

Special Meeting – September 29, 2015

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. for a special joint meeting with the Town of Robbinsville Alderman and Mayor in the Town of Robbinsville Meeting Room located at 4 Court Street Robbinsville, NC. All commissioners was present. Also present was: Town Alderman Brooks, Smith and Ayers; Mayor Steve Hooper and Guests Dirk and David Cody.

1. Chairman Eller called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Eller asks for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Nelms seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
3. Commissioner Williams made the motion to approve the spending of the Health Promotions Prevention Grant on a new color copier and new equipment. Commissioner Cody seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
4. Chairman Eller asks that the Town lead the discussion.
5. Mayor Steve Hooper stated that they wanted to get together with the County to ask for help in constructing a pavilion to bring back activity to Main Street. Mayor Hooper stated that the Town had applied for a loan to back this project and did have a small grant but with the support from the county the project could be made much larger. Mayor Hooper stated that the pavilion would be open to the school, host the street dances, host weddings and much more. Mayor Hooper stated that they met with Herve Cody and family and were told that they would donate the property where the pavilion would be located. Alderman Smith stated that the main purpose is to bring back life to Main Street and all types of functions could be utilized in the pavilion. Alderman Smith stated that they wanted to name the pavilion after Claudine Cody, wife and mother of the Cody family who had served as Town Alderman in the past. Alderman Smith stated that the city would do the sewer and water and would foot the bill on these items. Alderman Smith suggested that Donnie Orr be allowed to use the track hoe on site and this will be one of the contributions from the county to the project. Alderman Smith stated that we needed to agree on how the front features should look. Dirk Cody stated that he and his family was here to assist in the project and felt everyone here worked well together. Commissioner Nelms asks the amount that county would need to contribute. Alderman Smith stated that the Town has \$200,000.00 and would like to receive \$100,000.00 from the county. Alderman Smith stated that the pavilion could be used for a farmers market and further stated that Clay County has been selling in bulk and this would be great for our local economy. The board discussed the possibility of including Randy Collins, Extension Director to play a part in this as well due to his access to grants on the agriculture side.
6. Dirk Cody did ask if anyone had approached the Millsaps Family on the possible purchase of the building that is located next to the proposed site. The boards agreed that discussion needed to be held with that family and Alderman Ayers stated that he would be glad to do that. Alderman Smith stated that we would need a contract that the building would not be used for anything other than the proposed plan. Dirk Cody stated that this project can be done and felt a time frame needed to be established. The board's agreed that McGill and Associates would help in the design. Alderman Smith stated that the pavilion could also include an outdoor kitchen. Commissioner Nelms asks what the long term maintenance would be. Alderman Smith stated that the fees collected for the use of the pavilion would be used for the maintenance and upkeep. The board discussed any restrictions that may be due to USDA funds being used. The town will follow up on this concern. The board discussed revitalization of other towns and felt that our county and town can have the same things. Dirk Cody suggested that the boards go and look at the pavilion in Brevard and further stated that it was worth going to see. The boards discussed coordination of events and Commissioner Orr suggested that a committee be formed. The board all agreed this needed to be put on paper and move forward. Commissioner Williams stated that a public hearing would be helpful in allowing the residents to see what the pavilion will look like. Commissioner Orr asks if a model could be built prior to the public hearing and Dirk Cody stated that McGill and Associates could make that happen.
7. Commissioner Williams stated that Claudine Gibson and Juanita Colvard had received the award for the feasibility study on an Urgent Care Center and stated that any help from the Town would be appreciated once this project begins.
8. Commissioner Williams stated that he would also like to see a new jail built in the county. Commissioner Williams stated that when we work together goods things can take place.
9. The boards thanked Dirk and David Cody for all that they do for our county and asks that they tell the rest of the family how much they are appreciated.

10. Commissioner Orr stated that we need to start the process and move forward on the new pavilion. The boards agreed to talk about who needed to be on the committee.
11. Commissioner Nelms made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Williams seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Keith Eller, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Jacob Nelms, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Lynn Cody, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Connie Orr, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Raymond Williams, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board