

Area Planning Commission

April 23 2026

The regular meeting of the Area Planning Commission was held on Thursday April 23 2026, at 6:00 PM at the Connersville City Hall Council Room.

1. **Meeting Opening:** Beginning at 6:00 PM, Deron Price called the meeting to order. The Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by all in attendance.
2. Deron asked Bev to take attendance those present were Deron Price, Bill Free, Tim Sparks, Dale Munson, Gary Naylor, Robert Stewart, Brian Robb, Bill Macke, Greg Keaffaber Geoff Wesling, Bill MacDaniel and Beverly Rude. All were present.
3. **Minutes:** Minutes from March 26, 2026 were presented. Corrections need to be made Motion to approve Tim Sparks, 2nd from Dale Munson.
4. **Public Hearing: Data Center Moratorium**

Deron asked Bill to give us a history on the Data Center. It started in November and Gary Naylor brought it up again in January asking if we were going to do a moratorium. A moratorium puts it on hold for 12 months. This is beneficial so that the ordinances on it can be created. It gives the board time to gather data both positive and negative to make a decision. It is important to have all this information that will go to County Council and County Commissioners. If anybody has any questions, concerns or information can be sent to Bill at his website that can be found on the County's website. Geoff brought up that we do not have any ordinances yet and this will stop it so that we will have time to get our ordinances ready for any that apply. We are not deciding tonight whether they are good or bad or whatever.

Deron opened the Public Hearing at this time.

Bill was going to read the ordinance and Geoff stopped him and said we do not have to read the ordinance. Deron said that anyone who would like to speak step to the podium and state your name and address and speak. First person Chris Maresh, 5205 W. Coltrain Hill Rd., Connersville. He has done some research on the internet with the pros and cons concerning this. We are just saying we do not have the proper regulations in place to decide This is the first step in a 12-month process. He picked up the papers he gave to Robert Stewart and Geoff told him he we need to make that part of the record. Bill is getting with the Purdue AG Educator next week because they are gathering a lot of information. Deron asked if there was anyone else, there was no one so he closed the Public Hearing.

Robert asked where this was going. Geoff said he wanted to make it clear to all and the public this is not an application we are voting on. This is a vote to say you cannot apply until this ordinance is resolved. this is an ordinance that is how the Supreme Court views this as a change to our zoning code. We have nothing in our zoning code at this time Tim Sparks says. It gives us the opportunity to prepare one. Tim brought up that he thinks we would need an impact study of how this affects the community. What the impact is with storm water, road with the construction of the center, environmental, waste and so forth and who will be in charge of it. Tim asked what the most comparable thing we currently have on the books close to a data center? Bill said we have nothing comparable currently to a data center. Brian Robb said we have to put a committee together like we did for the solar farms. The environmental, the building the construction and so on. The question also becomes what does the city and the county get out of it. Brian Robb brought up that Purdue is looking into nuclear units to subsidize the power that needs to be done in these things as far as that goes. Deron asked if anyone has any questions or comments. If not, he will entertain a motion either favorable or unfavorable.

Motion made by Gary Naylor – I move that we send a favorable recommendation to the Commissioners to enact a moratorium up to 12 months. Also, the city council. This is so the City and County can come up with language to address data center zoning. Motion was seconded to send a favorable recommendation to the city and county to enact a Moratorium. Roll call vote was done by Bev all voted yes. Ok the motion carries per Deron.

Gary brought up the question to Attorney Wesling that this moratorium stops any and all permits for data centers until it is lifted? That is correct per Geoff Wesling. Dale asked Geoff what happens if 12 months comes up and we are not done. It drops off and we can renew but we would be where we are right now.

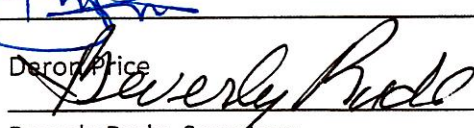
Zoning Code Updates:

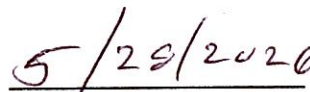
Bill went over what he has to do to update the zoning codes.

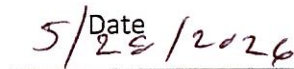
5. Director's report: Approved as presented – Motion Gary Naylor, 2nd Tim Sparks
6. Motion to adjourn: Motion Gary Naylor, 2nd Brian Robb

Video ends at 50:35


Deron Price


Beverly Rude, Secretary


5/29/2020


Date
5/29/2020
Date

Refer to the video recording of this meeting for word for word of the meetings available from TV3