

Carter County Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2019



**RECEIVED**  
09-11-19 @ 14:30  
JH

Members Present

Jerry Pearman

Ray Lyons

Ralph Watson

Sonja Culler

Ken Arney

Jerry Smith

Randall Jenkins

Robert Acuff

Steve Pierce

Bobbie Dietz

Kelly Collins

Members Absent

Office Staff in Attendance

Chris Schuettler, Director

Mel McKay, Building Inspector

Diane Cannon, Adm. Assistant

Kristin Powell, Stormwater Coordinator

Jay Cook, Codes Enforcement Officer

Local Planning Staff in Attendance

Elizabeth Poczobut, First Tennessee Development District

County Officials in Attendance

Mayor Russell "Rusty" Barnett

Abby Frye, Adm. Assistant to Mayor Barnett

Brad Johnson, Chairman, Board of Zoning Appeals

Austin Jaynes, Commissioner from Siam District

Ginger Holdren, Commissioner from Pinecrest/Milligan District

1. **Roll Call.** Quorum met.
2. **Adoption of the Agenda.** Motion to approve by Sonja Culler. Second by Robert Acuff. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **July 1 Special Called Meeting Minutes.** Motion by Sonja Culler to approve as written. Second by Ralph Watson. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Ben and Randy Colbaugh's RV Park.** Tabled until next month.
5. **Budget.** Mr. Schuettler presented the 2019/2020 budget and stated the Carter County Commission, by a motion made by Patty Woodby and seconded by Ronnie Trivett, to set the Planning Budget the same as 2018/2019 with the addition of a 3.5% raise for all employees. Mr. Schuettler stated the budget has been tampered with and he has discussed the matter with his attorney. Mr. Schuettler stated that Line Item 809 (First Tennessee Development District) was cut. Line Item 334 (Maintenance) was cut with no contact from Finance Director regarding the cuts. Line Item 599 (G. I. S.) was cut. Line Item 99-47 (Electric Permits) had been increased by \$22,900.00. "This money is not money that can be utilized by the Planning Office and is put in that line for payment of State Electric Permits and the money is returned by the State to the General Fund and not the Planning Budget. Mr. Schuettler requested a motion to meet with Finance Director Burke, Chairman Pearman, himself, Dr. Acuff, Mayor Barnett and County Attorney Josh Hardin. Robert Acuff made the motion and Randall Jenkins seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Mrs. Frye was asked to call and arrange meeting as soon as Mr. Burke returned from vacation. Mr. Schuettler stated this is the first time in all his years in this position the office budget has been cut by an individual not on the board.
6. **Jack Hampton Report.** Kristin Powell presented the report for June (attached). So far this year the office has deposited \$141,000 into the general fund.
7. **Codes Enforcement Report.** Jay Cook presented the power point presentation of both stormwater and litter violations. He also announced he had passed both his Commercial and Residential Plumbing Inspectors Exams. The board gave him a round of applause. Mr. Pearman asked how many citations have come back since February. Jay stated approximately 35 -40% are now in compliance. Mr. Pearman requested exact numbers be presented at the next meeting.
8. **Director's Report.** Mr. Schuettler stated a strip of land annexed by the City of Elizabethton has a business on it that is not being well maintained. Calls have come into

the County office for assistance with getting the problem resolved. Mr. Schuettler is working with the City to resolve this issue.

9. **Public Query.** 1.) Jim McGee, Blevins Road, stated two trash cans near the boat ramp on Blevins Road were being maintained in the past but in recent months one has been removed and trash is spilling out of the remaining one littering the ground and the river. Mr. McGee requested the Planning Office send a letter to Tom Whitehead, TWRA Director in the Morristown Office, for help with clean up of the trash as well as removal of some trees that are causing problems as well. Mr. Schuettler stated a letter would be sent this week. 2.) Laura Rydell, Piedmont Street, regarding "transitional home" on the street she resides which is a residentially zoned. There are currently two mobile homes on a .6-acre lot in which 10 people reside who are recovering alcoholics, drug addicts, and registered sex offenders. According to Mrs. Rydell, there is traffic in and out at all hours and her 14-year-old daughter does not feel safe outside. She appeared before the board to request where she could go for relief. Said she had spoken to the Mayor and not received a call back. Mayor Barnett stated he was told the Planning Office was handling the matter. He did state he had gone to speak with the director of the program. He did not respond because he assumed the Planning Office had. Mr. McKay addressed the matter and stated this is not a transitional home but rather a leased residence with each man signing a lease. The area is A-1 zoned and therefore is properly zoned for a residence of this nature. Kelly Collins asked the Mayor how many men were living in the homes when he visited. Mayor Barnett stated he did not go to the mobile homes but instead had gone to the Recovery Soldiers Office and met with Director Josh Scalf. Mr. Schuettler told Mrs. Rydell he would investigate the matter and asked for her contact information. She approached the table and wrote her number down for him. Kelly Collins stated when Recovery Soldiers came to the County Commission to request funding as a non-profit organization she had asked if the men they serve are local and was told they are from everywhere. Mrs. Rydell mentioned the parking situation in the area with ten men in two residences and each having a car.
10. **Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn by Ralph Watson and seconded by Ken Arney.  
Meeting adjourned.

