

SEVIER COUNTY COMISSION
MAY 15, 2023 AT 6 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Quorum Present (24 Present, 2 Absent)

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

III. CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION 2023-05-01: RECOGNIZE THE GATLINBURG-PITTMAN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR ADVANCING TO THE TSSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

A motion was made by Maddron and duly seconded by R. Ogle. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

IV. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS COMMISSION MEETING

County Commission Minutes from April 17, 2023

A motion was made by Cole and duly seconded by Pitner. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

V. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES

A motion was made by Rauhuff and duly seconded by Delius. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

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

I. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

- No comments from public

II. PUBLIC HEARING ON REZONING ITEMS

- No comments from public

Motion was made by K. Woods to combine considerations of resolutions VII, VIII, and IX into one vote. Pitner seconded. No objection from Gary Brackins Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning. Motioned to move forward by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent.

Motion to vote on combined rezoning resolutions was made by Delius and duly seconded by Rauhuff. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

VII. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-05-01: AMEND THE ZONING RESOLUTION FOR SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE BY REZONING TAX MAP 09 PARCEL 10.00 FROM R-1, RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-1, RURAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.

I. ADDRESS: 722 EAST DUMPLIN VALLEY ROAD

II. REQUESTED BY: JENNINGS A LESTER

III. SEVIERVILLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION: FOR

VIII. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-05-02: AMEND THE ZONING RESOLUTION FOR SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE BY REZONING TAX MAP 103 PARCELS 53.00 AND 53.01 FROM R-1, RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO A-1, AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT.

I. ADDRESS: 2135 LITTLE VALLEY ROAD

II. REQUESTED BY: BILLIE MORGAN

III. PIGEON FORGE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION: FOR

IX. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-05-03: AMEND THE ZONING RESOLUTION FOR SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE BY

REZONING TAX MAP 17 PARCELS 43.02 AND 43.06 FROM A-1, AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO C-1, RURAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.

- I. ADDRESS: HODGES FERRY ROAD
- II. REQUESTED BY: CRAIG CAIN
- III. SEVIER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION: FOR

- X. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-05-04: CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF A DIRECTOR TO THE SEVIER COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A motion was made by Rauhuff and duly seconded by Atchley. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

- XI. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-05-05: CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF A SEVIER COUNTY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Headrick and duly seconded by R. Ogle. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

- XII. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-05-06: AUTHORIZE THE USE OF STATE STREET AID IN RESURFACING ROADS

A motion was made by Rauhuff and duly seconded by C. Ogle. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

- XIII. NOTARIES

A motion was made by Pitner and duly seconded by R. Ogle. Passed by roll call vote 23 yes, 2 absent

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS

Next County Commission meeting has been moved to the following week from June 19th to June 26th, further more July County Commission meeting has been canceled barring no pressing matters to be addressed.

Jack Parton thanked the commission and community for reaching out on the passing of Bobby Parton.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Carol Abrams – Transit that moved from Miami 4 years ago after retiring from health care and fell in love with the area. Spoke of her foundation that builds houses and helps spread information about mental health programs for the community. Being a Christian didn't want the community to change by providing the proclamation for June Pride Month.
- II. Joe McCarter – Address the committee about the Mountain Press story on Sevier County School free lunch and price increase, as well as the property tax raises. Spoke out about how the commissioners are not being honest and upfront nor willing to talk with the community at hand. Stated a decorum without debate is useless.
- III. Winter Caymen – Spoke on the resubmission of proclamation for June being recognized as Sevier County Pride Month being turned down again by the Steering Committee after an addition 1,300 signatures added to the petition to pass the proclamation to the floor.
- IV. Shana Lockwood – Felt that the community at hand was discriminating against LGBT for being themselves and is ashamed that it is not celebrated or accepted.
- V. Braxton Allen “Eli” – A transgender who speaks about how they are discriminated in the work place and schools, speaks about how the school system does nothing to stop the bullying and anti-rhetoric hate against the LGBT community.
- VI. Barry Simmons – Gatlinburg Presbyterian church pastor spoke on behalf of acceptance and love God has for the LGBT community and calls for the proclamation to be brought to the floor.
- VII. Gibron Cuevas – Resident of Sevier County Coast Guard/military police spoke on how the LGBT community faces bullying and harassment on a daily bases and suicide rates are highest among

LGBT youth, passing the proclamation will help heal the community at large and bring acceptance

- VIII. Misty Lizarraga – Jesus spoke about love and acceptance, let us be part of the community let us be proud and unashamed of who we are as a whole.
- IX. Kestrel Dawn – Stated the not bring the proclamation to the floor is going backwards in progress for building acceptance and freedom of expression in the community.
- X. Kim Bizub – Sevier Co. homeowner, voter, and business owner of the LGBT community spoke about hardship she dealt with being in the arm forces and since getting out. Not having the proclamation brought forward by the steering community to the floor pushes back on justice and liberty for all.
- XI. Katie McAfee – Tired of being represented by Christian dominion theology among the community, wants to honor the proclamation for the LGBT community.
- XII. Karen Catlett – Supports LGBT proclamation speaks of marrying into the Catlett family who had a son that left town when he was young because he was gay. He has since then moved back and has been accepted back into the family. Her best friend of 60 years came out to her after high school and felt that we as a community should support our youths. Sad that they could not celebrate their lives here in their own community.
- XIII. Leslie Adams – Spoke out against the government ignoring the wellbeing of the community, and the support system at risk children of suicide due to being bullied and harassed. The surrounding governments are putting out support for the LGBT community, so Sevier County should as well.
- XIV. Tommy Vaughan – Business owner of the Wears Valley community of 22 years, spoke out thanks for the government leadership and actions they have shown to the community during rough periods.
- XV. Brian Burnett – Thankful for the civil process the speakers and committee has been, believes that democracy works when it's like this. Speaks out against false hoods and hate, believes in equality and celebrating in the name of Christ. Spoke the LGBT community stating that they do not need a proclamation to be accepted in the community as Christ taught to love and accept everyone. Mentions it should be a county vote and not a Commission vote.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Cole and duly seconded by Woods. Passed by voice vote 23 yes, 2 absent