

Cannon County,  
Tennessee  
Board of  
Commissioners  
Legislative Minutes

September 3, 2020

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order Thursday September 3, 2020 at 5:50 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Cannon County Courthouse.

Prayer and Pledge - The prayer was led by Commissioner Ronnie Mahaffey. Pledge was led by Commissioner Karen Ashford.

Roll Call - (Present) Jeannine Floyd, Russell Reed, Corey Davenport, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush, Greg Mitchell, Randy Gannon, Ronnie Mahaffey. (Absent) Brent Brandon

Approve/Change Agenda - The changes to the agenda were to move the following items 16. 911 Agreement, 17. Tax Relief Act, and ADA Update to Old Business and move the Sheriff's Dept. to the October meeting. The Greenbelt discussion was left off of the agenda and will be put on the October agenda. To be added was the discussion of the Barrett Group Resolutions. A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Corey Davenport and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Mahaffey. Motion was approved by a Voice Vote.

Consent Agenda -

- a. Approve meeting minutes of the August 6 & 17, 2020
- b. Approve Notaries - Sherry Lynn Cawthorn, Charlene Bogle, Debbie Zerio, Lacey Chumley, Esther Bobo, Amber Anne Abrams.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Jeannine Floyd, seconded by Commissioner Karen Ashford. Motion was approved by a Voice Vote.

Public Comment Period - There was no public comment.

Old Business/Tabled Items- Commissioner Ronnie Mahaffey announced that there would be a meeting to discuss the 911 Agreement on September 10, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Courthouse. This meeting is to discuss if there are any changes that need to be made to the agreement that expires 6-30-21. If there are any changes to be made, notice has to be given six months prior. The Tax Relief Act was also discussed by Commissioner Ronnie Mahaffey. The Tax Freeze Program would freeze future tax increases and the dollar amount would be locked in no matter the future tax liabilities. To qualify for a tax freeze residents have to be 65 years of age or older, it has to be their principal residence, with a yearly income of less than \$31,090. Mr. Mahaffey estimated \$32,000 to \$35,000 in revenue loss and additional expenses that the county would incur. Property Assessor Angela Schwartz explained that there would be no benefits from a Tax Freeze until taxes are raised but the county would still have the additional cost to implement the program. She also explained that with a stipend those residents would get

immediate assistance. Commissioner Corey Davenport stated that he did not agree with creating two new jobs costing \$35,000 and not giving those residents any benefits for possibly several years. A motion was made by Commissioner Corey Davenport for a \$25.00 stipend. There was no second for this motion. Commissioner Davenport made another motion for a \$50.00 stipend. There was no second for this motion. Commissioner Ronnie Mahaffey made a motion for a Tax Freeze. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jeannine Floyd. Voting Aye: Jeannine Floyd, Ronnie Mahaffey. Voting Nay: Russell Reed, Corey Davenport, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush, Greg Mitchell, Randy Gannon. Motion Failed by a vote of 2 for, 6 against.

A.D.A. Update - Scott St. John with St. John Engineering spoke to the Commission concerning the A.D.A. plans. St. John Engineering is in the process of assisting the county with a self evaluation and transmission plan. St. John said that there are a number of variables still pending but with the items identified they feel like the cost would be \$500,000 to 1 million. The cost of the evaluation and transmission plan could be \$12,000 to \$15,000 with a November time frame for completion. No action was taken.

A.D.A Website will be discussed at the October meeting.

Nominations/Appointment of 2nd District School Board Member - Commissioner Karen Ashford nominated Jennifer Duggin for 2nd District School Board Member.. Voting Aye: Jeannine Floyd, Russell Reed, Corey Davenport, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush, Greg Mitchell, Randy Gannon, Ronnie Mahaffey. Motion was carried by a vote of 8 for.

Nominations/Appointment of 2nd District School Board Member - Commissioner Ronnie Mahaffey nominated Aletha Thomas for 5th District School Board Member. Voting Aye: Jeannine Floyd, Russell Reed, Corey Davenport, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush, Greg Mitchell, Randy Gannon, Ronnie Mahaffey.

Chairman Greg Mitchell announced that newly elected 5th District County Commissioner, Lacey Buchanan had to resign due to a conflict with her job. Commissioner Corey Davenport made a motion to accept her resignation. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Randy Gannon. Voting Aye :Jeannine Floyd, Russell Reed, Corey Davenport, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush, Greg Mitchell, Randy Gannon, Ronnie Mahaffey. Motion was carried by a vote of 8 for.

Request to reclassify/ rezone property at 1506 Jim Cummings Hwy. - Chairman Greg Mitchell verified that the planning commission had recommended this property be rezoned to C-1. Susan Dooley Jones stated that the property 1506 Jim Cummings Hwy. is currently zoned A-1 but has always been used as a commercial property. It faces a state highway and has commercial property on either side. Chairman Greg Mitchell said that Tommy Lee thought this was a property that was missed in the zoning process and should have originally been zoned C-1.

Mrs. Jones represents the seller and has a buyer interested in the property if it is zoned commercial. The buyer intends on building an office/industrial building to rent. Commissioner Ronnie Mahaffey asked if this had been brought before the Cannon County Regional Planning Commission and Chairman Mitchell and Mrs. Jones both confirmed that it had passed the planning commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Karen Ashford to approve the rezoning from A-1 to C-1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jim Bush. Voting Aye: Jeannine Floyd, Russell Reed, Corey Davenport, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush, Greg Mitchell, Randy Gannon, Ronnie Mahaffey. Ronnie Mahaffey voted yes with the approval of the Regional Planning Commission and the Board of Appeals. Randy Gannon also wanted to add that comment to his vote. Motion was carried by a vote of 8 for.

### Budget Amendments

- a. Sheriff's Department
- b. Clerk & Master's Office

The Sheriff's Dept amendment was not discussed due to the invoices being paid in FY 19/20. The Resolution BA20/21-1, Budget Amendment for the Chancery Court Clerk in the amount of \$2,980.00 from Account 34520(Reserve Funds) to 53400-719(Office Equipment) A motion was made by Commissioner Karen Ashford to accept this budget amendment. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jim Bush. Voting Aye: Russell Reed, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush, Greg Mitchell, Randy Gannon, Ronnie Mahaffey. Commissioner Jeannine Floyd passed. Commissioner Corey Davenport abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion was carried by a vote of 6 for, 2 passed.

Commissioner Randy Gannon asked County Executive Brent Bush to give an update on the progress of the repairs required by the Fire Marshall to the old hospital. County Executive Bush stated that the Fire Marshall was very pleased with the progress at the last inspection. All of the sprinkler heads have been removed with the exception of a couple on the first floor. The contract has been signed with the security company for the fire alarms and first floor magnetic doors are done. The drop ceiling still has to be done. School Director Curtis said that they had received a grant through TN Risk Management for \$19,000 for the new entrance that is now completed. The grant money paid for the new handicapped accessible door and sidewalks.

Commissioner Karen Ashford said the fire dept had purchased the two trucks that were approved by the Commission as were now in service. They are waiting on a tanker truck from Nolensville Fire Dept.

Chairman Greg Mitchell reminded everyone that they would be voting on 2020-2021 committees in October and would be receiving a list to review.

Commissioner Corey Davenport brought up the Barrett Resolution 2019-14 to increase the Litigation Tax in General Sessions Court. The current resolution shall remain in effect until the end of the fiscal year and will need to be re-enacted, repealed, or adjusted annually. It was decided to be voted on in October.

### Adjourn

A motion was made by Commissioner Russell Reed to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Randy Gannon.

The meeting was called adjourned at 7:20 p.m.