

Building and Grounds
Committee
April 4, 2011
5:00 pm

Present: Robert Gobble, Russell Kyte, L. C. Tester, Ronnie Trivett, Richard Winters, Jo Ann Blankenship and Ken Arney.

Guests: Mayor Humphrey, Jeff Kelly, Bob Henshaw, Angie Odom, Robin Schafer and concerned citizens.

Chairman Russell Kyte called the meeting to order. A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Ken Arney, second by Robert Gobble.

Old Business

Lease/Rent of Probation and Public Defender's Offices-Bob Henshaw represented the Probation Office and assured the committee they would like to remain in the building. Jeff Kelly of the Public Defender's Office was also in attendance and reiterated Mr. Henshaw's statement of remaining in the building. Chairman Kyte reported he had spoken to the county attorney, Keith Bowers and was told by Mr. Bowers he had read the letter that had been sent to him and he understood the parties would like to pay rent and stay where they are, but they wanted the county to pay the utilities. Mr. Kyte stated he did not think it was a good idea because he believed the utilities would exceed the rent. He stated Mr. Bowers ask if the committee could postpone their decision a month so he would have time to review the contracts. Mr. Kyte informed the committee he had told Mr. Bowers that the committee had already waited for three months and a decision needs to be made. Mr. Kyte also stated Mr. Bowers said that he would come and present everything at the next meeting.

Ken Arney made a motion we write the lease for the payment that we requested and they assume all other responsibilities for the utilities and to be retro-active back to when we passed it the first time. Motion failed.

Mayor Humphrey stated the parties had submitted leases last month and he tried to get the committee to take a copy of the contracts to review. There were only a few issues, the parties came in good faith and made their proposals. Only one party did not want to pay the utilities.

Discussion of leases presented to Keith Bowers was held with Mr. Kyte informing the board Mr. Bowers said he did not read the leases until earlier today. Mr. Kelly, Public Defenders Office stated for the record they did not have a problem paying the utilities and had done so in the past. He also stated that the county pays the utilities and they reimburse the county. Mr. Henshaw stated he had spoken with Mr. Smith from the State Probation and Parole Office and was told that there were some simple fine points that they were trying to negotiate out, but he was told it would appear the lease was on track for a successful resolution. Communication between the Parole Office and the Public Defender's Office with Kathy Hartman relating to one payment voucher is now in process. L. C. Tester made a motion to postpone the decision until next month's meeting when the county attorney can be present, second by Ronnie Trivett. Ken Arney voted no. Motion carried.

Monument Repairs-Mr. Kyte stated the Veterans Office at the VA does not have funds to do the repairs. Jo Ann Blankenship stated that in last month's Commission Meeting, Gebe Ritchie had stated he would check into the Veterans doing the repairs, she requested Mr. Kyte speak with him. Mayor Humphrey stated the committee authorized in January to repair the monument. The purchase order was requested and allocation of \$10,500 was made for the monument repairs.

New Business

Guttering Register of Deeds Office-Mr. Kyte ask the Mayor to have it fixed.

Window Seal in the Probate Office-Mr. Kyte ask the Mayor to have it fixed.

Mr. Kyte ask the Mayor if he had a Maintenance Man here. Mayor Humphrey stated we have not had a Maintenance Man in years. The Mayor ask Mr. Kyte what is the purpose of this committee and the committee chair are they not taking any active role? Mr. Kyte answered yes; he stated he thought we should have a Maintenance Man.

Ken Arney made a motion to adjourn, second by Paul Mottern. Motion carried.

Mayor Humphrey stated there were other items on the agenda. Mr. Kyte stated there was a motion and a second to adjourn.

Angie Odom stated "That was wrong; I brought my daughter to this meeting to see how our business in our community was run. I'm ashamed and I don't want her to stay. Ms. Odom went on to say her eyes have been blinded all of these years."

Linda Whitehead stated "I've been run off for eight months."

Robert Gobble stated we should give Ms. Whitehead permission to talk.

Ken Arney rescinded his motion to adjourn.

Linda Whitehead addressed the committee about her trees being cut down on her property. Discussion of what could be done to correct the problem. L. C. Tester ask Ms. Whitehead what would it take to make it right with you? Ms. Whitehead called a local landscaping company to inquire a cost of replacing the trees at a cost of \$129 each. Ms. Whitehead stated she would like the trees that have been cut, removed and replaced with a row of trees for privacy. Jo Ann Blankenship suggested we contact a nursery association we have in the county to see if they would donate the trees. Mr. Kyte ask who authorized the trees to be cut, Ms. Whitehead said that Johnny Holder told her he ordered it because the sap was falling on the employee's cars at the courthouse. Mr. Tester clarified the situation as to how many trees need to be replaced. Ms. Whitehead agreed to meet with someone on the committee to point out the trees that needed to be removed.

L. C. Tester made a motion to acquire three estimates to remove the trees, second by Robert Gobble. Motion Carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Russell Kyte, second by Robert Gobble. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Debbie Street