

Chair Matt Price called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. He noted that he would like the subcommittees to complete their tasks by 1 July 2009, including MOU/interlocals for law enforcement, roads, and legal drains, as well as board composition and budget issues.

Subcommittee reports:

BUDGET/FINANCE: The Town staff reports are ahead of schedule. This subcommittee has been working with the department heads to gather information to be used in formulating the 2010 budget. The Umbaugh firm will present a formal engagement letter to retain their services soon. The same will be requested regarding legal services from Andy Buroker. [Rob Schein did not participate in the discussion and noted that he would abstain from voting on this issue as he is Andy's co-worker]

PUBLIC SAFETY: Craig Phillips has been added to this committee. The subcommittee reaffirmed that an MOU should be reached with the Sheriff. Fire Chief VanGorder provided sample MOUs from the fire department. Jeff Papa will draft up a mock MOU for review and then legal counsel can review for technical language.

PARKS: Art Harris has provided the subcommittee with extensive information on the Town Parks Department. Dan Montgomery has been added to this subcommittee as Craig Phillips has replaced him on the Public Safety Committee. One idea mentioned during the subcommittee meetings was to eliminate the parks board and give the authority to the new Superintendent or the Town Council. A list of pros and cons associated with taking this action will be drawn up and presented at a future subcommittee meeting. This action could affect grant application eligibility absent a state legislative change, and the change may require such action in any case. It was noted that only a few weeks remain to have the Legislature entertain a legislative change that would take effect prior to 1/2/2010.

Union Township may have some cemeteries on the tax rolls which are abandoned and the subcommittee will investigate this.

LAND USE/ZONING: See attached minutes from the two Land Use/Zoning meetings.

INFRASTRUCTURE: The subcommittee reiterated that it will recommend that current road inventories should respectively stay with the county in the rural district and the town in the urban district and that these inventories will be adjusted when areas are moved from the rural to urban classification. New roads in the rural area should be zoned by Zionsville, including plan review and approval. The county should submit these new roads to INDOT and capture the road inventory revenue (and care for these roads). Zionsville would own the right of way. An MOU/Interlocal should be drafted to reflect this agreement.

Legal drains were also discussed. Either the County Drainage Board will have to continue to oversee this or have Zionsville take this function in conjunction with the county and charge a fee (the current fee structure becomes invalid if the drains are given to Zionsville). The subcommittee suggested an MOU/Interlocal be drafted to allow the County Drainage Board to continue to handle this.

GOVERNANCE: Union Township has the fire station and two cemetery deeds to pass to the town. Eagle Township has 7-9 cemeteries and will also need to move the 3 Schooler headstones to Jones cemetery if the county plans to widen 650 E.

Currently, 22 committees report to the Town of Zionsville. The subcommittee recommends keeping a makeup of membership on the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals similar to the current composition, but requiring a majority of the members be from the rural area. With respect to the other committees, the town council should have flexibility, but consider geography and the rural areas. It was also discussed that we will need to work with the county in drawing the new council districts and stopgap districts may need to be drawn. Some concern has been raised over the possibility of current councilors being placed in stopgap districts in 2010 where they do not live.

Several Boone County officials also attended the meeting to ensure coordination between the transition and the county. Penny Bogan and Andrew Wood attended and discussed election and districting issues. She stated that she would like to work with the subcommittee to ensure election issues are resolved smoothly.

Other county officials attending the meeting to offer coordination included Ken Hedge, Deanna Wilhoite, Melody Price and Lisa Garoffolo. Also discussed were the GIS system and assessing issues. It was stressed that the 10,000 parcels must be correctly designated and assigned for purposes of both GIS and assignment of three taxing codes (as Zionsville and Union must maintain their current debt and Eagle has zero debt).

Chair Matt Price noted that movement from rural to urban will not occur right away and will take place at planned intervals. A suggestion was made to have the two trustees begin to attend town council matters, possibly in the third or fourth quarter of 2009, as nonvoting members in order to get up to speed on town issues.

The next meeting was set for 4/22/09 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall, and the meeting was adjourned.

Jeff Papa