

THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION
OF
UNICOI COUNTY, TENNESSEE
APRIL 26, 2010

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Unicoi County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at the Unicoi County Courthouse on Monday, April 26, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. Present and Presiding, the Honorable Greg Lynch, Chairman and County Mayor, Honorable Ruby McLaughlin, County Clerk, Doug Shults, County Attorney, and the following Commissioners:

ROLL CALL: Esq. Ron Arnold, "Here", Esq. David Boone, "Here", Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "Here", Esq. Doug Bowman, "Here", Esq. Rick Butler, absent, Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "Here", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "Here", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "Here", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Here".

8- Present

1- Absent

Agenda Item #1 and #2

Esq. Mickey Hatcher opened the meeting with Prayer and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Esq. David Boone.

Agenda Item #4

Motion made by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. David Boone to approve minutes from the March 22, 2010 meeting and the Beer Board meeting of March 22, 2010.

8- Aye

0- No

1- Absent

Motion approved.

Agenda Item #5

Honorable Greg Lynch recognized visitor and citizens. Mr. Robert Sahli addressed the commission asking why the county is over 30 million dollars in debt when seventy percent of the county is senior citizens, and how the commission plans to do to end the debt. Mr. Sahli also inquired on why the Sheriffs Department is able to save money and why other committees saving money. Esq. Mickey Hatcher responded by inviting Mr. Sahli to attend budget meetings when they begin. Esq. Hatcher also stated that when you look at the budget you have to decide where to take money from. The percentage of debt that the county has now is in line with the county debt over the last twenty years.

Agenda Item #6

Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Mitzi Bowen to accept quarterly reports for the County, Highway Dept., Chamber of Commerce, Health Department, Trustee, and School System. (See File)

8-Aye
0-No
1-Absent
Motion passed.

Agenda Item #7

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve the corrected road list to include Sparks Lane.

8-Aye
0-No
1- Absent
Motion passed.

Agenda Item #8

Motion made by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, said motion seconded by Esq. Ron Arnold to approve the resolution to support Phase 1 of the County Records Commission's Project and its continuation beyond its Grant Period.

8-Aye
0-No
1- Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item #9 and #10

Motion made by Esq. Doug Bowman, said motion seconded by Esq. Gene Wilson to approve request for appropriation for the Chamber of Commerce with the opening of the Welcome Center and for tourist guide in conjunction with the Sunny Side Trail. There is a Budget Amendment to take care of both requests if approved. Monies would come out of the General Fund in the total amount of \$1,499.00

ROLL CALL: Esq. Ron Arnold, "Yes", Esq. David Boone, "Yes", Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "Yes", Esq. Doug Bowman, "Yes", Esq. Rick Butler, absent, Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "Yes", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "Yes", Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Gene Wilson, "Yes".

8-Yes
0-No
1-Absent
Motion approved.

Esq. Gene Wilson exited the meeting.

Agenda Item #11

Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Mitzi Bowen to support the intent of an agreement between the County Mayor and the County Road Superintendent to complete work on county projects including the jail annex property.

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

Agenda Item #12

Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Doug Bowman to support the intent of an agreement with the Forest Service to haul gravel to Unaka Mountain Overlook Project once the County Attorney Doug Shults has looked into the legalities.

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

Agenda Item #13

Committee Reports:

Esq. Sue Jean Wilson of the Animal Welfare Board informed the commission that since the day the Animal Shelter opened in February 2008 until June 2009, they have took in 2,116 animals and that currently up to March 2010 they have took in another 1,390 animals. Esq. Wilson also stated that the adoption rate is very good and the euthanizations rate is down. Carter County will be coming over to look at the Animal Shelter as an example for a shelter they plan to build.

Esq. Ron Arnold of the Solid Waste Committee asked that the County Mayor's office begin advertisements for bids on the Solid Waste sites, open up bids in June, to have everything ready for July 1, 2010 take over.

Esq. Jimmy Erwin of the Ambulance Committee informed the commission that they have moved into the two trailers and everything is working very well. The call volume has been up a little bit but so far there have been no complaints.

Esq. David Boone of the Beer Commission informed the commission that the instructions given at the March Beer Board meeting have not been responded to yet. Chairman Greg Lynch addressed the matter of the number of footage from the structure where the beer will be sold to the nearest house. Over 300 feet there is no problem, if it is less than 300 feet the person who lives in the house will have the option to file a formal complaint to the commission to object. A meeting will be called at some point in May 2010 unless Mr. Griffith is in a hurry to get the business started, in which there may be a Special Call Meeting scheduled.

Agenda Item #14

Motion made by Esq. Mickey Hatcher, said motion seconded by Esq. Mitzi Bowen to approve all the Budget Amendments as they are together including Election Commission (\$866.00), Sheriff's Department (\$13,182.00), Health Department (\$289.50), Rabies and Animal Control (\$15,000.00), Industrial Development (\$430.60), Register of Deeds (\$1,000.00), County Buildings (\$400.00), Tourism (\$317.00), Tourism (\$1,183.00), Sheriff's Department Drug Fund (\$17,550.00) with new monies to County Buildings and both Tourism from the General Fund.

ROLL CALL: Esq. Gene Wilson, absent, Esq. Sue Jean Wilson, "Yes", Esq. Jimmy Erwin, "Yes", Esq. Mickey Hatcher, "Yes", Esq. Rick Butler, absent, Esq. Doug Bowman, "Yes", Esq. Mitzi Bowen, "Yes", Esq. David Boone, "Yes", Esq. Ron Arnold, "Yes".

7- Aye

0- No
2- Absent
Motion approved.

Agenda Item #15

Motion made by Esq. David Boone, said motion seconded by Esq. Sue Jean Wilson to approve Notary Commission for Joy Grindstaff (Sheriff's Department), Charles McNabb (Erwin Utilities), Matthew Rice (Erwin Utilities), Connie Smith (Erwin Utilities), and Elvira Valdes (Scotts Farms).

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

Motion made by Esq. David Boone, said motion seconded by Esq. Ron Arnold to adjourn the meeting of April 26, 2010.

GREG LYNCH, CO. MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN

RUBY MCLAUGHLIN, COUNTY CLERK