Board members present: Mayor Pro Tem Otto

Commissioner Kitty Fouche

Commissioner Alice Lentz

Commissioner Tom Widmer

Board members absent: Mayor Tim Helms

Town staff present: Alex Carmichael, Town Administrator

Angie Murphy, Town Clerk

Adrienne Isenhower, Zoning Administrator

Eighteen members of the public were present. Mayor Pro Tem Otto called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and led the group in a moment of silence.

**Agenda Approval**

Commissioner Widmer moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Lentz seconded and the motion carried 4/0.

**Public Forum**

Ms. Nancy Fletcher of 441 West Virginia Terrace asked about the status of the Arbor Lane bridge and lower Greybeard Trail repairs. Mr. Carmichael commented that both projects are in process. An engineered design is complete on the Greybeard Trail project and he expects construction to begin in the fall. The Arbor Lane bridge is in plans for repairs along with other Tropical Storm Alberto projects, and was recently closed for safety reasons.

Mayor Pro Tem Otto mentioned that paving will continue in mid-October for Kentucky Road, Wyck Road and Lookout Terrace.

Mr. Brad Hestir of 192 Mississippi Road stated that earlier this month he had hoped to attend a Board of Adjustment meeting regarding conflict on Texas Road. The meeting was canceled and he found out later arbitration was scheduled. Mr. Hestir stated that immediately going into arbitration was taking the rules of open government and putting it in a closed door situation. Mr. Hestir asked if the Town Council was a party to this incident and what can be spoken about it currently. Mr. Carmichael stated that the Town is a party to mediation not arbitration. The Council will go into Closed Session tonight to discuss the Town’s involvement in mediation. The mediation itself is confidential but any agreement brought forth from mediation will be a public record.

Ms. Mary Nell Todd of 143 Eastminster Terrace feels that Laura Wolfe has been shabbily treated. Ms. Todd questioned how we as a community can come to her assistance to live in the community again. Ms. Todd also posed the question of how we as a Town can prevent this from happening ever again.

Ms. Nancy Fletcher of 441 West Virginia Terrace asked if the Texas Road situation was supposed to a public hearing. Mr. Carmichael stated that it was a quasi-judicial hearing of the Board of Adjustment.

Mrs. Jean Norris of 192 Mississippi Road stated that what bothers her the most about the Texas Road situation is that the general public knows so little about it. Mrs. Norris stated that she does not know who is involved in the mediation, who is responsible and who should pay.

Mr. Wade Burns of 232 North Carolina Terrace stated that in Board of Adjustment quasi-judicial hearings the only way the public can speak is if they are sworn in as a witness to the case.

Mr. Brad Hestir of 192 Mississippi Rd stated that he was aware the Board of Adjustment meeting was a public meeting but he felt that when the parties decided to go into arbitration it took the openness away from the public. Commissioner Lentz advised that it will be mediation not arbitration. Mr. Hestir feels that there is public interest to the mediation.

Mr. Wade Burns of 232 North Carolina Terrace offered an affirmation of nice the interaction that just occurred was and how it helps the harmony of the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Kent Otto thanked everyone for their comments and shared how he felt it was healthy for the community.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Fouche moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lentz seconded and the motion carried 4/0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

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Kent Otto, Mayor Pro Tem Angie Murphy, Town Clerk