



GATE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Tuesday March 5, 2013 6:00 PM
MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING

Call to Order: Delany Herron, Chairman, Gate City Planning Commission called the hearing to order at 6:00 PM.

Authority: By the authority assigned to the Gate City Planning Commission by the 2009 Gate City Comprehensive Plan, Capital Improvements Program, to develop a preliminary list of projects selected by the Commission after it solicits input from the public.

Purpose: This hearing is being held to receive comments from citizens of Gate City concerning potential Capital Improvement Projects for the Town's budget year 2013-2014.

Including but not limited to:

- Improvements to the Town's over-all appearance
- Increase convenience to residents and/or businesses
- Improve safety within the Town
- Prepare for future growth.

Planning Commission members present: Jo Ann Castle, Roger Cassell, Faye Sanders, and Delany Herron

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Bartley

ALSO PRESENT: Michele Brooks, Gate City Town Attorney

GUESTS PRESENT: Mark Freeman

Allen "Cotton" Roberts

Mark Freeman:

1) devise a means of travel through Gate City that would remove large trucks from Jackson Street, possibly using Water Street and/or Jones Street as a by-pass.

2) consider moving parking in the main business district from along the sidewalks to the center of Jackson Street as has been done in our neighboring town of Kingsport, TN. He pointed out the advantage of having pedestrians moving across only one lane of traffic as well as putting motor vehicle traffic closer to business storefronts affording a better view of window displays.

3) obtain a web site that could be used to produce brief vignettes of businesses, attractions and events in the town that could be published on the internet.

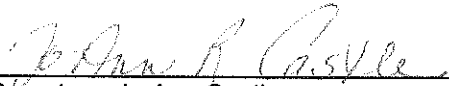
4) adopt a 'tax overlay' zone to generate monies to be used only within that zone for improvements such as advertising, beautification, etc.

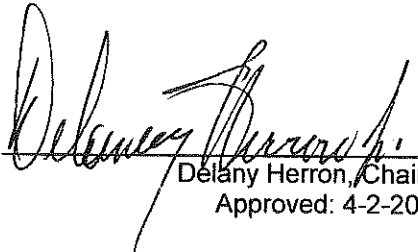
Extended discussion of the proposed splash pad at Grogan Park and the location of a future amphitheater.

Allen "Cotton" Roberts:

- 1) develop a traffic speed control system for Jackson Street.
- 2) Make Jackson Street more pedestrian friendly by adding cross-walks and walk/don't walk signs at the intersection of Jackson and Kane Streets.
- 3) Street-scaping to make the business district more attractive, adapt the police department building and property to make a park.
- 4) Advertising to expose potential merchants and shoppers to the town. (possible development of brochures placed in locations that would draw attention to opportunities within the town)
- 5) Community center and planned activities for senior residents.

Adjournment: With no further comment offered, Delany Herron declared the hearing closed at 7:25 PM


Secretary, Jo Ann Castle


Delany Herron, Chairman
Approved: 4-2-2013