

COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Work Session 3:00 p.m.

April 6, 2015

Present: Jeff Lane, Chairman
Randy Lane, Vice-Chairman
Debra Robinson, Commissioner
Michael Dinnerman, Commissioner
Dwight Purvis, Commissioner

Staff Present: Faye Hughes, County Administrator
Vicki S. Parrish, County Clerk Appointments:

QUARTERLY MEETING WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS/ DEPARTMENT HEADS:

April Garrett, Clerk of Court
Larry Arnold, Tax Assessor
Donnie Simmons, Tax Commissioner
Doug Hanks, Sheriff

Chairman Jeff Lane called the meeting to order.

April Garrett discussed issues with the courthouse lawn, savings up to \$3000 annually with a new vendor for jury revisions, stated her historical project would begin in fall 2015. She furthered stated that her office is operating smoothly, employees seemed to be satisfied with working conditions. Ms. Garrett also asked about having the courthouse checked for mold and for someone to look at a moisture issue in her office and the Judge's chambers upstairs.

Larry Arnold, Chief Appraiser, asked for a gutter on the annex at the alley entrance and issues with the annex public bathroom supplies and no hot water in the bathrooms in the annex.

Mr. Arnold stated that the 3 year review was performed by the State Revenue Department and due to the number of county parcels, his department may be written up due to the number of employees he has on staff.

Discussed aerial photos, Larry recommended they be done every 5 years.

Audit on personal property to compare aerial photos for property differences, Larry recommended doing this again in a few years.

Donnie Simmons, Tax Commissioner, stated he had implemented a policy that mobile home owners with unpaid property taxes could not purchase auto tags until all delinquent taxes were paid. Stated 15% of mobile homes do not purchase decals. Mr. Simmons also discussed the commission passing a resolution to prevent issuance of business license and alcoholic beverage license if the owner has unpaid property taxes. Mr. Simmons discussed the collection/distribution of the TATV tax – reported on monthly report that Mr. Simmons files with the county administration.

Larry Arnold, Tax Commissioner, discussed the state requirement of every 2500-3000 parcel, mobile homes = 1 staff member; Cook County currently has over 5000 parcels, plus mobile homes, personal property returns with only 2 staff members.

Sheriff Doug Hanks discussed staff shortages due to sickness, animal issues in the county – hoping to partner with the city to take care of the issues.

WORK SESSION:

County Wide Garbage Collection: Mike Ledbetter presented a proposal for county wide trash pickup. Ms. Karen Giddens proposed grants that could be used for this purpose.

Daniel Barber, Road/Landfill Superintendent:

Discussed tillavator usage on Ernest Flowers, White Road and Hood Drive,(tillavator is being pulled by New Holland tractor from landfill, some concern of the tractor's not being heavy enough for the tillavator). Grass cutting schedule, beaver dams.

Landfill grassing is coming in with good coverage, Bill Lucas is due for 6 month inspection – grass cutting is essential for inspection.

Issues with truck that pulls sway cars, possible replacement will be needed before long.

Chris Davis, Building/Zoning Administrator:

New EMS Building

Front repair and roof redesign on administrative building.

Staffing issues in Building/Lawn Maintenance and Building/Zoning with current workloads.

Work session adjourned 5:55 p.m.

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This the 4th day of May, 2015.

/s/ Jeff Lane, Chairman

/s/ Vicki S. Parrish, County Clerk