

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES JUNE 23, 1997

THE COMMISSIONERS MET IN THE COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 301 S. BRANSON STREET, MARION, INDIANA 46953 ON JUNE 23, 1997 AT 8:30 A.M.

IN ATTENDANCE WERE COMMISSIONERS DICK PUCKETT AND WALTER WOOD, AUDITOR JUDY CARMICHAEL, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT JOHN WEBSTER, AREA PLAN DIRECTOR CLAY GILLEY, COUNCILMAN PAUL BAKER, DAVID LOER-MATTHEWS TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JAMES GROSS- MATTHEWS TOWN COUNCIL STREET DEPT., ANGIE WELLS, ARZELLA HUFFMAN AND DIANE WINE-ALL SISTERS OF ROELLA LYKINS WHO WAS FATALLY INJURED IN MATTHEWS IN MAY, HENRY HOENIG OF THE C-T, MARIA ROCCO OF WGOM AND RANDY McPIKE OF WBAT.

DICK PUCKETT CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:30 A.M.

WALTER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CURRENT CLAIMS AND THE CURRENT PAYROLL. DICK PUCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

WALT WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF 5-15-97 THRU 6-15-97. DICK PUCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

WALT WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE WALNUT CREEK MANOR REPORT FOR MAY, 1997. DICK PUCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT JOHN WEBSTER REPORTED THAT THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HAD PAVED 2 MILES OF ROAD ON 38TH STREET BETWEEN 500W AND 700W, 1½ MILE OF ROAD ON 300W BETWEEN HIGHWAY #18 AND KEM ROAD, AND 1 1½ MILES OF ROAD ON 450N BETWEEN VAN BUREN TOWN LIMITS AND 700E, AND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN PATCHING, RECYCLING ON 600E, AND PICKING UP TRASH. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSIONERS APPROVE A CHANGE ORDER TO CORRECT AN ERROR ON DESIGN FOR THE 38TH STREET PROJECT AT A COST OF \$27,077.85 OF WHICH THE COUNTY WOULD PAY \$5415.57. WALT WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGE ORDER TO CORRECT THE ERROR IN DESIGN. DICK PUCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

DAVID LOER, MATTHEWS TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, STATED THAT HE HAD A PETITION WITH OVER 300 SIGNATURES TO MAKE THE INTERSECTION AT MASSACHUSETTS STREET AND WHEELING PIKE INTO A 4-WAY STOP. HE ADDED THAT THEIR COUNCIL HAD MET LAST TUESDAY AND FEELS THAT SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE.

ANGIE WELLS, A SISTER OF ROELLA LYKINS WHO WAS KILLED AT THAT INTERSECTION IN MAY, 1997, SAID SHE DISAGREED WITH THE STATEMENT THAT A 4-WAY STOP WOULD BE A INCONVENIENCE. SHE SAID SHE BELIEVES MOST PEOPLE WOULD RATHER BE INCONVENIENCED KNOWING THAT IT MIGHT SAVE A LIFE.

ARZELLA HUFFMAN, ANOTHER SISTER OF ROELLA LYKINS, PRESENTED PICTURES OF THE SIX SISTERS WITH THEIR MOTHER, AND OF ROELLA WITH HER HUSBAND AND CHILDREN. SHE ALSO SAID, THAT PEOPLE WOULD NOT MIND STOPPING FOR A 4-WAY STOP IF THEY THOUGHT IT COULD BE PREVENTING AN ACCIDENT AND SAVING A LIFE. SHE ASKED IF THERE WASN'T SOMETHING THAT THE COMMISSIONERS COULD DO.

DIANE WINE, ANOTHER SISTER, STATED THAT AFTER SHE HEARD FROM THE MEETING LAST WEEK, THAT MR. WEBSTER WOULD NOT RECOMMEND A 4-WAY

STOP, SHE FELT THE SISTERS HAD TO DO SOMETHING TO ENCOURAGE THE COMMISSIONERS TO DO SOMETHING. SHE SAID "YOU MIGHT WANT TO STOP AND THINK TWICE".

MR. WEBSTER STATED THAT HE KNOWS FROM PAST EXPERIENCE THAT 4-WAY STOPS DO NOT PREVENT ACCIDENTS. HE SUGGESTED A FLASHING LIGHT AND MAYBE LOWERING THE SPEED LIMIT TO 30 OR 35 WOULD HELP.

ARZELLA ASKED IF THERE COULD BE A STOP LIGHT.

CLAY GILLEY DISCUSSED ALIGNING THE INTERSECTION DUE TO THE WIDTH OF MAIN STREET AND THE OFFSET. HE DISCUSSED THE ENCROACHMENT ON THE RIGHT OF WAY, AND SUGGESTED MOVING WHATEVER WAS IN THE RIGHT OF WAY.

DAVID LOER SAID THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WITH THE TOWN OF MATTHEWS TAKING CARE OF THE EXPENSE FOR THE FLASHING LIGHT, A STOP LIGHT, OR WHATEVER THE COMMISSIONERS DECIDED ON. HE ASKED WHAT THE TOWN COULD DO TO HELP WITH THE REALIGNING.

JOHN WEBSTER SAID THAT IT WOULD BE GOOD TO PUT AN ISLAND IN AND THAT THE COUNTY WOULD BE GLAD TO WORK WITH THE TOWN ON THAT.

JAMES GROSS SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO GO AHEAD AND DO SOMETHING NOW. HE SUGGESTED A SPEED LIMIT OF 30, STATING THAT EVERYONE USUALLY TAKES FOR GRANTED THAT THEY CAN GO 5 MILES FASTER THAN THE LIMIT.

DAVID LOER SAID THEY HAD GIVEN THE TOWN MARSHAL GUIDANCE ON ENFORCING THE SPEED LIMIT.

MR. WEBSTER REPORTED THAT WHEN THEY WERE CHECKING THE INTERSECTION, THEY FOUND 28 VEHICLES DOING THE CORRECT SPEED LIMIT AND 45 SPEEDING.

ARZELLA SUGGESTED PUTTING UP "DANGEROUS INTERSECTION" SIGNS AS A WARNING OF THE HAZARDOUS INTERSECTION.

WALT WOOD MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT JOHN WEBSTERS REPORT AND CHANGE THE SPEED LIMIT TO 30 MILE PER HOUR ON WHEELING PIKE, TO PUT UP A FLASHING LIGHT AT THE INTERSECTION OF MASSACHUSETTS AND WHEELING, AND TO POST DANGEROUS INTERSECTION SIGNS. DICK PUCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

THE MEETING WAS RECESSED AT 9:02 A.M.