

Steering Committee

August 3, 2021

Dwight Jewell called the Steering Committee to order at 6:00 PM. In the Trousdale County Upstairs Courthouse.

Attendance:

The following attended Dwight Jewell, David Nollner, Bill Fergusson, Richard Harsh, Terry Gregory, Beverly Atwood, Landon Gulley, Gary Claridy.

Minutes from July 6, 2021:

Motion made by Ford and seconded by Claridy to approve minutes from July 6, 2021.

All in favor.

Additional to Agenda:

Student report Ethan Boles took on Student Representative as a junior.

All agreed to open up to others but not limit him as a candidate, allowing students to know its open yearly.

Mayors Report

Jewell: Similar to how TCHS was done; with room for expansion if needed?

Nollner: Court Room big for a trial or small?

Jewell: Design as our needs see for space and architect understands criminal justice but able to use for many years. Jury selection must come to courthouse due to having more room.

Sometimes storage space, etc. are minimized or cut out. Many on this committee will input needs to adequately build. Will all the Sheriff Department be there?

Mayor: Yes, they will be in one facility.

Gulley: 105 beds, avg 35.7 changes where population are different. Where did this number come from?

Mayor: These #'s will be updated once census is updated in September. Based on the population for next 20 years. This does include prison population. Page 25 bed breakdown. These beds based on past population.

Jewell: Some data might need to change once census #'s come in.

Gulley: Understand that he might can explain although the numbers bring questions.

Mayor: Looking at 85% population numbers.

Harsh: When took the tour of the jail they had 60 inmates. I understand where the 105 would be.

Jewell: COVID 2020, we have averaged 37%.

Ford: What and how are we going to build. Need to discuss how we are going to pay for it. Need to see how we can keep wheel tax and what we are going to charge. This is a lot of money to come up with.

Fergusson: Agree to Gulley may not need to start with 105 but start how we can with the ability to add on.

Jewell: This is not a decision to make tonight but may need to forward to Law Enforcement and Building Committee. Any date as to when this will start? Forward to Law Enforcement and Building to get started. Can't figure out a \$ amount until you get an architect involved to determine the size of the building and property. This is just to prepare this.

Harsh: Building Committee – no meeting has been set.

Mayor/Jewell: Any need to rush?

Mayor: Need to see for a RFQ out to everyone. Engineering or architect firm?

Ford: As slow as this is going, we need to get the wheel tax going before next May before it sunsets.

Nollner: Can we have building committee at Law enforcement committee?

Mayor: Can add for calendar to publish in the Vidette.

Jewell: Sometimes a rush can look shady to the public.

Ferguson 2nd Nollner to send Jail needs to Law Enforcement and Building to have a joint meeting if possible.

3 for, all other failed.

Gregory: Law Enforcement as scheduled Building Committee later in the month.

All but one in favor. 1 no, Gulley, due to questions.

- A. Jail Needs Assessment:** Working with CTAS. Recommends total beds of 105 and programming space, beds for all areas. Look at building, a new jail/Criminal Justice, 2 courtrooms, Sheriff's office, and clerks office. Look at study recommendations.

Ford: What will be used as current building. In other counties it has been turned into a Civil Center.

Ford: Any \$ amount.

Mayor: Build a little bigger no set square foot but to have area for future expansion. Estimation 20-25 million with purchased land.

- B.** RFQ for Engineering Services of the Proposed Jail/Civil Center. Would like for this to be forwarded to Law Enforcement.

No motions.

- C.** Comcast lease of communications tower recommend to Building

Claridy: Why not communications?

Mayor: Nothing internal. Just a lease of property. Just a suggestion.

Jewell: Needs to go to full body. No other. Been in place since the 1980's.

Harsh motion to Gregory 2nd to send to full body.

All in favor.

- D.** Health Insurance/Benefits review also looked at Insurance and Wage study. Looking for RFQ for a broker. Both to Insurance Committee

Gulley: A lot of conversations last year regarding health insurance – glad to see this due to many questions.

Gulley made a motion and 2nd by Atwood to forward Insurance benefits a RFQ regarding to Insurance Committee. All in favor.

Gregory – Do we have a timeframe?

Mayor – 19th if possible.

Gregory set a for August 19th. All in favor.

- E.** Health Insurance Broker RFQ Consideration Forward to Insurance Committee.
See above combination.

- F.** Budget Amendments

- 1.) LPRF Grant \$98,000 Total Amendment \$240,000 for Park and Recreation Grant.
TN Dept. environmental looked at it stating around the swings are unsafe. \$46,000 from fund balance? No out of governor's local support grant.

Claridy – 144,000 out of fund balance?

Mayor – out of grant money 98,000 refunded back. 240,000-98,000. 143,000 remaining grant funding can put back there but can go to the general fund.

Motion by Atwood and 2nd by Nollner to send to Budget and Finance with all in favor.

- 2.) Three Star Grant 47,500 competitive grant for directional signs – downtown. We did get 100% funding.

Motion by Ford and 2nd by Gulley to send to Budget and Finance actual grant to sign by August 10.

Motion by Ford and 2nd by Gregory for Mayor to have the authority to sign the grant.

All in favor.

Other discussion

Wage Study – goes to Personnel Committee first. Next meeting scheduled for August 12th.

Gulley – sun coming in during the meetings. Would like to see some type of blinds or shades installed.

Fergusson – I would like to revisit Three Star Grant – not sure we can give the mayor the authority to sign this – I would like to change my vote to no.

Gulley – Make a motion to revisit vote/discuss and 2nd by Nollner. All in favor.

Gulley – Make a motion that we give support to the mayor to sign agreement and sign grant for this Three Star Grant – all in favor.

Claridy - Tornado Siren has this been looked at?

Mayor – Yes, somehow the lines got cut. Lots of work to be done to repair over \$12,000.00. Spoke with Mr. Batey and he would rather see radios given out. Sheriff's office sends out alerts as well. The plan is to go in front of the Emergency Services. Appears costly to repair if it is fixed and the next thing is how long will it work. It works on a computer system that needs updating. Possibly look at placing somewhere else in the community although it needs to be in a high-density area.

Nollner – when we asked for this, we asked for 12 and received 1 thru a grant.

Gulley – I live where cell service is limited. Although due to technology during the last storm my phone did alert.

Public Comments

Brian King – The Industrial Development Board supports the mayor signing the Three Star Grant. Task for the jail fear for you as the wheel tax sunsets. If this expires before its sunsets it will be harder to get it back. As the town is growing there are 400 new students this year in our schools.

Jewell – Not building a new jail is not an option if we do not the state could force us too.

Ford – this could be similar to when we built the high school. The state gave us notice ort they would be forcing us too. Therefore I'm saying we need to evaluate this wheel tax.

Jewell – What does the wheel tax need to be how much???

Ford I'm not sure what it needs to be I'm just saying we need to get something in place.

Gregory – a lot of the new jails have been built and paid for by the state inmates.

Bellar – Recommend to you not to count on state inmates.

Ford – I've talked with many property owners and see we need the wheel tax.

Gregory – Motion to adjourn and 2nd by Ford

Minutes taken by Secretary Beverly Atwood.