

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

May 4, 2016

8:30 am

PRESENT: Mayor Leon Humphrey, Dr. Kevin Ward, Danny Ward, Roger Colbaugh, Charles VonCannon, and Ray Lyons.

The meeting was called to order by Ray Lyons.

Quorum present.

Adopt Agenda: Motion was made by Mayor Leon Humphrey, second by Charles VonCannon to approve agenda. Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Danny Ward, second by Charles VonCannon to approve the April 6, 2016 minutes with an amendment made to add “Walnut” to Mountain Road. Motion Carried.

Public Comments: Mr. John Lewis stated that the county commission voted to give a percentage of the sale of timber to the Hunting and Fishing club. Mrs. Byrd stated that she will look into the possibility that the county did vote for this exchange. The next individual that had public comments was Mr. Livingston. Mr. Livingston wanted the committee members to remember the general tax payers while going through the budget process this year. Mr. Ray Lyons replied that he agrees that the committees do need to remember the tax payers during the budget season and also believes that the Financial Management committee sets the tone for the budget process. Mr. VonCannon made mention that the Highway department has been helping to maintain certain private cemetery roads.

Mayor Leon Humphrey made a motion to contact county attorney, Josh Hardin, to develop a plan to support citizens by maintaining cemetery roads. This motion was seconded by Mr. Roger Colbaugh. All Ayes regarding the Mayor’s motion. Motion Carried.

Old Business: None to discuss

New Business

- **Pending Grant for Health Department – Commissioner Danny Ward:** Dr. Ward brought up the new Inter-local Agreement. Mayor Humphrey made mention that there may be revisions to this agreement. Mayor Humphrey also stated that Johnson City will not sign the agreement until all parties in Carter County have approved the agreement. Mayor Humphrey stated that we hope to be able to get this awarded by September/October time frame.
- **Recent Bids:** Finance Director, Christa Byrd, reviewed a list of recent bids
- **County General Update:** Mayor Humphrey made comment that things are going great in Carter County. He also stated that he has received many positive responses to the landscaping in front of the courthouse. Mr. Humphrey discussed the many projects that are currently in process in Carter County. Some of the projects that the Mayor presented include: reupholstering the chairs in the Mayor’s Conference room, painting and

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changing the tile in the courtroom in the month of June from the 10th to the 20th, and painting the halls leading to the courtroom. Mayor Humphrey hopes that the election building project will be completed in the following week weather permitting of course. Reedy and Sykes gave their proposal for the preliminary design phase for the Courthouse of \$5,000 taken from General Fund Balance for preliminary architect fees. Mayor Humphrey also discussed the fact that we have an officer that is now patrolling the courthouse. Mr. John Lewis asked if the Mayor had an idea of the total cost of the Courtroom Security project. Mayor Humphrey responded that he has no idea at the moment that we will have to wait until we get the proposals together with estimates based on current market pricing.

- **County Highway Department Update:** Mr. Colbaugh discussed the Rittertown Bridge project. The Simpson Bridge company was awarded the contract to build this bridge. Mr. Colbaugh stated that he hopes within a month there will be a preconstruction meeting to start the bridge build. The Highway department has been doing a lot of pipe maintenance and drainage maintenance in between regular Highway Department maintenance. Mr. Colbaugh also commented on the lot at the old Cloudland Elementary site that they will be using to house the Highway Departments “chat” supplies. He also discussed that the Highway Department has been building fences on their lots in the Elizabethton area due to internal control rules. The Highway Department has three cycles of mowing within the county and Mr. Colbaugh stated that they are getting close to finishing the first cycle. Mr. John Lewis discussed the project that the City of Elizabethton has at Valley Forge putting in a waterline.
- **County School Department Update:** Dr. Kevin Ward discussed the boil alert in the Hampton area. He stated that the schools in the Hampton area are serving a menu that requires little to no water and that the schools are cutting all water fountains off, supplying the students with water bottles as an alternative. Dr. Ward wanted to thank Mrs. Lindsey Feathers and the teachers for handling this water boil issue so well. Dr. Ward also commented on the cancellation of TN Ready testing for third through eighth grade. He stated that the vendor Measurement Inc. has been terminated and that the state is looking for a new vendor. Dr. Ward also discussed that the Board of Education has voted to approve entering into a contract with Mr. Russel to do the salary study back in January but will be reaffirming this in their meeting on May 12, 2016.
- **Bobby Gouge-Dietz:** Mr. VonCannon made a comment on behalf of Ms. Dietz regarding the fact that the Landfill has recently had a recycle dumpster stolen. This dumpster was being stored behind the Badcock and More Home Furniture store. Mr. Danny Ward made mention that we should put some kind of markings on the dumpsters. Mrs. Byrd made responded that we do use magnetic seals on all county property and that we should possibly look into a more permanent seal for items such as dumpsters.
- **Ray Lyons:** Mr. Ray Lyons made mention that he would like to see an employee recognition program started. His idea is to have a day of recognition for all county

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employees to be funded by the county commissioners. Mr. Lyons suggested having this day on a Saturday in July or August. He also stated that he would like to do something for the Carter County School System in the Fall.

- **Charles VonCannon:** Mr. VonCannon mentioned that there is issues with speeding in our county. He also stated that he would like to see the county use zero base budgeting. Mr. VonCannon stated that if a non-profit is spending more than fifteen percent of their budget on administrative staff then he would not fund it due to being top heavy in administration.
- **Danny Ward:** Mr. Danny Ward began by discussing the fact that the Carter County Tourism task force has been meeting each month. He mentioned that the last Carter County Tourism task force meeting had an excellent presentation on Keep Tennessee Beautiful. Mayor Humphrey stated that he believes that the Chamber is the most appropriate committee to take the lead on the Keep Tennessee Beautiful initiative. Danny also made the comment that the Covered Bridge festival is coming up soon and this is the fiftieth anniversary for the festival. The mayor also made a comment regarding a traffic light enclosure in Hampton that had been wrecked into causing damage of approximately \$15,000. The insurance company hopes to find the person involved in the accident, but if we cannot find this person we will have to let the county insurance try to replace this enclosure.
- **Adjourn:** Motion made by the mayor, second by Roger Colbaugh

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Kennedy

Ray Lyons, Approved for File