

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION
OF
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE
October 26, 2015

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Court House on Monday, October 26, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. Present and presiding, the Honorable Bridget Peters, Vice Chairman, Doug Shults, County Attorney, Greg Lynch, County Mayor, Mitzi Bowen, County Clerk, and the following Commissioners

ROLL CALL: Esq. John Mosley “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Walter Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Yes”, Esq. Glen White, “Yes”.

8- Present
1-Absent (Loren Thomas)

Esq. Debbie Tittle opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Esq. Jason Harris.

Agenda Item #4
Approve Minutes

Motion made by Esq. Marie Rice, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the minutes of September 28, 2015, County Commission Meeting.

Motion unanimously approved
Copy in file

Agenda Item #5
Recognize Visitors and Citizens

Carter Powers, Unicoi County Student Council President, addressed the commissioners on bringing the State Convention to Unicoi County, Tennessee. To do so it will take a lot of kids to campaign. So, what I am asking for tonight is the support from the County Commission. Last Year it was over 700 students and 60 schools. We want to bring that to Unicoi County and show them that we can do this and what a great council we have.

Esq. Gene Wilson asked when the convention was. Carter Powers stated it was in 2017 and we would start campaigning in 2016.

Carter Powers also stated that a National Leadership speaker, Mike Smith will be coming to the High School on November 23rd, 2015 and we are inviting the county commissioners and Mayor Greg Lynch to attend.

Esq. Marie Rice stated to put Carter back on the agenda in January to discuss donation for the student council.

Terry Haynes, spoke on behalf of the Veterans Park and the work that has been done. We are \$9418.00 short for the gazebo (cover) over the Veterans Park for completion. I am

asking the county court if the county could donate towards the gazebo. “Any donation would be appreciated”, Terry stated.

Esq. Marie Rice asked how soon he would need the money. Terry stated if you could just make a pledged that you will and after January 31st would be fine.

County Mayor Greg Lynch stated that we do have part of the nonprofit in our budget. However, there is discretionary money there that is available that we can use for such thing as Mr. Powers was talking about. We cut it this year to \$500.00, but have not used those funds as of yet. Mayor Greg Lynch stated that we can find out how much funds are available and let you know at next month meeting.

Agenda Item #6
Quarterly Reports

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve the following Quarterly Reports: County Mayor, Unicoi County Highway Department, County Trustee, Unicoi County Schools, Unicoi County Health Department and Medic One

Motion unanimously approved
Copy in file

Agenda Item # 7
Recognize Jon Manful-Work time Contract

Motion made by Esq. Marie Rice, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to waive the agenda to vote on the Work Time contract.

Motion unanimously approved

Motion made by Esq. Jason Harris, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the work time contract with Jon Manful.

Motion unanimously approved

Agenda Item #8
Recognize Tish Oldham Economic Development and Patsy Pierce –Alliance for Business and Training (AB&T)

Kathy Pierce, executive director of the regional Workforce Investment Board, said East Tennessee State University has already reconfigured and outfitted its Community Outreach Center on North Main Avenue with a dozen computers in preparation for the board’s opening of a career center for the workers.
“We hope to have it open in two to three weeks as soon as we can get staffing and materials”. Pierce told the commissioners the first step for the railroad workers is to work through their bargaining agreements with CSX to identify their opportunities for continued employment elsewhere in the company. “When that’s done, we’ll know exactly how many (railroad employees) have been impacted and we’ll be ready to assist them.”

While assistance to the CSX workers will be the board's "immediate priority," Kathy Pierce said its services will also be available to local contract workers who lost employment due to the rail yard's closing.

In addition to the career center, the services will include an assessment of the workers' skills and the types of employment they are interested in, and the establishment of a network of employers who are willing to hire them. Pierce said meetings with the CSX workers to determine what resources they need began Monday and will continue today in Johnson City. "They're in sessions, 120 of them Monday and 120 Tuesday."

A program administered by the regional Alliance of Business and Training, Kathy Pierce said the workforce investment board responds to events that result in large losses of employment by providing a network of career services, programs and information to help with employment transitions. "We have been doing this for 30 years and we have some experience. We want to make this a good experience for them and for their families."

Tish Oldham, executive director of the Unicoi County Joint Economic Development Board, told the commissioners that in addition to the Workforce Investment Board, the Economic Development Board and East Tennessee State University, multiple community entities are pulling together to help match the displaced workers with employment opportunities, including the economic development boards of surrounding counties, Northeast State Community College and others. Tish Oldham said representatives of ETSU's Center for Community Outreach and Applied Research, Northeast State, the Unicoi County Board of Education, local programs with resources for families and others will meet at Town Hall in Erwin for the first in a series of task force meetings to brainstorm ideas for short- and long-term solutions for the workers.

"The first thing to do is to listen to everybody," Tish Oldham said, inviting the commissioners to bring her their ideas and their questions.

Agenda Item #9

Annual Re-Appointment of Ethic Committee Members (Paul Berry, Bridget Peters, Glenn White and Ed Herndon)

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the following re-appointments to the Ethic Committee: Paul Berry, Bridget Peters, Glenn White and Ed Herndon

Motion unanimously approved
Motion approved. (Copy in File)

Agenda Item #10

Retire Canine Dog (Ajax) and Allowing Nick Hughes to Assume Ownership-Frank Rogers

Motion made by Esq. Marie Rice, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to waive the agenda.

Motion unanimously approved

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to approve retiring canine dog Ajax and allowing Nick Hughes to assume ownership. To pay \$75.00 monthly for medical, from the drug fund to Nick Hughes, until the death of Ajax.

ROLL CALL: Esq. John Mosley “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Walter Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “Yes”, Esq. Glen White, “Yes”.

8-Yes
0-No
1-Absent (Loren Thomas)
Motion Approved (Copy in File)

Agenda Item #11
Present Interfund Loan Documents, Notes and Report on Debt Obligations (No vote needed)

So Noted
Copy in file

Agenda Item #12
Present Budget Letter of Approval in the County Minutes

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the budget letter in the County Minutes.

So Noted
Copy in file

Esq. Gene Wilson left the meeting

Agenda Item #13
Budget Amendments: Sheriff’s Department \$132,000.00 (funds received through Capitol Outlay for vehicles), Mayor’s Office \$5,000.00 (Salary Line), Sheriff’s Department \$10,818.00 (deputies training at academy) and Health Department \$1,847.52 (correct grant amount budgeted)

Esq. Bridget Peters stated that included in your packets are copies of the debt obligation Capital Outlay Note Series 2015 for the sheriff department vehicles and to be entered into the minutes.

So Noted
Copy in file

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to approve the following budget amendment: Sheriff’s Department \$132,000.00 (vehicles)

ROLL CALL: Esq. John Mosley “Yes”, Esq. Marie Rice, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Walter Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Jason Harris, “Yes”, Esq. Bridget Peters, “Yes”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Absent”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “No”, Esq. Glen White, “Yes”.

7-Yes
0-No
2-Absent (Gene Wilson and Loren Thomas)

Motion Approved (Copy in File)

Motion made by Esq. Walter Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Glen White to approve the following budget amendment: County Mayor \$5000.00 (from 51800-335 County building maintenance \$2500.00 and 51900-348 Postage \$2500.00 to 51300-162 Clerical)

Esq. Kenneth Garland stated that next year the \$5000.00 will still be there and we are going to have to pay it. It's not a onetime deal.

Mayor Greg Lynch stated that during the budget time, I changed the custodian from full time to part time and saved \$13 or \$14 plus in benefits and it's working so far. I am not trying to squeeze you all, just putting money where it needs to be.

Esq. Gene Wilson entered the meeting

ROLL CALL: Esq. John Mosley "No", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "No", Esq. Walter Garland, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes", Esq. Bridget Peters, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Absent", Esq. Gene Wilson, "No", Esq. Glen White, "Yes".

5-Yes

3-No

1-Absent (Loren Thomas)

Motion Approved (Copy in file)

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the following budget amendment: Sheriff's Department \$10,818.00 (54110-425 Fuel to 54110-196 Training)

ROLL CALL: Esq. John Mosley "Yes", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Walter Garland, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes", Esq. Bridget Peters, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Absent", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Glen White, "Yes".

8- Yes

0-No

1-Absent (Loren Thomas)

Motion approved.

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Marie Rice to approve the following budget amendment: Health Department \$1847.52 (55900-599 other chargers to 55900-499 supplies and materials \$508.83 and 39000 Fund Balance \$1338.69) correction of grant amount budgeted.

ROLL CALL: Esq. John Mosley "Yes", Esq. Marie Rice, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Walter Garland, "Yes", Esq. Jason Harris, "Yes", Esq. Bridget Peters, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Absent", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Glen White, "Yes".

8- Yes

0-No

1-Absent (Loren Thomas)

Motion approved (Copy in file)

Agenda Item #14

Approve Inventory list for Sheriff's Department Auction

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the inventory list for Sheriff's Department auction.

Motion unanimously approved
Motion approved (Copy in file)

Agenda Item #15
Elect Notaries

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Walter Garland to approve the following notaries: Lisa Marvette Bear and Stephen Anthony Bevins.

Motion unanimously approved
Motion Approved (Copy in File)

Esq. Marie Rice addressed the commissioners on next month meeting, if it needed to be reschedule do the Thanksgiving Holiday. All Commissioners agreed to keep the same date.

Agenda Item #21
Motion for Adjournment

Motion made by Esq. Marie Rice, said motion seconded by Esq. John Mosley to adjourn the October 26, 2015, County Commission Meeting.

(Motion unanimously approved)

GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR

MITZI BOWEN, COUNTY CLERK

MARIE RICE, CHAIRMAN