

Building & Grounds Committee Meeting

2-03-15

Chairman Ray Lyons called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll Call as follows:

Present: Willie Campbell, Isaiah Grindstaff, Timothy Holdren, Ray Lyons, Cody McQueen,
Randall Jenkins, Al Meehan, Ronnie Trivett

(8 Present)

Absent: Beth Depew

(1 Absent)

Quorum Present

Motion made by Mr. Grindstaff, 2nd by Mr. Holdren that the committee agenda be approved.

Vote by acclamation to approve the committee agenda.

All ayes, the motion passed

Motion made by Ronnie Trivett, 2nd by Isaiah Grindstaff to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

Vote by Acclamation to approve previous meeting minutes.

All Ayes, previous minutes were approved.

There were no public comments

Old Business

Health Department -

Chairman Lyons stated that they were at the health department February 2, 2015. He stated that he and the mayor both attended, and Director Hurt signed an agreement with Reedy and Sykes to draft expansion plans. He stated that the representative of Reedy and Sykes would be looking at multiple ways to utilize space and to maximize the dimensions of the property. Mayor Humphrey stated that the goal was to add six additional exam rooms, and to increase the flow of daily traffic. He also stated that it may take several months to complete the design work, but at that time they would have approximate cost of each plan. They would then bring that information back to the commission. Mr. Lyons stated that the road superintendent now favors a piping system over the initial ditch design.

Old Jail Parking Lot-

Chairman Lyons briefed the committee on the project at the old jail where they are constructing a parking. He stated it was added to the old business so that we could stay on top of the issues. Mayor Humphrey stated that most of the preliminary work had been done. He stated the paving

project would go to bids. He stated a pre-bid meeting had already taken place. He stated those bids would open on 12 February, and depending on the results of the bids that information would be taken before the full commission. He stated the goal is for the parking lot to be in use by March or April. Mr. Meehan questioned if there would be an oversight liaison from the county at the site during construction. Mr. Humphrey stated that once work has begun the road superintendent and his staff is the only ones qualified to oversee the work within the county. Mr. Campbell questioned if a curb machine was part of the work being bid on. Mr. Humphrey stated that in a previous meeting with the city it was determined that a curb and gutter would be required. He stated initially the design work had planned to do that portion of the job in the house but because of the curb issue it was outsourced. Mr. Meehan questioned if the city would be involved with the project. Mr. Humphrey stated that was the reason for the aforementioned meeting that took place earlier, and that the city would be kept in the loop.

Courthouse-

Chairman Lyons highlighted work that took place in the courthouse as part of recent renovations. He stated that there was a night and day difference, and an incredible amount of work had taken place.

Public Defenders Office Space-

Chairman Lyons stated that the space vacated by the public defender's office hasn't been utilized yet, but that it was still in the process of being integrated for use by the probation office. Mr. Humphrey stated that we were waiting for a response at the state level.

New Business

Site Visits

Chairman Lyons updated the committee on a series of site visits that were taken by members of the committee and members of the full commission following the last commission meeting. He stated the first stop was at the courthouse to observe the emergency response teams facilities. He stated there simply was not enough room at that location for them to utilize in the event of an emergency. He stated this was one of the places that we needed to start working on. He stated the next stop was at the Carter County Animal Shelter. He stated that facility was something we can be proud of and praised the heating system used there. Mr. McQueen stated that he was proud of all the hard work that the employees and volunteers do their, and suggested that one of our goals would be to help them fix their utilities issue. Mr. Humphrey stated there may still be an issue there, and noted that one issue involving a failed component that was replaced had already been solved. He praised a collaborative effort between the citizens, the city, and the county for bringing that project to fruition. He stated that the citizens collectively contributed over \$100,000 to the project. He also stated that the facility was something to be proud of.

New 911 Building-

Chairman Lyons asked Willie Campbell to speak on the issue of relocating the emergency operation center into the vacant portion of the new 911 building. Mr. Campbell stated that there was a serious lack of operating space, and that it was an issue that weighed heavy on him. He stated that ideal solution would be to switch the emergency operation center location from the courthouse to the new 911 building. Mr. Humphrey stated that Reedy and Sykes did the design work for the 911 building originally, and suggested that we contact them in order to obtain a price for the completion of the unfinished room. He

stated the cost may be more than we can afford at this time, but that we needed to start planning for that project. He stated that the property being all on one level would benefit operations, and that being beside the 911 call center would be ideal in an emergency situation. Mr. Campbell stated that we needed to move on this issue, and that it was a top priority to him. He stated that there was an imminent danger with spring flooding, and cautioned an emergency can happen at any time. Mr. Grindstaff questioned how the director of Carter County 911 felt about the potential move. Mr. Humphrey stated that the two directors of the organization's attended meetings regarding the positioning of their facilities, but at the time there was not enough movement within the commission to achieve that goal. He suggested that an invitation be extended to the director of Carter County 911 as well as the director of the emergency operation center to attend next month's Building and Grounds committee meeting, and get their input directly on the topic.

Motion made by Ronnie Trivett, 2nd by Willie Campbell that the director of Carter County 911 be invited to the next meeting, and that we inquire to Reedy and Sykes about the cost of finishing the facility that is vacant beside the 911 building, and to bring it back to the committee.

Vote by acclamation

All ayes, the motion passed

Old 911 Building-

Chairman Lyons addressed the committee regarding the interests of the election commission to move into the old 911 building. Mr. Campbell stated that most of the buildings issues were cosmetic, and added that much of the work can probably be done by inmate's labor. Mayor Humphrey stated that Mr. Floyd Story and he had toured the facility, and Mr. Story had priced the repairs not to exceed \$2500. He stated that money would go to fix the leak in the records room and to fix scuffers on the side of the building. He stated the total cost of the interior would be between 10,000 and \$12,000. He stated that he believed the work can be done without increasing taxes. Mr. Meehan proposed some preliminary questions. Mr. Meehan questions who would be interested in moving into the building. Mr. Lyons stated that on the site visit that was taken Miss Tracy Harris and Paul Souder of the election commission were with us, and that they had expressed interest in the use of the building. He stated that the move would alleviate an ongoing traffic issue during election times, and that moving to a one level building would facilitate additional voter needs. He stated that they had already sought permission for parking at election time from the Masons Lodge and the church across the street. He stated Mr. Souder at the time of the visit had mentioned that he would be getting the agreements in writing. Mr. Campbell stated that having a building that was one floor only would greatly benefit handicap people. Mr. Grindstaff stated that the building would help the efficiency of day-to-day operations at the courthouse while election times are going on. Mr. Meehan questioned if anyone else would be interested in the building as was aforementioned. Mr. Humphrey stated the Sheriff's Department had initially asked about using that building as a training department. Mr. Holdren questioned if the election commission would use the entire building all year round. Mr. Lyons stated they would. Mr. Humphrey stated that this would be a good project to get completed, and that the main component that was needed at this time was an agreement in writing regarding the parking from the neighboring property owners. Mr. Meehan directed a question to Capt. Smith, with the permission of the Chairman, Capt. Smith stated that to his knowledge they were no longer looking at the property, and that he believed they were pursuing another option with regards to a training location. Mr. Humphrey stated that he received their requests on the building several months prior and had not sense heard from them.

Motion made by Ronnie Trivett, 2nd by Willie Campbell that the Director and all available members of the Election Commission, and the Sheriff and chief deputy be invited to the next meeting to produce all available paperwork and interest in the old 911 facility at that time.

Vote by acclamation

All ayes, the motion passed

Mr. John G Lewis stated that if the voting location was moved there would be the potential to frustrate elderly voters, and they may not even vote. He stated we need to take their needs into account. Mr. Jenkins stated that he believed we were taking their needs into account, and that they would benefit greatly from a one level building where they did not have to use an elevator. He stated there would also see a benefit in the parking situation. Mr. Trivett stated that there would be over a year's time to educate local residents of the new voting location.

Handicap Resolution-

Chairman Lyons asked Mr. Jenkins to speak on a concern that he received from a constituent. Mr. Jenkins stated that he is spoken with the resident of the county who had spent 5 to 7 minutes attempting to open the door at the courthouse but wasn't able to due to handicap. Mr. Jenkins stated that he'd been looking at automatic door openers, and that for the two that would be required the cost would be estimated at \$3-\$4000. Mr. Humphrey stated that he could get quotes from local contractors on the cost of the doors plus installation.

Motion made by Mr. Holdren, 2nd by Mr. McQueen that Mayor Humphrey seek quotes from local contractors to install to automatic handicap accessible doors at the courthouse.

Vote by acclamation

All ayes, the motion passed

New Visits

No new visits were scheduled.

Property Sales

Mr. Trivett asked about the latest information regarding the sale of the properties mentioned that the last commission meeting. Mr. Lyons stated that he had not heard back from the county attorney at this time regarding where they were in the process on the properties that were voted to be sold. He noted that the process have been recently changed, and that it was a 60 day process now. Mr. Humphrey stated that the county attorney and the finance director had Artie been given the assignment to start the process of liquidating those five properties.

Motion made by Al Meehan, 2nd by Randall Jenkins to Adjourn

Vote by Acclamation

All Ayes, Motion Carried
Meeting was Adjourned

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