

Benton County Council

October 17th, 2024

The Benton County Council were set to meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Benton County Courthouse. Those in attendance were Council members: Jim Schoen, Trina Schutter, Brent Cox, Jack Duncan, Angie Glotzbach, Jackie Steinmetz, Robert Sloniger, Chief Deputy, Beth Budreau and Auditor, Audrey Freeland

Others in attendance were – Joy Loflin, Brandon Dickinson, Ron Shoup, Lori Cyr, Steven Eastridge, Bryan Berry and Lisa Jefvert

Business:

Auditor Freeland presented the Form 4 on behalf of the York Township Library since they are under a binding review. This was approved with a motion by Councilman, Brent Cox, seconded by Councilman, Robert Sloniger and motion carried.

The meeting minutes from the September 26th, 2024, meeting was approved as presented with a motion by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach, second by Councilman, Jack Duncan and motion carried.

The special minutes were approved with a motion by Councilman, Brent Cox, seconded by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach and motion carried.

The budget adoption and final reading of the 2025 budget was then done. The total budget for 2025 presented was \$14,236,390.00. The 2025 adopted budget was approved with a motion by Councilman, Brent Cox, seconded by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach and motion carried.

Stephen Eastridge & Brandon Dickinson – Templeton Wind project

Today they are before the board to discuss the updated document with the change being \$65,000 per megawatt. They also discussed the payment breakdown which totals \$1.1 million (in lieu of taxes). The resolution has been reviewed by the county attorney also. Councilman Sloniger said that his only concern is that it does not state the payment schedule or anything within the contract or as an attachment. Commissioner Berry said that the payment scheduled will be listed in the EDA after the ERA is approved.

Brandon joined the group via phone call and talked about the preliminary ERA project for Templeton Wind Energy within Pine, Oak Grove, Bolivar, Grant and Center townships. There will be approximately 200 megawatts. He went on to discuss the project further. Councilman Schoen asked when he felt the abatement would start. Brandon replied that it would be after the first full year of assessment (2 years added to the COD date), so it is anticipated that it would start in 2029 and be active for 10 years.

Stephen added that they have fully secured the land for the ERA and there will be 71 turbines in the project. They will be the GE 2.82 models. Councilman Schoen asked how many landowners, there are 78 landowners not including the collections.

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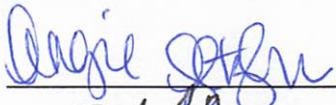
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Councilman Cox asked if the battery storage was still tabled, at this time yes, it is.

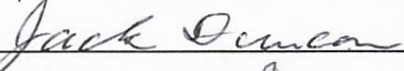
Councilman Schoen said that construction will begin when. Stephen replied that it is set for April 1, 2026, but they do not know where they will start. Stephen said that once they onboard contractors for the project they could set up monthly meetings if the board(s) would like too. Councilman Schoen said that he feels that would be helpful.

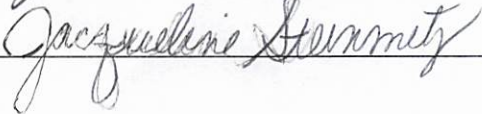
After further discussion through the decommissioning process, the ERA resolution for the Templeton Wind project was approved with a motion by Councilman, Robert Sloniger, seconded by Councilman, Brent Cox and motion carried.

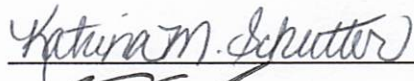
The group closed out the meeting at 9:05 a.m. with a motion by Councilman, Brent Cox, second by Councilman, Jack Duncan, motion carried.




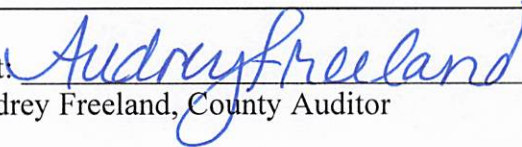










Attest: 

Audrey Freeland, County Auditor