

The Shelby County Council met on Tuesday January 16, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., present were council members, Smith, Haacker, Titus, Barlow, Langkabel, County Council Attorney, and the County Auditor.

MINUTES:

Motion to approve Minutes from December 19, 2023, meeting was made by Barlow, seconded by Langkabel, approved 5-0.

REORGANIZATION:

At this time, the floor was opened for motion for President and Vice President of the Council, motion to appoint Titus to President was made by Smith, seconded by Langkabel, approved 5-0. Motion to re-elect Langkabel as Vice President was made by Smith, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0.

MEETING DATES & TIMES:

Motion to schedule the Meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 6:30 p.m. was made by Haacker, seconded by Barlow, approved 5-0.

LIASIONS:

Barlow advised he would like to take over the Jail, Sheriff, PSAP and Sheriff Merit Board from Sanders list and would like to give up Clerk, Fiber Optic Appointing Board and Local Road and Street to O'Connor. Motion to approve was made by Barlow, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0.

COUNCIL BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

At this time, the County Council will make their yearly Board Appointments that are needed:

PTABOA:

This is a one-year appointment: Motion to reappoint Mary Ann Wethington, and DeeDee Freeman and Jenny Whipple to the PTABOA Board was made by Smith, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0.

TOURISM:

Motion to reappoint Tony Titus to the Tourism Board was made by Smith, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0.

HOSPITAL APPOINTING BOARD:

Motion to appoint Leigh Langkabel to replace Sanders was made by Smith, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BOARD:

Motion to appoint Greg Gerline and Kyle Baker to the board was made by Langkabel, seconded by Smith, approved 5-0.

TRANSFERS & ADDITIONALS:

TRANSFERS:

N/A

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

N/A

MISCELLANEOUS:

ENCUMBRANCE:

COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE:

Jose is requesting to encumber \$34,354.67 from his 2023 budget to his 2024 budget for the continuing upgrade for the HVAC in the Courthouse and Annex I. Motion to approve was made by Barlow, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Donna requested to post a Janitorial position for the jail because they will have someone retiring at the end of February. Motion to approve was made by Smith, seconded by Langkabel, approved 5-0.

Donna also wanted to make sure postings need to be presented to the council for approval for replacements and new positions. Titus advised yes.

BROADBAND RFI:

Council member Titus wanted to review what was put in the paper about the Council denying the RFI for broadband. That was not what happened. The Council simply postponed the vote until January so they could get it advertised as advised by their Council. Greg with KSM was also under the impression it was tabled until advertisement. At this time, the floor was opened for public comment:

Lisa Schaler-Wojihoski – encourages the County to look for Federal Grants to help pay for the broadband project. Lisa also offered her help with grants.

Reneisha Rudder – with SIRPC encourages the County to continue with the project. She has been working with Jason Abel, Linda Sanders, and Katrina Hall for the last two years and would hate to see this not go forward.

Skyler Ikiner – advised he lives in the county but can see the water tower from his house but cannot get the internet.

Greg Barger – advised he lives down the road from Beaty Construction and Premier Ag, he advised they ran the fiber to those businesses and then stopped. He cannot get internet.

Tammy Burgess – would really like the County to invest in this project. She advised that she used to work in IT from home but lost her job because she cannot get fast enough speeds to work from home. She would like to help out anyway she can get the problem fixed.

Brian Poland – with Shelby Eastern Schools advised that 70% of the students do not have adequate internet access to do work from home. Mr. Poland advised we need to go back to the Co-ops where things first started. We need multiple providers.

Jeff Scott – advised the teacher give the kids two extra days to get their work done from being off and not having internet.

Katrina Hall – With Indiana Farm Bureau was glad to see so many people here in support of this project. Ms. Hall advised she has seen a big expansion over the last 10 years into the rural areas. Ms. Hall advised she spoke today at the state on the BEAD money for the counties.

Winnie Soviar – would like a better understanding of what underserved really means. We need better service for not only our students but for Medical and Healthcare reasons.

Scott Bassett – advised his wife used to work in the insurance industry for Anthem but lost her job because the lack of internet where they live south of Waldron.

Leslie Stocklin – lives on 725 E, in Noble Township and her service is one step about dial up. She currently has TDS and pays \$75.00 per month.

Karen Humphries – advised she is on the Northwestern Consolidated School Board, and they have 20% of the students that do not have the internet. She lives at 450 W & 100 N and has tried to do the speed test and cannot. It tells her to move to somewhere else and try the test again.

Adam Tindall – lives in Timberbrook Estates and works from home and pays \$150.00 a month for two different plans to be able to work from home.

Kyle Barlow advised everyone at this time, he has dealt with this for years and us as a Council are working on this problem, which is why we are going to have an RFI done. We do not just want to throw money out there and not help the situation. We really need to study this and work on Federal Grants.

Zonda Stead – advised we really need this for Mental and Medical Health.

Council member Titus advised the advertisement did not get done for the January meeting because of some miscommunication. This will be advertised for the February meeting. Titus advised the council has a Resolution to approve the further study of the Broadband accessibility for Shelby County. This will allow the study to get started. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-2 was made by Langkabel, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / NEW BUILDING UPDATE:

Denis Ratekin showed the Council a slide show of the improvements that he is requesting for the building. Ratekin advised they will be putting a warming and cooling station in the new building. Ratekin advised for the improvements he has shown tonight the total cost would be around \$64,000.00 and the Health Department advises they can help with around \$20,000.00 for the bathrooms with a grant they have. This was information only; no action was necessary.

FUEL CENTER:

The County Auditor presented the Council with both a Resolution and an Ordinance.

Ordinance 2024-01 will establish fund 1137 for the Fuel Center. Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-01 was made by Haacker, seconded by Langkabel, approved 5-0.

Resolution 2024-01 will allow the Auditor to transfer \$30,000.00 from RACINO to the Fuel Center fund for start up money. The Auditor will transfer the money back after the fund is built up. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-01 was made by Barlow, seconded by Langkabel, approved 5-0.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Smith, seconded by Haacker, approved 5-0.

NAY

AYE

ATTEST:

AMY L. GLACKMAN

SHELBY COUNTY AUDITOR