

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION
OF
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE
NOVEMBER 28, 2011

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Court House on Monday, November 28, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. Present and Presiding, the Honorable Greg Lynch, County Mayor, the Honorable Mitzi Bowen, County Clerk, Doug Shults, County Attorney, and the following Commissioners:

ROLL CALL: Esq. Dwight Bennett, "Yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "Yes", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "Yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher absent, , Esq. Bill Hensley, absent, Esq. James Howell, "Yes", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Yes", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "Yes".

7- Present

2- Absent

Esq. Doug Bowman opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Esq. Dwight Bennett.

Agenda Item #4

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Esq. Loren Thomas, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson that the minutes of October 24, 2011 be approved.

7-Aye

0-No

2-Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item #5

Recognize Visitors and Citizens

Mr. Terry Haynes, Road Superintendent, addressed the commission concerning Erwin City Recorder, Randy Trivette approaching him to do work on the road from the animal shelter to the Kiwanis Park. Mr. Haynes stated that the city would be paying all the expenses on it and the county would be doing the work, and wants to know if it would be a legal issue. Esq. Gene Wilson asked what the difference is with this and the little league park and if Mr. Haynes had the man power and the time to do the work. Mr. Haynes stated that he did have the man power and have the time as well. Mr. Doug Shults, County Attorney, stated that Mr. Haynes can only work county roads and roads of other governmental entities if they reimburse for the work. Esq. Howell asked if they city would be paying just the cost or for labor as well. Mr. Haynes stated they would be paid for cost and labor.

Motion made by Esq. Dwight Bennett, said motion seconded by Esq. James Howell to waive the agenda to discuss the issue.

7-Aye

0-No

2-Absent

Motion approved.

Esq. Loren Thomas asked what the city will be paying for the work. Mr. Haynes stated they would pay for the machine time, which is charged by the hour. Esq. Sue Jean Wilson asked if it wasn't to cold to pave. Mr. Haynes responded that right now it is not. Esq.

Doug Bowman wanted the county attorney to verify that it is alright for the county to do the work at Kiwanis Park. Mr. Shults stated that he has not done a title search, but assuming it is owned by the Town of Erwin, and they are reimbursing the county for the expenses then it is okay.

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett to approve the Highway Department to do work for the city.

7-Aye
0-No
2-Absent
Motion approved.

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. James Howell to waive the agenda to consider a Resolution in supporting the proposed change in the Sunshine Law.

7-Aye
0-No
2-Absent
Motion approved.

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. James Howell to draft a Resolution supporting proposed change in the Sunshine Law, which would allow county commissioners to meet about certain topics in private. Esq. Bowman asked that Mr. Shults, County Attorney, to draft a Resolution and then vote on it in the December meeting. Esq. Sue Jean Wilson asked that there be a copy available to read ahead of time.

7-Aye
0-No
2-Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item #6
Recognize Patsy Bennett

Motion made by Esq. Loren Thomas, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett to accept Mrs. Bennett's request for hiring Mr. Cox at \$27,207.00. Esq. Doug Bowman asked how much money was being asked for that wasn't in the budget. Esq. Gene Wilson stated it is \$3200.00 more than what is in the budget. Esq. Gene Wilson stated that the employee that left Mrs. Bennett's office was making \$24,000.00 a year with four years of experience, now she wants to hire someone into the office who doesn't live in the county and start them out at \$27,000.00. There are too many people in the county that need the job and benefits. Esq. Gene Wilson stated that by the time you add benefits it will be a \$34,000.00 package. Esq. Dwight Bennett called for question.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Dwight Bennett, "No", Esq. Doug Bowman, "No", Esq. Kenneth Garland, "No", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, absent, Esq. Bill Hensley, absent, Esq. James Howell, "No", Esq. Loren Thomas, "Yes", Esq. Gene Wilson, "No", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "No".

1-Yes
6-No
2-Absent
Motion fails.

Agenda Item # 7

Consider Resolution to adopt a Debt Management Policy for Unicoi County

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett to approve the Resolution to adopt a Debt Management Policy for Unicoi County. County Mayor Greg Lynch stated that it can be changed at any time.

7-Yes

0-No

2-Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item #8

Consider request from UT Extension to help with funding the mapping project \$1,000.00

Mr. Petty was unable to attend meeting, item tabled.

Agenda Item # 9

Discuss December County Commission Meeting

Motion made by Esq. Dwight Bennett, said motion seconded by Esq. Kenneth Garland to schedule a Special Call meeting on December 19, 2011 at 2:00p.m.

2-Aye

4-No

2-Absent

Motion fails.

Motion made by Esq. Loren Thomas, said motion seconded by Esq. James Howell to schedule a Special Call meeting on December 19, 2011 at 4:30p.m.

4-Aye

2-No

2-Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item #10

Recognize Doug Shults- Consider approval of quit claim deed on the property adjacent to Olive Barnes home place- Rice Creek Road

Motion made by Esq. Dwight Bennett, said motion seconded by Esq. Loren Thomas to approve a quit claim deed on the property adjacent to Olive Barnes home place.

7-Aye

0-No

2-Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item # 11
Consider adoption of Homestead Estates Road(s)

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. Loren Thomas to accept Homestead Estates Road(s) as county roads.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Dwight Bennett, “No”, Esq. Doug Bowman, “Yes”, Esq. Kenneth Garland, “Yes”, Esq. Mickey Hatcher, absent, Esq. Bill Hensley, absent, Esq. James Howell, “No”, Esq. Loren Thomas, “Yes”, Esq. Gene Wilson, “No”, Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, “Yes”.

4-Yes
3-No
2-Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item #12
Quarterly Reports-County Mayor’s Office

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett to take and approve all quarterly reports.

7-Aye
0-No
2-Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item #13
Committee Reports

None

Agenda Item #14
Budget Amendments

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett to approve budget amendments: Unicoi County Clerk (\$1,800.00), Sheriff Dept (\$1,245.94), Health Dept (\$311.75), and Contributions (\$1,000.00). Esq. Doug Bowman asked where the money for Contributions would be coming from. Mrs. Phyllis Bennett stated the money would be paid out of the Fund Balance. Esq. Doug Bowman also asked for a letter of explanation on budget amendments in the future.

Agenda Item #15
Elect Notaries

Motion made by Esq. Kenneth Garland, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett that the following notaries be approved: Amanda Hope (Erickson Parsley Insurance), Lauren White (James P. Cline CPA), Rebecca Norton (Valley Beautiful Insurance).

7-Aye
0-No
2-Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item #16

Motion for adjournment

Mr. Shults addressed the commission before adjourning, stating that Homestead Estates would have to be revisited in the December or January meeting. The full commission must have a majority vote in order for the motion to be approved.

Motion made by Esq. Gene Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Dwight Bennett to adjourn the meeting of November 28, 2011.

7-Aye

0-No

2-Absent

GREG LYNCH, COUNTY MAYOR

MITZI BOWEN, COUNTY CLERK

SUE JEAN WILSON, CHAIRMAN