

Proposed wind energy ordinance explained

Commissioners request changes to ensure local control

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Wind energy generators are appearing on the horizon around Carroll County. The Carroll County Zoning Steering Committee has developed an ordinance to regulate construction and use issues as the technology migrates closer to the county line.

The proposed ordinance was explained by Miriam Robeson to Carroll County Commissioners at their Monday morning meeting. Robeson said the goal was to provide a regulatory scheme for the construction and operation of wind energy conversion systems in the county. The 11-page draft ordinance will regulate applicability, prohibitions, conflicts with other regulations, development standards, safety de-

sign and installation standards and other applicable standards (such as guyed wire anchors, sewer and water issues, noise and vibration and utility interconnection), operation and maintenance, decommissioning plan, liability insurance and application procedures.

Robeson said one component of the regulations was a provision that will require commercial ventures to pay for county resources utilized to provide necessary services for construction of the generators, such as road work.

Commissioners attorney Barry Emerson suggested language changes to ensure commissioners retain local control and to protect

Highway engineer Paul Coutts announced Tuesday that Brooks Construction finished repaving Meridian Rd. from CR100N. to SR218 Nov. 3. Road work will begin on CR700W. from Towpath Rd. to CR1000N. Wednesday, Nov. 4. Traffic will be restricted to one direction at a time. Flaggers will be posted at each end of the construction zone. Motorists need to exercise caution by slowing down and expecting delays.

county authority over the process.

"As you create this (ordinance) you are really going to affect your neighborhood," he advised the county leaders.

Emerson noted one ordinance restriction was that a personal property building could not be built within 1,000 feet of a wind generator without permission from the generator owner. He suggested the

personal property owner be allowed to petition Carroll County Area Plan Commission to gain permission for an exception to the ordinance rather than an entity that would not necessarily be from the area. It was further suggested the setback allowance be reduced to allow for more construction flexibility than provided in the 1,000 foot limitation.

Robeson said she will take all change suggestions to the committee for review. The ordinance is scheduled for a public hearing Nov. 16 during the commissioners meeting prior to possible approval by commissioners.

A copy of the revised proposed

ordinance can be viewed at www.wwww.carrollcountyzoning.wordpress.com. A hard copy of the document can be also be viewed at the Comet office in Delphi.

TLRSD/River commission appointments

Wayne Garrison was re-appointed to the Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District board of directors as Carroll County's representative in a two-to-one vote. Although Garrison was the only person who expressed interest in the four-year position, Bill Brown said he would not support the nomination because he did not want to do anything that could be construed as being in support of the policies of the sewer district and its board.

George Mears was reappointed to the Wabash River Heritage Com-
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Stauffer receives Distinguished Alumnus award

Dr. Lawrence Stauffer of Delphi recently was selected as a Distinguished Alumnus of the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine.

He and another alum, Dr. Karen Cornell, were recognized at the School's awards banquet during the Annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians. They are the 50th and 51st graduates to be honored as distinguished alumni, and their recognition coincides with the School's celebration of its 50th anniversary.



Stauffer earned his DVM from Purdue University in 1967. In addition to his duties as owner of the Delphi Veterinary Clinic, he has provided veterinary care at the Indiana State Fair for 38 years and has served two terms on the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA) Board
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Community Club wants to bring an NTPA pulling event to Flora

By Susan Scholl
Editor

Flora Community Club wants to bring a National Tractor Pull Association (NTPA) sanctioned pull to Flora next year. To do that, the club needs permission from the Town of Flora to build a pulling facility on town-owned property.

Community Club representative Lisa Eikenberry pitched the idea to the Flora Town Council at a meeting Monday night.

NTPA pulls are held all over the United States, she explained, but only ten places in Indiana currently host their pulls with Tipton being the closest.

Eikenberry said she recently visited Tipton's pulling facility and was impressed with that community's set up. She said they recouped their costs to build the facility in two years.

Officials at Tipton told her that noise from their pulling event has not a problem with residents in a nearby health-care facility and housing addition.

The Community Club, she explained, is asking the town to allow them to put the pulling facility behind the Carroll County Community Center at the east edge of town. The club would put in a dirt track to meet the NTPA's requirements and specifications.

"There is no place in Flora to hold money-paying events and this facility could benefit other local clubs and organizations," Eikenberry said. They could make money by selling food during the pulling event or use the facility for their own events, she added.

Eikenberry, who is also a 4-H Horse & Pony leader, suggested that the horse arena be moved behind the proposed pulling facility and enlarged so that open horse shows
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Lower Deer Creek Church raises the turkey

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

Members of the Lower Deer Creek Church of the Brethren have been having fun with a food collection project called "Raise the turkey, hide the pastor."

The idea was to collect food for the Carroll County Food Pantry and stack it in the sanctuary in front of the pulpit area. A stuffed turkey would be placed on the top of the stack and would be lifted higher and higher as the food items grew. The goal was for the canned goods and such to mount so high that they would eventually hide the pastor completely.

Pastor Guy Studebaker has no doubt that by this Sunday, his congregation will hear him, but not see him.

Not knowing how much food would be brought in, the church started out placing a small table with a tablecloth at the front of the sanctuary, thinking the food could be placed on and around the table. But the food started coming in fast, and the table had to be eliminated.

Some people outside the church read about the project and donated items. One six-year-old girl asked guests coming to her birthday party to bring food items for the collection instead of birthday gifts. She's from Rossville but her grandfather, great-grandfather and other relatives go to the Lower Deer Creek Church. She requested that the food brought to her party be divided between the food pantry at Flora and the one at Rossville.

The church's two-month collection has amassed 783 items (as of Monday), and that doesn't count seven cases of food that were left at the church after the



Pastor peers through donations

Pastor Guy Studebaker still had a little window to peer through to give his sermon last Sunday, but he expects to be hidden behind the stack of food and other collected items by this Sunday's service. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald

count had been taken.

There's such a mountain of food and other items that church members have had to restack it twice, for fear of an avalanche. The pastor said one Sunday some jars of spaghetti sauce were leaning precariously from the pile, and he had visions of a terrible mess if the jars fell and broke.

Studebaker said a good variety of food has been brought in, along with paper products. Food items will be taken to the Food Pantry at Flora on Nov. 11, and the paper products will be given to the community Christmas Baskets project.

Church members with a jeep, a couple of trucks, and two or three vans will deliver the food, and youth of the church will help load and unload it.

The church is thankful for its blessings and wanted to share with others during this Thanksgiving season.



A mountain of collected goods

At last count, 783 food items have been brought in for the Lower Deer Creek Church of the Brethren's collection for the Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. The items have been accumulating in the sanctuary. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald



Mailing label goes here

City moves forward to renovate fire station

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Delphi residents had the opportunity to comment about the city's proposal to solicit for a grant to design a renovation plan for the fire station Monday night prior to the Delphi City Council meeting. The study will assess the building and develop a plan for space to house the Delphi Tri-Township Volunteer Fire Territory equipment and services. An Indiana Office of Rural Affairs Grant not to exceed \$50,000 will be submitted by the Kankakee Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (KIRPC) in the next two weeks.

City council members adopted a resolution to spend \$5,500 out of the Economic Development Income Tax for

a 10 percent fund match.

According to KIRPC representative Randy Mitchell, a committee consisting of Delphi Mayor Randy Strasser, board of works member Bob Conner, and fire chief Dennis Randle chose Cripe Architects + Engineers for the project design. Mitchell said the next step in the process will be to submit a proposal for up to \$500,000 for construction. Mitchell said a second public hearing will be held to share planning project results.

During the mayor's report, Strasser said he is "staying in touch" with developers interested in the Globe Valve property on N. Washington St. He said the developers wish to remain anonymous at this time, however discussions about the possibility of moving the street department

Main St. to be closed for one week

Mayor Randy Strasser announced that Main St. will be blocked at the Norfolk and Southern Railroad tracks next week for track repair.

to the site will take place in the future.

Strasser also reported that water and sewer lines on the south and east sides of Delphi will be moved to accommodate the Hoosier Heartland Highway. The preliminary cost estimate is \$3.7 million for the work. The city will be required to pay up to 10 percent, or \$370,000, of the cost for the relocation. Strasser said the estimate was submitted to INDOT and work could begin next spring.

Strasser said he was going to attend a conference in Florida in December to accept an award from a national concrete group for the Delphi Municipal Airport's concrete runway overlay. The city council voted to pay for two days' lodging while at the conference. Airport manager Brian Stirn and airport board members Kyle Germond and Dean Trennepohl will also attend the conference.

Department reports

The parks department board of directors submitted a Parks Event Application form for review. A decision about form usage was tabled until the December meeting.

Utilities manager Dick VanSickle was granted permission to purchase a new "comminutor" for \$27,820, which included removal of

the old unit and installation of the new one. He said the current unit is between 18 and 19 years old and currently down for repairs. The new equipment will grind rather than screen large debris particles.

VanSickle reported several large water leaks were discovered and most of them have been repaired.

Police chief Justin Darling received permission from the board of works to begin another round of the hiring process. Darling said the probationary officer hired recently is no longer with the department.

Darling said issues with cars parked illegally the morning of street sweeping led to 14 parking tickets being issued in October. Ten felony and 23 misdemeanor
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