

**Legislative Committee
Legislative Committee
JAMES P. COUGHLIN CENTER**

Present: Nancy Barker, Bill Wingren, Pat Brennan (arrived at 8:35 am) Ken Robl, James Kozokowski, Tom Ellis, Tim Hamblin, Chuck Farrey, David Albrecht, Jerry Finch, Larry Smith, and Robert Warnke.

Also

Present: Mark Harris – Winnebago County Executive, State Representative Mike Schraa, Supervisor Tom Snider, John Casper – Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce and Jerry Bougie – Director of Planning & Zoning, Brian O'Rourke – Associate Planner

Excused:

Absent: Patrick O'Brien, Bill Roh and Michael Norton

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 am by Vice-Chair Tom Ellis. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes from June 24, 2013 were approved by the committee.

UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS:

State Representative Schraa told the committee that the Legislature is on summer recess. Mr. Schraa discussed several bills that he introduced. The first bill is a constitutional amendment to eliminate the Secretary of State and Treasurer offices. Mr. Schraa takes changing the constitution very seriously; however he feels that this move is necessary since all the responsibilities of those two offices have been taken over by other departments over the years. At this time he has around 15 co-sponsors for this bill. This will be taken up in the fall session. The second bill that Mr. Schraa has co-authored. This is regarding TIF Districts. This bill would allow the municipality to reset the base of the TIF District. When the economy is sluggish, many TIF's go below water. There are approximately 10 co-sponsors signed on to this bill.

Mr. Schraa then took questions and concerns from the committee regarding innocent prisoners coming out of wrongful incarceration. It was decided that the Innocence Project will be put on the next agenda. The law regarding fencing around retention/detention ponds was discussed.

UPDATE FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE

County Executive Mark Harris told the committee that they were still working on the budget for 2014. There is some concern regarding changes for nursing home residents that would have been moved to mental health institutions. Mr. Harris reported that the Assembly amended an amendment that removed reclassification of cheese storage buildings as a manufacturing facility. That has been pulled out of the budget. Mr. Harris supports Mr. Schraa's legislation regarding TIF District. For Oshkosh – that would be the Pioneer Inn site as well as the Buckstaff property.

SUPPORT AMENDMENT TO WISCONSIN STATUTES 114.36

This is the statute that requires that the Parks Director to hold a hearing for changes to the airport overlay. Winnebago County does have an ordinance to protect the property surrounding the airport. This ordinance is to protect the approach zones from development that may encroach upon the natural flow of an airport. The statute in question allows the counties park manager to write an ordinance without committee involvement. The Parks director is allowed to write an ordinance and bring it to a public hearing. It is felt that this statute is outdated. Most counties deal with this through a committee process. The Planning and Zoning Committee is recommending that some of the language of this statute be changed to eliminate the parks Director and allow the governing body of the municipality with the airport take on this responsibility. After discussion with the committee, D. Albrecht moved and C. Farrey seconded to support this and move it forward to the County Board. Carried by Voice Vote.

SUPPORT AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED DATCP 49 ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Winnebago County's responsibility under Farmland Preservation is to develop a map of agricultural lands within the county that was going to be preserved exclusive agriculture. The State told us that this had to be done on an involuntary basis. Winnebago County took the position that this be done on a voluntary

basis. DATCP took exception to this, but did approve the plan for 5 years. During this process, there was testimony taken from Winnebago County, Brown County as well as other counties. Winnebago County has taken the position that they would like to work with the farmers on a voluntary basis. When the Rule was developed, it is an involuntary system. Winnebago County would like our position reviewed and incorporated into the Rule that you can use a voluntary system as part of the approval process for Winnebago County.

This policy reflects how we do business in Winnebago County by not forcing this on land owners. Land owners can be in or out according to certain criteria. Winnebago County would like to give landowners a choice. Because we went the route that we did, we actually have more land in the program than we did prior. If there is no change – we will probably not be in the program – which would be to the detriment of our farmers.

After discussion among the committee, it was moved by C.Farrey and seconded by D. Albrecht to support this Resolution and forward it on the County Board. This was carried by Voice Vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

It was moved by J. Finch and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 am

Respectfully Submitted By:
Bill Wingren
Secretary

Recorded By:
Jean Mahy
County Clerk's Office