

**Newberry County Public Works and Planning Commission
Minutes
November 6, 2017**

Present: Mr. Scott Cain, Mr. Bill Waldrop, Mr. Steve Stockman

Others in Attendance: Mr. Wayne Adams, Mr. Jay Tothacer, Mr. Mike Pisano, Ms. Teresa Ball, Mr. Theodore DeBose

1. Call to Order

Mr. Cain called the meeting to order.

2. Additions, Deletions, and Adoptions of Agenda

Mr. Cain motioned to approve and adopt the agenda as written. Motion seconded. Vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of August 7, 2017 minutes

Mr. Waldrop motioned to approve August 7, 2017 minutes as written; motion seconded. Vote was unanimous.

4. Discussion of Special Tax District for Maintenance of Glade Springs Road

Mr. Adams said he was approached by two gentlemen, Michael Arnet and Michael Wise, who live in the subdivision, which is off Coley Todd Road. There are approximately 30 lots in this subdivision. The road is about ½ mile long. The road was never brought up to standard to bring into the county's system when we were taking paved road into the system. The homeowners are left to their own as far as maintenance of the road. The two gentlemen that I spoke with are interested in a special tax district for maintenance of the road. It would be like the tax district for For Briar.

Mr. Adams asked Mr. Pisano to get estimates for the cost of bringing this road up to speed. Mr. Adams said they have two options. The main difference between the two options of the cost has to do with some limited paving of approximately 100 ft. The owners of the lots or registered voters, which ever you decide to use, will decide whether they want to enter this special tax district.

Mr. DeBose said that the code in this case allows two methods for creating the district. If 15% of the registered voters in the area file a petition, the code states the council shall call for a referendum. You can avoid the referendum if they present a petition signed by 75% of the resident land owners, under 75% of the assessed value. We haven't done the research, sometimes that is not mathematically possible because the ownership of the land is not the people who live there. In either case, they present the proper document, there is either referendum or council proceeds to create the special tax district.

Mr. Adams said that in both cases there is an ordinance.

Mr. DeBose said that with the capital improvements we are talking about, the council can authorize a small bond issue to provide money to do the paving. Those bonds do not count against the county's debt limit.

Mr. Adams said that depending on the value of the property, you could have one person pay more to have the road maintained than somebody else. With the uniform charge, everybody pays the same cost regardless of the value.

Mr. DeBose said it would be better to have the residents present, because both the petition and ballad have certain statutory requirements.

Mr. Adams said that there is a homeowner's association and the two gentlemen he spoke with are active members. They haven't discussed this in detail with the homeowners, because they wanted to get all the information before moving forward.

Mr. Adams said that one of the downsides of the ballad referendum is that technically you can have one person show up and vote yes, then everyone would have to pay the uniform service charge. The lowest cost option is under \$200 per year for 10 years. After 10 years, the cost could be lower.

Mr. Adams said that they need to meet with the property owners to tell them what to expect. Mr. Adams said he would have to talk to Mr. Arnet and Mr. Wise on the best way to do this. I think we need to make them understand how this works, so their expectations are realistic.

Mr. Adams asked how many more roads are like this. Mr. Pisano said that there is one in Prosperity, Federal Drive, which is part of Atlantic Coast development. The road is paved but it is not paved to standard and is falling apart. Mr. Adams said this is going to be a real problem, because these people will eventually appear before council and the numbers will not work out for them.

Mr. Cain made a recommendation to meet with the residents.

5. Discussion of Florescent Light Bulb Recycling for Businesses

Mr. Pisano said that this is for information purposes only. We had a request from a local businessman about recycling florescent bulbs. He had refitted fixtures in a store and had many bulbs he wanted the county to recycle. The problem with that is, we must pay to get rid of the bulbs. We buy the boxes ahead of time and box them up. The minimum charge is \$80. There is no DHEC requirement that the bulbs must be recycled. Mr. Pisano said he just wanted to bring this to the council's attention.

6. Discussion of Glass Recycling Cost Increase

Mr. Pisano said that the cost has been steadily going up. The most recent charge we received from our recycler is \$50 per ton. Back in early 2016 it was \$17.50 per ton. We are at the tipping point now that is cost less to take the glass to the landfill rather than recycle. Mr. Pisano said he just wanted the council to keep this in mind.

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Steve Cain, Chairman

Teresa Ball, Secretary

APPROVED: _____