

PUBLIC WORKS & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

5:30 P.M.

Chamber

BOARD MEMBERS:

Commissioner Joshua James
Commissioner Anthony Johnson
Commissioner Jeff Phillips
Commissioner Phil Dodd
Commissioner Robert Peay
Commissioner Steve Pearcy, VC

OTHERS PRESENT:

Joe S. Carr Rachel Lehew
Michael Smith Mike Claussen
Bishop Wagener Eric Hennessee
Mark Russell Greg Brooks
Bricke Murfree Meredith Kermicle
Doug Demosi Susan Allen

Vice Chairman Pearcy presided and called February 7, 2023, Public Works and Planning Committee to order at 5:30 pm.

MINUTES:

“Commissioner A. Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to approve the minutes as mailed. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Greg Brooks presented a Highway Department budget amendment decreasing the Highway Department fund end balance line item for increases in the Other Contracted Services, Asphalt, Diesel Fuel, and Bridge Constructions line items due to the price increases for Asphalt, Line Striping, Diesel Fuel and Guardrail repairs. Following discussion,

FROM:	131-34750 Highway Dept. Fund Ending Balance	\$2,400,000.00
TO:	131-62000-399 Other Contracted Services	\$200,000.00
TO:	131-62000-402 Asphalt	\$2,000,000.00
TO:	131-62000-412 Diesel Fuel	\$100,000.00
TO:	131-68000-705 Bridge Construction	\$100,000.00

“Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Dodd, to approve the Highway Department budget amendment as presented and forward to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.”

BUILDING CODES:

Assist Director Russell presented the Building Codes Reports for use and information. Following discussion,

“Commissioner A. Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to accept the Building Codes Reports as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

PLANNING & ENGINEERING:

Director Demosi presented the January 2023 available lot inventory and three (3) Rezoning Requests for use and information. Following discussion,

“Commissioner James moved, seconded by Commissioner Dodd, to approve the January 2023 lot inventory and the rezoning requests as presented and forward to the Commission. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Director Demosi advised that the Consideration of a resolution changing the residential sprinkler requirements for fire hydrant waiver requests from subdivisions of three lots or greater to subdivisions of six lots or greater continues to be a work in progress and will be presented soon.

Commissioner Phillips asked when is the Steering/Planning Mtg.

Director Demosi stated that the goal is by the end of the year.

SOLID WASTE:

Director Wagener presented the Solid Waste and Convenience Reports for use and information. Following discussion,

“Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Peay, to approve the Solid Waste and Convenience Reports as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.”

Vice Chairman Percy inquired about the current wait times.

Director Wagener stated that wait times are two (2) hours plus but average one (1) hour and fifteen (15) minutes.

Director Wagener presented a Solid Waste Fund Budget Amendment to provide additional funding for diesel fuel. Following discussion,

TO:	116-55732-412 Diesel Fuel	\$120,000.00
FROM:	116-55739-732 Building Purchases	\$120,000.00

Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner James, to approve the Solid Waste Fund Budget Amendment as presented and forward to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Director Wagener presented a Change Order for the Leanna Convenience Center for \$8,888.76 and the Rockvale Convenience Center for \$10,977.12. Following discussion,

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the Leanna Convenience Center Change Order for \$8,888.76 and the Rockvale Convenience Center for \$10,977.12 as presented and forward to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Peay requested Director Wagener contact the engineering firm and attempt to recoup these funds.

Commissioner Phillips requested Director Wagener to report to the Committee on his efforts to recoup the funds from the engineering firm.

Vice Chairman Percy inquired about the process at the sites.

Director Wagener advised that the progress at the Leanna Center is good, while there is minimal progress at the Landfill Road site due to the weather.

Vice Chairman Percy stated that the gentleman hired to check on illegal dumping is doing a great job, and the individuals have been identified and will be fined.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Vice Chairman Percy said there had been a request for Mayor Carr to comment on discussions with the City of Murfreesboro concerning the Transfer Station.

Mayor Carr reminded the Committee of the possibility of two (2) sites for the transfer station, one on Landfill Road and the other on Butler Drive, which would be a partnership with the City of Murfreesboro. The opportunity for a partnership on the transfer station at Butler drive created a financial opportunity. The City of Murfreesboro is willing to split the cost of the transfer station. The challenge is not that they are proceeding with a WastAway Solution because Rutherford County is not involved with WastAway at this time. Rutherford County continues to look at other options. The

Commission approved to fund the design and engineering for a transfer station, whether at Butler Drive or Landfill Road.

Mayor Carr continued that Triad's quote is \$86,000.00 over the budgeted amount of \$200,000.00. Rutherford County reached out to Hoffman, and they are currently working on the design and engineering for a transfer station at Landfill Road or at Butler Drive, which is yet to be determined. This Committee will determine the location once it becomes appropriate.

Commissioner Dodd asked if Hoffman was working on the design for the station at Butler Drive and if an agreement is reached, does the city not have a Design Engineer of record?

Mayor Carr stated that the City of Murfreesboro is designing a transfer station and a WastAway solution located at Bulter Drive. Mayor Carr continued that Rutherford County is statutorily obligated to Rutherford County's waste and is unaware if Rutherford County could subjugate that authority to another municipality. Mayor Carr advised that Mr. Christiansen and the City of Murfreesboro's Attorney are in the very beginning stages of creating an interlocal agreement. Rutherford County has a significant interest in a transfer station whether it be at Butler Drive or Landfill Road. Mr. Hoffman has stated that he could prepare eight (80) percent of the design of the transfer service and locate it anywhere.

Commissioner Dodd asked if the City of Murfreesboro would accept to build a design that Rutherford County provided and will Rutherford County be receiving change orders from Mr. Hoffman, or do we need more clarity on Butler versus Landfill Road.

Mayor Carr said that the process is not that far along, and he could not answer on behalf of the City of Murfreesboro.

Mayor Carr advised that based on information from Director Wagener, Mac Nolen, and Becky Caldwell, we are racing against the clock regarding Republic being at full capacity within two or two and a half years without an expansion. We are attempting to do two things at once, to find out if an interlocal agreement would be practical. Since permission has been authorized to move ahead with the design of the transfer station, the design can be eighty percent complete regardless of location.

Commissioner Dodd stated he hopes that the City of Murfreesboro accepts the plans created and this process isn't mute.

Mayor Carr advised that regardless if the City of Murfreesboro utilizes the plans or not, Rutherford County may need another station on the North end of the county.

Commissioner Peay stated that it was his understanding that Rutherford County would be building two transfer stations or at least the City completing theirs and Rutherford County constructing theirs. If we are having trash delivered to Landfill Road, we need a transfer station there. If in the future, we decide to reclaim the old landfill it will save money.

Mayor Carr agreed, but the timing was unclear. When the City of Murfreesboro presented a significant financial offer, we paid attention, but at the same time, this may not work out.

Commissioner Peay stated the dates concerning Middle Point's closing; why don't we ask their manager who is in the audience?

Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to suspend the rules allowing Mike Claussen to address the Committee. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Mr. Claussen stated that based on the monthly analysis and should the number of tons and density remain the same, the estimated date is July 2027.

Commissioner Peay questioned that if, in July 2027, Middle Point stopped taking trash would they consider staying open for only Rutherford County residents?

Mr. Claussen advised it is possible, but the cost would be higher.

Mayor Carr advised that Rutherford County would like to know that cost.

Vice Chairman Percy asked that once Middle Point closed, would the gates be locked?

Mr. Claussen stated no, it would be there for another fifty years due to post-closure procedures.

Commissioner James asked if this Committee could have the numbers by next month.

Mr. Claussen advised no, but he would obtain them and come back to the Committee.

Vice Chairman Percy called the meeting back into session.

Commissioner A. Johnson stated that it was his understanding that Rutherford County would be building two transfer stations; one of them needs to be located on the North end of the county and not hauled across the county.

Mayor Carr advised that Director Wagener is pursuing land on the North end.

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Kusch declared the meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Mike Kusch, Chairman