

Sevier County Commission

April 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Quorum Present (22 Present, 4 Absent)

Present: Mayor Larry Waters, Ronnie Allen, Fred Atchley, Scott Catlett, Bryan Delius, Aaron Foster, Chuck Godfrey, Greg Haggard, Brandon Headrick, Dale Hill, Mike Hillard, Todd Humble, Warren Hurst, Michael Maddron, Don McGill, Chad Ogle, Frank Parton, Harold Pitner, Carrol Rauhuff, Tommy Watts, Ronnie Whaley, Kent Woods

Absent: Mike Chambers, Gary Cole, Ray Ogle, Jack Parton

III. CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION 2023-04-01: RECOGNIZE THE NEW CENTER ELEMENTARY GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE TMSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

A motion was made by Allen and duly seconded by Rauhuff. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION 2023-04-02: RECOGNIZE THE SEVIER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR ADVANCING TO THE TSSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

A motion was made by Maddron and duly seconded by Atchley. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

V. CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION 2023-04-03: RECOGNIZE THE SEVIER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM FOR ADVANCING TO THE TSSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

A motion was made by Maddron and duly seconded by Atchley. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS COMMISSION MEETING

A motion was made by Pitner and duly seconded by Headrick. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent. Passing the minutes for March 30, 2023 County Commission Meeting.

VII. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES

A motion was made by Hillard and duly seconded by Rauhuff. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

VIII. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A motion was made by Hillard and duly seconded by Foster. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS/PUBLIC HEARING ON REZONING REQUESTS

- Public Comment on agenda items
 - I. Kevin Hedrick – Property manager of Hidden Mountain Resort ask commissioners to table agenda item XIII for a month to allow property owners a chance to dispute the changes. The resort maintains its own roads and trash collections, with these changes it was going to cost more out of pocket than originally budgeted.
 - II. Chuck McCarter – Owner of a short-term rental since 1980's wanted to know why no owners were notified of the changes ahead of time to dispute it. Ask to delay the vote on the agenda item XIII, to allow the owners a chance to respond to the 60% tax hike. Spoke about how spot zoning properties to commercial rate prohibited by State.

- Public Hearing on rezoning items
 - I. No comments from the public

X. CONSIDERATION OF PETITION 2023-04-01: RELEASE THE SEVIER COUNTY TRUSTEE FROM FURTHER LIABILITY FOR THE COLLECTIONS OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021 AS REQUESTED BY THE SEVIER COUNTY TRUSTEE

A motion was made by Hillard and duly seconded by Pitner. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

XI. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-04-01: AMEND THE ZONING RESOLUTION FOR SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE BY REZONING P/O TAX MAP 65 PARCEL 134.01 FROM A-1, AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO C-1, RURAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.

- Address: Jones Cove Road
- Requested by: Ronnie Breeden
- Sevier County Planning Commission Recommendation: FOR

A motion was made by Allen and duly seconded by Delius. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

XII. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-04-02: CONFIRM DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAX ATTORNEY COMPENSATION

A motion was made by Rauhuff and duly seconded by Atchley. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

XIII. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-04-03: AFFIRM TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED 67-5-801 AND CONCUR WITH PROPERTY ASSESSOR THE REQUIREMENT TO PROPER CLASSIFICATION OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS

Assessor of Property Thomas King spoke on behalf of the changes, the requirements are made by the state not the county this is just to adopt the law into our guidelines. He has expressed he and his office is available to any questions the general public may have due to the changes. The changes only affect short term rentals and not long-term rentals. The

property owners have the rights to challenge it with the state if they feel inclined.

A motion was made by Delius and duly seconded by Atchley. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

XIV. NOTARIES

A motion was made by Allen and duly seconded by Haggard. Passed by roll call vote 21 yes, 4 absent.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

- No Comments made

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Jill Miller – Spoke out against a billboard located on Boyds Creek Hwy in Seymour. Complained about how it was too big for the area and why there wasn't a limit on how size limits and height limits for the county.
- II. Marie Hobbs – Born again Christian transgender woman told about how pride month is about acceptance and inclusiveness, after years of medical and mental health problems the community has been there for her.
- III. Dr. Shana Hamilton Lockwood – A member of Appalachian Outreach of Sevier County spoke of how generations of family worked together to bring love and acceptance into the community
- IV. Gibran Chuevas – Spoke out against the county for not recognizing the LBTQ+ community with the proclamation presented to the steering committee, it was presented with a petition of over 1,000 signatures.
- V. Casey Flannigan – Spoke about her son who is transgender and the hardships he has endured with no support from the community.
- VI. Winter Cayman – Regional director of Appalachian Outreach spoke is an active member of the community and spoke about how it would be beneficial to the LBTQ+ community that they felt heard.

- VII. Leslie Breddock – Ally & advocate of LBTQ+ community, a small business owner spoke out of concern that people will start cancelling plans. Presented facts of that people of the LBTQ+ community spends 10% more in shopping and eating, spoke out how it would be beneficial to the tourism district if the proclamation was brought forward.
- VIII. Braxton Allen\Eli – Spoke on behalf of a friend who was unable to attend. Wants to be heard and accepted as part of the community.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by F. Parton and duly seconded by Maddron. Passed by voice vote 21 yes, 4 absent.