

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 13, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the courtroom. Those present were Chairman H. Wade Johnson; Commissioner Darrell Henderson, District One; Commissioner Larry Collins, District Two; Commissioner Cooper Cliatt, District Three; Commissioner Rob Robinson, District Four; Mr. Barry Fleming, County Attorney; and Mrs. Roxanne B. Ashmore, County Clerk.

1.

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order.

2.

Invocation

Chairman Johnson opened the meeting with prayer.

3.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed the invocation.

4.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

5.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the change of Commissioner Cliatt taking Item #12 instead of Director Seymour.

6.

Remarks

Chairman Johnson said that the state has cut the homestead exemption grant, which mean that there will be a \$200 increase on the tax bills for the county residents and a \$250 tax increase for city residents. He said that the state will receive the money, not the county.

Chairman Johnson stated that an account would be set up to accept donations to offset the cost of gas for the eternal flame.

Chairman Johnson recognized Mr. Robert F. Bailey, who was in the audience.

Chairman Johnson said the Mr. Bailey, who is 85 years old, is the last survivor of a group of eight brothers from Lincoln County that was in World War II.

The audience gave Mr. Bailey a round of applause and a standing ovation.

7.

Departmental Reports

Public Safety Department

Mr. Danny Smith, Public Safety Director, reported a total of 100 calls for the month of July.

Recreation Department

Ms. Kathie Davis, Recreation Director, reported that the pool closed on July 31st. She said there was a total of 889 swimmers at the pool for the months of June and July.

Director Davis also reported that soccer registration ended on July 31st with the season beginning the week of August 24th and ending the week of September 28th, with a total of 107 children participating.

She also reported the water aerobics did not take place this year due to only one person registering for the class because the price was too high.

Director Davis gave an update on the gym stating that a calcium chloride test to check for moisture was taken on the gym floor last week and S.D. Clifton should have the results back by the end of this week.

Finance Department

Mrs. Traci Bussey, Finance Director, submitted her written report to the board.

Public Works Department

Mr. Roby Seymour, Public Works Director, reported a total of 1,333 water customers and 491 availability customers with a monthly billing of \$52,046.83.

Planning and Zoning Department

Mr. Roby Seymour, Planning and Zoning Director, reported a total of one new and four renewal business licenses for revenues of \$396 and zoning revenues of \$400.

Director Seymour also reported permit revenues in the amount of \$1,809 for 44 permits, two re-inspection and nine timber permits being issued.

8.

Public Hearing

Variance Request

Applicant: Charles Folger – Owner

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to approve the variance request made by Charles Folger.

Rezoning Extension Request

Applicant: Wade Family Properties, Sandra and Lamar Wade – Owners

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the board voted unanimously to approve the rezoning extension request made by Wade Family Properties.

Resolution

On motion by Commissioner Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to adopt the resolution exempting the commission chairman's vehicle from displaying a county decal.

Abandonment of Bailey Drive

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to begin the process of the abandonment of Bailey Drive.

9.

Tower Lease Agreement with Educational Media Foundation

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to approve and authorize Chairman Johnson to sign the tower lease agreement.

10.

Prevention of Identity Theft Program: Policies and Procedures

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to adopt the Prevention of Identity Theft Program: Policies and Procedures.

11.

Board Appointments

Library Board

Commissioner Collins was not prepared to make an appointment at this time.

Department of Family and Children Services Board

On motion by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to appoint Mrs. Evelyn Norman to the Department of Family and Children Services Board to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Faith Garnett which expires December 31, 2009.

12.

Blackjack Sewer Project Update

Commissioner Cliatt asked that Mr. Chip McGaughey, project engineer with EMI, the engineering firm handling the project, give an update on the Blackjack sewer project.

Commissioner Cliatt also asked if the project could be bid out in sections so that it can move a little faster.

Mr. McGaughey said that he could ask the people at USDA-RD if the project could be done in phases, but they probably won't allow it because they will be issuing revenues bonds. He said they want to bid out the project before issuing the bonds so the bonds reflect the actual project cost.

Mr. McGaughey said that regarding the base design, that they are approximately fifty percent finished with drawing up the plans. He said that they are now at the point where they need to meet with a property owner to see if they can acquire land for a pump station, which is critical to the project.

Mr. McGaughey said that by the first of November, they plan to complete the design and submit it to the EPD for comments; however, the pump station as well as the EPD could hold the project up.

He went on to say that it is his guess that they will obtain all of the easements they need by January 1, 2010. He said that a lot of it has to do with the cooperation of property owners, that they have already acquired several of the 30 to 40 easements needed for the project and that so far they have had no trouble getting them.

Mr. McGaughey said that the funding agency will not allow the engineering firm to bid out the project without all of the easements in hand. He said that if all goes well, they plan to put the project out for bids around February 1, 2010 and begin construction in August of 2010.

13.

Remarks

Chairman Johnson updated the board on the status of Cherokee, stating that plans are still in the works for the county to lease the day use area from the Corps of Engineers.

14.

Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

H. Wade Johnson, Chairman

Roxanne B. Ashmore, County Clerk