

**Hamilton County Commissioner's Court**

Special Session

Friday, September 22, 2017

9:00 A.M.



Hamilton County Commissioners met in a special session on September 22, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: County Judge Mark Tynes, Commissioner's Johnny Wagner, Keith Allen Curry, Lloyd Huggins and Dickie Clary.

Tynes called the meeting to order and a quorum was established.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Clary and seconded by Huggins to approve the \$100,000.00 bond for Judge W. Mark Tynes to be in compliance with SB40, Sec. 26.001 (B) (i). The motion carried unanimously. *(Recorded in Commissioner's Court Papers Book 58 Page 417)*

Judge Tynes wanted to inform the court on the courthouse repair issues. He stated that insurance would not cover the problem with the east wall. He wanted the court to weigh in on what they wanted to do. Tynes also mentioned the settling of the side walk on the south east side of the courthouse.

Clary stated that since he had spent so much time on the courthouse preservation project that he really didn't want to kick this can to far down the road, but maybe wait until the next budget cycle.

Tynes said he wanted to bring it to the court so they could at least acknowledge what's going on. He did say that he agrees with Commissioner Clary that we do need to keep a keen eye on it, and if it continues to deteriorate that we can get on it. He said that if anybody on the court new a contractor that they would like to have look into this, he was willing to initiate this from his chair.

Tynes also wanted to make the court aware of the air conditioner in the District Courtroom. He has been told that it is leaking coolant. He said that he has had at least three air conditioning and heating companies in Hamilton County look at it and they all did not want to anything to do with it. He said that he is going to look into who had originally installed the air conditioner. He wanted to make the court aware of the situation. He said that if you have to pay \$600.00 to \$800.00 each time to replace the coolant that it's going to be very expensive. For the time being we will have to keep doing this, but need to look at another option.

Tynes encouraged the court to route all the things they had put together in each precinct to his assistant Tuwana Quigg in order for her to get everything together to submit to the H2O Partners who are the folks who are actually writing the grant for CTCOG regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The court went over the changes to the Policy on Tax Abatement and Other Economic Development Incentives for the County of Hamilton, Texas, with County Attorney Mark Henkes. They asked questions and made suggestions. After their discussion and all the changes were made, Henkes said he would get the changes made and have it ready for the court to ratify at the next commissioner's court meeting.

At 10:00 A.M. Tynes recessed the court for about 5 minutes and then the court went into closed session to a tax abatement workshop.

At 11:39 A.M. Tynes brought the court back into open session.

Tynes address the public stating there was really noting the court could report at the conclusion of their closed session. He said Henkes is still waiting on the application to be returned corrected.

Tynes said that he as County Judge sitting on the court would not be in support of the tax abatement for Vista Mountain Wind, LLC. He sees this as a property rights issue and rights of the individual.

Huggins said that something of this magnitude does help people, but will harm as well. He doesn't think the court should enable anything that does any harm to any county tax payers'; therefore he is firmly against the tax abatement as well.

Clary said that he was firmly on the fence at this point. He said that he would like to do more research and crunch more numbers before he made a decision.

Wagner said that this was something that is important to make sure we know everything about. That he had not made up his mind.

Curry agreed with both Clary and Wagner. He wants the court to look more into this before he could make a decision.

Clary also asked that the workshops continue to be put on the agenda at least every other week until a decision is made.

Tynes repeated that the court was at a standstill on the abatement until they received the corrected application.

Tynes adjourned the court at 11:49 A.M.

W. Mark Tynes  
County Judge

Kiesha F. Bagwell  
County Clerk