

Carter County Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2012

APPROVED

Members Present

Members Absent

Ralph Watson, Vice-Chairman
Jerry Smith
Bill Armstrong
Steve Chambers
Richard Renfro
Russ Kyte
Richard Winters
Bob L. Townsend
Steve Pierce, Chairman
Tom "Yogi" Bowers
Jack Campbell

Mary Ann Patton

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Schuettler, Director
Diane Cannon, Secretary
Jack Hampton, Permits
Justyn Markland, Codes Enforcement Officer

LOCAL PLANNING STAFF PRESENT

Glenn Rosenoff, F.T.D.D.

COUNTY OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Leon Humphrey

The Chairman called the meeting to order. Roll called and visitors welcomed. Motion by Mr. Watson to accept May, 2012 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Chambers. Minutes approved unanimously.

1.) Bronson Ridge Subdivision. Preliminary Design was presented. Soils are currently being worked. Staff recommended approval of preliminary design. Chairman Pierce questioned the issue of Stormwater runoff. Mr. Wood, project engineer, stated the "flat area" would be covered with rock to disburse water. Mr. Malcolm McKinney, a resident of Warrior Estates, addressed the board regarding concerns regarding drainage and drainage map of area next to his property. Chairman Pierce suggested Mr. McKinney contact TDEC at their next meeting. There will be better knowledge as construction begins. Mr. Wood stated, "TDEC will have a strong say in what is done during construction." Following the discussion the chairman made a request for a motion. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve design as presented by Mr. Wood. Steve Chambers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2.) Jack Hampton's Report.** Mr. Hampton presented the permit report for May. (Report attached). Mr. Renfro made the motion to accept the report and Ralph Watson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Chairman Pierce questioned the amount of money the state of Tennessee makes off the sale of each permit. Mr. Schuettler stated the office staff is currently working on certifications for all areas now required by state to be inspected. Mr. Chambers stated that as soon as all certifications are obtained he would like to see the planning office staff take over the responsibilities so the money can stay in the county.
- 3.) Codes Enforcement Officer's Report.** Justyn Markland was absent due to illness so Tony Gouge, Codes Enforcement Officer, presented the report. He reported several properties were to go before the judge on July 18th for failure to comply.
- 4.) Animal Control Officer's Report.** Animal Control Officer, Chris Pierce presented his report in writing (see attached). He noted three bite reports were received. Mr. Chambers asked Mr. Pierce if he had been involved in an incident that had made headlines regarding a golden retriever that had been adopted out of the Elizabethton Animal Shelter and then the true owner came to claim him. Mr. Chambers stated he knew the young man who adopted the dog...at the age of six the young man adopted a golden retriever from the shelter that had been abused...for 10 years the boy and his dog were inseparable, Mr. Chambers stated he watched the young man carry the dog upon its death and bury him while tears streamed down his face. He had not had a pet since then. While fishing near the shelter on Saturday morning he saw the golden retriever in question and said it reminded him so much of his dog he decided to once again adopt a dog... The young man is 20 years old now and had told Mr. Chambers he was made to feel like a villain for adopting someone's dog. The dog was taken to be neutered by a animal shelter staff member on Tuesday. While on his way to claim the dog he received a call from Mayor Humphrey stating he had gotten a call from shelter director April Jones and an email from the original owner wanting the dog back. The young man requested a few days to think about it. After careful consideration he decided to return the dog to its original owner and called Mrs. Jones to notify her of his decision. The animal shelter advisory board was satisfied with the decision. Mr. Armstrong stated this is a good reason to remove the animal control officer for Carter County out of the planning office's control and move him to the shelter. Mr. Armstrong then made a motion to do so. Mr. Watson made a motion to table the decision. Mr. Chambers seconded the motion and requested a roll call vote: Watson: Yes, Pierce: Yes, Bowers: No, Campbell: No, Smith: No, Armstrong: No, Chambers: Yes, Renfro: No, Kyte: No, Winters: Yes, Townsend: No. Motion failed. Following the failed motion Mr. Armstrong again made the motion to move Mr. Pierce to the shelter directors control and a roll call vote was taken: Watson: No, Smith: Yes, Armstrong: Yes, Chambers: No, Renfro: Yes, Kyte: No, Winters: Yes, Townsend: Yes, Pierce: No, Bowers: No, Campbell: Yes. Motion passed.
- 5.) Director's Comments.** A.) Mr. Schuettler announced that a joint training would be held in August. B.) Mr. Schuettler announced that a good friend to the planning office and developer in Carter County passed away, Martin Meredith. A request that his family be remembered in thought and prayer was made. C.) Mr. Schuettler clarified operational money.

- 6.) Public Comments. A.)** Mr. Beattie of 122 Monument Court spoke to the members regarding a situation he was having with a neighbor. There is a right-of-way that is 20 feet and 8 inches long being used by the neighbor as a dump and burn area. Mr. Beattie stated that limbs were cut out of one of his trees in which a swing had been put. He stated his neighbor, Scott Snell, had put the swing on his carport. The majority of the mess is still on the right-of-way. Mr. Beattie does not feel he and his wife should be in this situation and was seeking a solution. Mr. Schuettler was to request a letter be sent to the Carter County Highway Dept. requesting the mess be removed. He also stated he would instruct the county attorney look into closing the right-of-way. He should have an answer by the end of the week. B.) Roy Livingston: Rules and Regulations. Mr. Livingston had requested to be on the agenda following the May meeting but failed to appear during the June meeting. C.) Ms. Shuman, 173 Deloach Road, Ms. Shuman appeared seeking help with an ongoing problem between her, her neighbor, and the Siam Utility District. Ms. Shuman's water meter is at 156 Deloach Road and after the owner of 156 moved a mobile home on site Ms. Shuman's waterline began to leak. Her neighbor will not allow her to dig on her property in an effort to identify where the leak is. Ms. Shuman has contacted Siam Utility but due to the fact the leak is on "her side" she has not had any success with obtaining help. Ms. Shuman stated she had to walk or drive to her meter and keep the water off until such time she needed it. Chairman Pierce directed Mr. Schuettler to draft a letter for him to sign requesting help for Ms. Shuman. A request for a motion was made. Ralph Watson made the motion Steve Chambers seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Shuman also stated there was a mess at the end of the road that needed the code enforcement officers' attention.
- 7.) Mr. Von Cannon:** Mr. Von Cannon inquired about a situation on Pleasant Dr. Mr. Barnett had requested assistance on his behalf. Mr. Jimmy Church, Assistant Director, stated he had spoken with the neighbor, Mr. Dewayne Shelton, and that he always does what he asks him too. Mr. Von Cannon asked that someone asked Mr. Shelton to grass the area. Mr. Church stated the area has been grassed.
- 8.) Adjournment.** Mr. Renfro made the motion to adjourn and Mr. Chambers seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.