

# ***Steering Committee***

**November 9, 2021**

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

## **Attendance:**

The following attended Terry Gregory, Dwight Jewell, Beverly Atwood, Landon Gulley, Gary Claridy, L. Taylor, Mayor Chambers, Nollner, Ferguson, Harsh, Ford

Review of Minutes: Harsh approved minutes 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ford with all in favor.

Election of officers.

Open Floor for Nominees:

Chair: Harsh nominated Jewell for Chair by Harsh

Ford made a motion to cease and elect Jewell by acclamation. All in Favor.

V Chair: Harsh nominate Ford 2<sup>nd</sup> by Atwood.

Gulley made a nomination to cease and elect Ford by acclamation. All in Favor

Secretary: Claridy nominated Atwood 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gregory.

Ford nominations cease and elect Atwood by acclamation. All in Favor

**Officers: Chair – Jewell**

**V. Chair – Ford**

**Secretary - Atwood**

## **County Assessment Plan from 6 years to 5 years.**

Request from Property Assessor Potts.

Jewell: Reappraisal Plan

State gives option 6, 5, 4, if growth. Ask in 3 years to do a reappraisal.

Suggestion to go to 5 year reappraisal to prevent the reappraisals in between.

Some ways beneficial to deal every 5 years not every 3 years. Downside every 5 years, maybe a larger inflation.

Mayor: My understanding as well.

Resolution draft in front of us.

Not sure what committees may need to go but maybe Budget & Finance.

Gulley: When will this go into effect since our last appraisal was 2020?

Potts: This will go into effect this year and another in 5 years.

2022 is reappraisal, changing from 6 to 5 years CDU, current date updated.

2019 was a raise, 2022 another raise.

Rates stay the same longer depending on growth. Should have been flattening off.

Jewell: When would we start this?

Potts: This would start January 2022.

6 year plan has 5 years to edit/review whole county. New computer system will help with this.

Fergusson: No assessment and tax increase in same year?

Jewell: Correct.

Looking at 25-30% value raise this year in our county to average out.

Then will roll taxes back.

#1 advantage

#1 amount of work with CDU on our offices and state.

All the mailings going out and they have been added to budget for this.

Thought of commission? May need to go to Budget but does it need to go full commission?

Potts: Talked yesterday only a handful of counties who still have this. TN going to have to review.

Fergusson: Motion to send this to full body, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ford. All in favor.

Ford: Seems to be eliminate a lot of work. May actually be a cost saving.  
Looking back at Byrd's budget in 2019 cost around \$3-3500.

### **Opioid Settlement Resolution**

Mayor: State of TN assumed various opioid of certain pharmaceutical, distributors and manufactures.  
State passed to divvy up the money with all counties and cities that qualify with this. Monies will be distributed among these with remainder going to the State General Fund. Does not cost county anything. Amount of money is not set at this time.

Gulley: \$ of 600 million.

Mayor: If enough go with it will depend on bottom figure. This would be split among 95 counties.

Ford: Mayor any stipulations of how it can be used? Used for drug counseling etc.

Gulley: Recommend sending to full body. Taylor second. All in favor.

C: RFQ for Civil Engineering Firm

Mayor: If we had a contract with Engineering Firm, we might could move through some projects sooner.  
Just like expansion at Health Department and assist with other grants.  
Feel may need to go to professional Services Selection Committee

Gulley: RFQ – can't ask for \$ just for qualifications.

Jewell: What will we need them for?

HVAC, windows in this building – Public Works Department

Claridy: How many firms to send this to?

Mayor: Put in Gallatin newspaper? New system to put in 3-4 firms contacted in the past.

Claridy: Statewide/Nationwide?

Mayor: Try to get offices close to be able to come review.

Jewell: How do we need to go with this? Full body approved tonight?

Mayor: Just giving me/my office permission to proceed? I will then move to full body.

### **Health Department Expansion**

Been to my office, Have buildings behind there building. COVID 19 supplies are outside. Looking at expansion to store supplies for covid 19 testing and another exam room. Awning or carport for vaccines?

Jewell: Building 20-25 years old?

Gulley: Property available?

Mayor: Transfer from Hwy Dept to county to expand and Mr. Scruggs is good with that. Expansion would go directly back to the North.

Ford: Idea of cost?

Mayor: If we had firm this would expedite this process. May be able to use American Rescue Funds for capital improvement.

Ford: Size of expansion?

Mayor: Working on it but do not know for sure. Just an FYI to give a heads up, more information to follow.

### **Veteran Services Office MOU**

When Mrs. Russell resigned office has been vacant. Know you had mentioned this before.

Mayor: Federal Requirements are 20 hours a week. Mentioned this to some other counties that could assist.

2 days a month: 1 in office 2<sup>nd</sup> day would be an outing to different parts of the county. Report to my office monthly. Total cost \$700 director a month. \$500 assistance.

One or the other will be here.

Ford: Can we not find anyone in the county to do this?

Mayor: They would be there 2 days a month and use Debbie Jenkins old office 1<sup>st</sup> day office 2<sup>nd</sup> day with outreach.

Fergusson: What are we doing currently?

Mayor: Referring to Gallatin office or contact the state.

Fergusson: Would Gallatin office assist them? Have we talked to our local veterans in our county? Do you know the figure of veterans we have?

Mayor: Approximately 420.

Jewell: After last week's meeting it was recommended, we need our own office.

Some don't have access to go outside. I would like for us to look at the whole issue. Services available, amount of people we have.

Ford: Personally, I feel we are doing an inconvenience to send the families out of town to other counties. Feel we need to keep the services local.

Gulley: 20 hours required per week?

Mayor: 16 hrs. originally by not knowing requirements.

Fergusson: Feel we need to keep at home. Need to exhaust all options. We must keep here if at possible. Maybe we need a subcommittee.

Gulley: Current pay rate \$12-12.50/hour. No increase that I recall for that office.

Jewell: Mr. Fergusson do I understand you fill we need to create a committee.

Fergusson: Yes I feel we need some assistance on this.

Jewell: Feel we need to have a study committee not a permanent committee.

Mayor: This MOU is to help to go out to outreach.

Jewell: Frankly I feel this would be voted down if we do not do a sub study committee, we can get the research needed thru that. Recommendations of what may ne needed. It's not stepping on anyone's toes. We all were elected by the same people.

Claridy: Looking at \$ numbers are different.

Mayor: Email yesterday different from todays \$ already allocated.

Gulley: I like the idea of us researching what we need to do before doing this.

5 member committee to include Commissioners Walsh, Davis, Russell and maybe 2 from community. Maybe schedule, hours are unclear?

Motion to make 5 sub member study committees for to include, "Walsh, Davis, Russell" and 2 from community to study research Veteran office and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fergusson.

Nathan Vaughn – American Legion, David Chambers VFW commander to serve as Ex Officio members.

Ford: We owe this to our local people.

All in favor.

**Animal Shelter Director Compensation**

Staff reassigned in office in August. Put out applications/applicant applied turned down. Put back out, candidate, qualified and declined.

Fergusson: We do not have anyone?

Mayor: Public works, Teresa Turner, Mayor, and René Pridemore have been tending to them. Budget Finance to increase. Director is stated up to 40 hrs per week. Part time assistant is in the budget. This is addition to director position. Funds are there now.

Fergusson: Motion made to move to Budget Finance, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Harsh. All in favor.

**Program TN Grant to improve traffic signal to update control box. Improve lights to McMurry and Andrews to program morning and night hours to improve to improve traffic.**

Jewell: Asking to apply for grant? See it's due in December.

Mayor: Max \$100,000 straight with no match.

Gulley motion to send to full body, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ford. All in favor.

**Other Business:**

Mayor: none

Jewell: TCSA Conference, 2 issues I see we may have come to us.

#1 proposal by TDOT to legislature to tie in all state highway driveways to road. Large expense.

#2 spoken with Mr. Satterfield. Proposal by governor to do away with BEP Site based funding to a student center-based funding. Excel head -back door voucher system. Look at it education committee to try to try to get some hard information.

I have been elected again to serve on Board of Directors of the county commission.

Nollner:EMS meeting. Carman had a long talk about - lost 2 EMT's and about to lose 2 more to Gallatin, Lebanon, Metro, etc.

4 people at first of year.

Budget/Finance will have this coming.

Kerr spoke with me. Not signed by Governor that all school board members to be declared parties.

Transitioned into Direct Deposit that things went well but one with wrong routing #.

EMS work 40 hours per week but get paid overtime.

Mayor: Don't recall the conversation.

Batey: Everyone would receive normal pay

These are direct deposit.

Bonus check,

650.32 normal 2 week pay period.

628.38

544.32 EMS

544.32 EMS

Some lost income

Mayor: Based on what they were hired to work. Will have figures ready for Budget and Finance.

Jewell: We asked specifically, not sure what we need to do with this as we have been down this road many times.

Batey: Everyone else in county got normal pay so you can imagine how they feel.

Fergusson: We have been around this many times. We need to be proactive. Budget and Finance to look and make a decision. Sent to Budget and Finance by personnel and by EMS. Budget Finance.

Any other departments effected by this? Sheriff's department and the mayor's office.

Gulley: This is regular week including OT with EMS and Sherriff's.

**Public Comments:**

Commissioner Mary Ann Baker: Do all resolutions/ordinances have to come to this committee for any action to be taken?

Jewell: Not sure if they must but they usually do. Main purpose is not to approve it's to refer to committees from the mayor's office. We steer to proper body does not approve or disapprove. Any commissioner can write an ordinance or resolution.

Commissioner Mary Ann Baker: What authority does the steering committee have to make a subcommittee?

Jewell: We don't make that establishment to ask to put it on agenda.

Fergusson: These are just recommendations to study that piece.

Ford: Motion to adjourn.

Minutes taken by Secretary Atwood