would be good if they could find a space that will meet the YES Centers' needs that could also include the County Resource Center. But he noted that there will still be remodeling costs and he would like to get a cost estimate of what that would be for the county to remodel approximately 10,000 square feet of space at the R&T Center.

Hanson said that he knows the YES Center and the Resource Center would fit into the R&T Center space, but that the costs for remodeling to make it usable for the county is the most important piece of information needed at this point. He said that he would come back to the county with that cost estimate.

Commissioner Negstad said that she still believes the present resource center space is worth a lot more to the city than the R&T Center is to the county.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice-Chairperson Falken declared the meeting adjourned until 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 24, 2009.

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Stacy Steffensen
Deputy Finance Officer
Brookings County Finance Office

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