

JULY 24, 2023 - HARTSVILLE/TROUSDALE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

BE IT REMEMBERED, That the Hartsville/Trousdale County Commission met pursuant to adjournment with the Honorable Mayor Jack McCall, Commission Chairman presiding and the following commissioners present to wit: Beverly Atwood, Tommy Belcher, Shane Burton, Alan Carman, Grant Cothron, Brian Crook, Will Dennis, Jerry Ford, Chris Gregory, T. "Bubba" Gregory, Landon Gulley, Richard Johnson, Judy Kerr, David Nollner, Lesley Overman, Mark Presley, Amber Russell, Lonnie Taylor, David Thomas, and Steve Whittaker.

1. **Open Court** - Detective Troy Calhoun

2. **Invocation** - Beverly Atwood

3. **Pledge to the American Flag** - Tommy Belcher

4. **Roll Call** - Rita Crowder, County Clerk - **20 PRESENT, 0 ABSENT**

5. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion this court approve these minutes as presented.

Motion by Brian Crook, Second by Chris Gregory

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED

6. **Announcements**

- Congratulations to Steve Whittaker on his retirement from the Sheriff's Dept. He has served over 27 years with the department. He was given a basket full of goodies to enjoy.
- Community Help Center will hold an open house on Aug. 28th beginning at 5:00. Would love for the commission to come by and show their support.
- The Hartsville Backpack Program will hold their annual Car Show this Saturday, July 29th at the Trousdale County High School.

7. **Approval / Amendments to Agenda Items**

Motion this court approve this agenda as presented.

Motion by Jerry Ford, Second by Judy Kerr

VOICE VOTE.

MOTION CARRIED

8. **Citizens' Response to Agenda Items**

Ashley Meador, James Keller, and Christopher Barber signed in to speak during Public Comment.

9. **County Mayor Report** - Jack McCall

- **Streetscape Project** - Ragan-Smith, the company working on this project, is working to push through a few change orders with TDOT so that this project can be signed off on. Once TDOT signs off, we can begin to make some changes such as the curbs in the downtown area.
- **Trane Company** - We received a letter from them apologizing for this install taking so long. They are planning to have a company come in clean the courthouse and make repairs on anything they may have torn up.
- **Multi-Modal Grant** - No movement from TDOT at this time.
- **Blue Cross** - Mayor McCall has been in contact with an individual that could apply for a project such as a pickle ball court or some sort of workout complex and be funded by Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

10. **Committee/Board Reports**

- A. **Personnel** - June 29, July 20
- B. **Law Enforcement** - July 10
- C. **Finance Committee** - July 17
- D. **Public Works** - July 19
- E. **Other Reports** - None

11. **Active Business**

A. **Appointments**

1) **Chamber of Commerce Board**

In lieu of Mark Presley declining the appointment, Shane Burton nominated Lonnie Taylor for this position. With no other nominations, Mayor McCall said he would entertain a motion to cease nominations and elect Mr. Taylor by acclamation.

Motion by T. (Bubba) Gregory, Second by Amber Russell

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED

B. Acknowledgement

1) Debt Obligation Report

- a) \$3.264M Refunding General Obligation
 - b) \$1.9M Education Note for TCES Roof and TCHS Fieldhouse
- **THESE WILL BE SPREAD ACROSS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES****

C. Resolutions

- 1) Resolution 2023-23-792 Surplus - Playground Equipment

Motion this court approve this Resolution.

Motion by Landon Gulley, Second by David Thomas

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED

D. Notaries

- Debra A. Morton

Motion this court approve this Notary applicant.

Motion by Amber Russell, Second by Chris Gregory

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED

12. Other Business - None

13. Public Comment

- **Ashley Meador** was concerned with the security and lighting at Keller's Bar and Restaurant. Her uncle, Jerry Bybee, was hit and killed after leaving the bar several weeks ago. This incident actually happened in Sumner County. She had contacted Debbie Keller and James Keller for footage from their parking lot and was told they had removed them when they transferred systems. She requested CAD records from 2019 through March 2023. She found it concerning that out of sixty-five incidences coming from Keller's, that only 23% were reported by the staff at Keller's. She would like to see this looked into and maybe better lighting and walkways be provided.
- **James Keller** responded to Ms. Meador's information, by letting everyone know that no cameras had been removed. He let them look at all of the footage that he had on his cameras. He said Mr. Bybee came into the bar at 4:15 and had only five shots between then and 9:00. He says it only takes one hour for every shot to leave your body. Mr. Keller has taken all the necessary classes and is certified to serve liquor anywhere in TN. He has spoken with the ABC representative involving this accident and gave them Mr. Bybee's receipt showing what he had ordered that night. They say they will get back with Mr. Keller, but at this time they don't think he did anything wrong. He stated that they do take keys when someone is too intoxicated to drive and he's let people sleep at his house next door, up to 20 at a time, when he felt like they shouldn't be driving. He claims that a lot of issues stem from the campground located right next door to their property with unauthorized campers parked there.
- **Chris Barber** commented that he and Mr. Bybee had been good friends for fifteen years and he was very sad this had happened. He also said that he purchased his property beside Keller's in 2011 with the intention of making it an RV park as his retirement dream. Up until the last year or so, they had been cordial and he had even done some excavation work for the Keller's. He brought with him a file of 911 calls involving the bar and only 1/3 of them had been made from the bar. He questioned the safety of this establishment.

14. Adjourn

Motion this court adjourn.

Motion by Landon Gulley, Second by Grant Cothron

VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED