

MINUTES
TELLICO PLAINS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, February 8, 2016

Members Present

Mitch Millsaps, Chair
Mike Atkins, Secretary
Larry Harris, Alderman
Chad Johnson

Members Absent

Patrick Hawkins, Mayor

Others Present

Ruth Viergutz Hawk, Staff
Greg Altum, Press

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Millsaps called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Commissioner Atkins moved to approve the December 14, 2015, minutes as submitted. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

DISCUSSION OF BY-LAWS OF THE TELLICO PLAINS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Staff distributed and reviewed the proposed by-laws. The most recently found by-laws had been approved in 1999 and they needed to be updated to reflect the regional designation of the planning commission. A general discussion followed. By consensus it was agreed that the By-Laws as presented will be voted on at the next planning commission meeting.

DISCUSSION OF UTILITY AVAILABILITY AND ROAD MAINTENANCE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS AND THE PLANNING REGION

Staff explained that she is unsure of where water and sewer services are provided, who owns and maintains the facilities, and if the services extend outside the corporate limits. A general discussion followed. It was stated that water services are both inside and outside the corporate limits but that sewer is only inside the corporate limits. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen serves as the Board of Directors for the water and sewer services. Fort Loudoun Electric Cooperative provides electricity to the region.

Staff also asked about what roads have been accepted for maintenance by the Town. No one was certain if there was a compiled road list of accepted streets or not.

DISCUSSION OF TELLICO PLAINS SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED PLAT CERTIFICATIONS

Staff presented the existing plat certifications in the regulations. To ensure that buyers/owners are aware of what utilities are actually available to a property, it is best that the various utilities sign an existing services certification. The regulations already include certifications for existing water, sewer, and streets, but not for electricity. Staff distributed the Fort Loudoun Electric Cooperative certification that FLEC uses in both Loudon and Blount Counties. A general discussion followed.

By consensus, the commissioners agreed they preferred for plats to have all the signatures on the plats before they come to the planning commission for review and approval. An amendment to the subdivision regulations to incorporate the FLEC certification and to modify the existing water and sewer lines certification will be forthcoming to the commission.

REPORT ON MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAT REVIEW/APPROVAL

None

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES/OPTIONS

Staff reported that East Tennessee Quality Growth will be sponsoring a 1-day conference on April 28 at the Alcoa Airport Hilton Hotel. Staff reviewed the agenda which focuses on transportation, creating economic growth in rural communities, historic preservation, and other applicable planning commission related topics. If anyone is interested in attending, they are to let staff know. The conference fee is \$50 per planning commissioner. Staff will email out the details of the conference.

OTHER BUSINESS

Staff reported that East Tennessee Quality Growth has revived the National Geographic Geotourism website. The website is well suited for rural communities and Monroe County has taken advantage of this advertising venue. The website is geared to identifying tourist destinations in rural areas. The address is www.tennesseerivervalleygeotourism.org.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Secretary

Date