

County Executive's Newsletter to the County Commission



**"Plan Adopted, Tax Rate Established and Fiscal Year
Closed, What Happens Now?"**
By Ron Woody, County Executive

Roane County Government

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November 2015

Veterans Day— Nov 11th

Thanksgiving Day— Nov 26th



From October to December of each year, local policy making committees such as Budget and Audit Committee and boards and commissions, including School Board, change focus from financial preparation to operations and implementation of the adopted plans. Additionally, many state organizations meet to discuss proposed legislation for the coming year or planning to implement new laws or accounting standards which were adopted in the prior legislative session. During this final quarter of the year, your local government often takes a breather to rest and allow employees to take needed vacations to refuel, retool, and rethink in order to start the planning process all over again.

I wanted to say all of that to outline what's coming starting in January 2016.

1. Implementation of TCA 9-18-102 effective June 30, 2016. All departments must address internal controls, including evaluations, controls and written documentation.
2. Updating the County Capital Outlay Plan.
3. Beginning the 2017 Plan (formerly known as the 2017 Budget)
4. Working with our state and national legislators on a legislative agendas
5. Committees assigned and charged with work
6. Studies & reports on impact of policy and accounting standards
7. GASB 68 (more on new accounting standards in future articles)
8. Implementation of a successful Drug Court Grant
9. Review of the county's probation services

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Ninth Annual Founder's Day Celebration

November 3, 2015

6:00 pm

Circuit Courtroom

Roane County Courthouse

Plan to attend!

We will honor our Roane Treasures and
our Golden Treasure for 2015.

There will **NOT** be a Courthouse Christmas Luncheon this year. Each department is encouraged to celebrate within their office.

Thank You Elected Officials and Department Heads

We closed our fiscal year 2015 meeting almost all our financial goals. Once again, our plan of service did not recognize any issuance of debt to fund our capital needs. I think we can say we have broken the cycle of borrowing for patrol cars, computers and other small capital items.

A BIG thank you goes out to our elected officials for operations within their respective budgets. Highlights of the county general fund are notable as follows:

Revenue Budget:	16,361,488	Revenue Collected:	16,131,334	Revenue Difference	(230,154)
Expenditure Budget:	18,237,515	Actual Expenditures:	15,241,532	Expenditure Diff	2,995,983
Budget Difference:	(1,876,027)	Actual Difference:	889,802		

Revenue was short primarily due to health department grants and TVA funds not being received (\$500,000), also Harri-man cleanup cost budgeted (\$500,000) but not expended.

The reason we can budget more expenditures than revenue is 1) illegal to spend more than budget; 2) impossible to spend 100% and a bad practice to try; 3) elected officials working to only spend what is needed to provide service to the public.

One notable area of saving within the county general fund was the sheriff and jail budgets

Sheriff Budget:	3,765,155	Sheriff Expenditures:	3,387,335		
Jail Budget:	2,951,995	Jail Expenditures:	2,602,081		
Total Budget:	6,717,150	Total Expenditures:	5,989,416	Total Unspent:	727,734

Thank you elected officials!

In Memoriam– Bobby Collier

Bobby L. Collier, age 72, of Kingston passed away Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015, at UT hospital. He was retired from Bechtel Jacobs after a 30-year career at the Oak Ridge facilities. He was a member of Kingston First Baptist Church, where he served as an usher and worked with the meals delivery program. He was an Air Force veteran and a graduate of Tennessee Technological University. He served on the Roane County Commission for 17 years, representing the 6th District. He also served as president of the Tennessee County Services Association, the statewide organization of commissioners, county mayors and county executives and county road supervisors.

He was heavily involved in his community, where he served as president of the Kingston Babe Ruth League; Cherokee Middle School Booster Club, where he was instrumental in starting the middle school football program; Kingston Yellow Jacket Century Club, where he was instrumental in construction of the Roane County High School field house and weight room; Kingston Jaycees (state president of the year); Tennessee Jaycees Interna-

tional; American Society of Safety Engineers; Leadership Roane County, where he recently received the Paul Goldberg Leadership Award; member of American Legion Post 110; and member of Masonic Lodge Union 38, Scottish Rite of Knoxville, and Shriner Temple of Knoxville. Through his involvement with the Jaycees, he founded the Operation REACH (Roane Enriches Another Child’s Holiday) Program, of which he was very proud. This program uses donations and volunteers to provide funds to allow needy children to shop for Christmas gifts for family members and themselves.

Bobby was a loving son, husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather "Pops," brother, uncle and a dear friend to all who knew him. He was loved and will be missed. He was preceded in death by his father, Robert L. Collier; and mother, Willie Mae Patterson Collier. He is survived by wife, Peggy Eggert Collier; son, Robert L. Collier II and wife Shelley; four granddaughters, Katie, Sydney, Casey and Britney all of Knoxville; sisters, Carolyn Granger and Linda Townsend, both of Kingston; nephew, Ryan Townsend, Kingston; and niece, Buffie Fletcher, Chattanooga.

County Updates

- Executive Woody and elected officials met on Thursday, October 29th to discuss 2016 Courthouse Closings, no Courthouse Christmas Luncheon, Capital Outlay Plan and new internal controls requirements.
- The National Resource Trust has been put on hold for right now. Roane County and our cities are ready to apply for the money whenever application is accepted. (Information available on county website)
- Property Tax Bills are delayed this year due to the lateness of the completion of the 2015 Reappraisal. Assessor Morgan's office is anticipating a mailing the first or second week of November.
- The Harriman Miller Brewer property clean-up is finished. The road through Harriman is re-opened. The county is in talks with City of Harriman to sell the property to Harriman for public use.

Highway Update by Brian Matthews

The Roane County Highway Department received a grant from TDOT to improve safety at the Mountain View railroad crossing in Harriman. The grant is for \$16,202.55 and covers the cost of the RCHD putting stop bars, warning signage, pavement markings, culvert repair, and paving. This is part of a larger grant of \$346,521.00 that will be used to place warning lights and gates at the crossing. The RCHD continues to work to make the roads in Roane County safer for our citizens. We encourage all citizens to be cautious when approaching any railroad crossing.



Roane County Courts and Business Offices will be closed
Wednesday, November 11, 2015

In observance of



Roane County Courts and Business Offices will be closed
Thursday, November 26 & Friday, November 27, 2015

In observance of



Working Together Toward a Better Roane County

Volunteer Program at Animal Shelter

The Roane County Animal Shelter, under the guidance of Director John Griffin, has developed a new and exciting volunteer program. After extensive research and help from interested community members, the volunteer concept was approved by the Animal Control Board on October 15th. The shelter is currently accepting applications and is actively recruiting volunteers. Training is scheduled to begin in January 2016. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer please contact Director John Griffin or Stephanie Kolski at 865-354-7387 or e-mail animalshelter@roanecountytg.gov.

Sheriff Officers Honored

At the October Commission meeting, four (4) officers with the Roane County Sheriff's Office were honored by the Roane County Commission for bravery above and beyond the call of duty. Lt. Robert Anderson, Capt. Tim Hawn, Dep. Richard Stooksbury and Dep. Josh Klein were honored. Once again, thank you and all our law enforcement personnel for your hard work and dedication to Roane County.

Drug Court Grant

Roane County received a \$50,000 grant for Tennessee Department of Justice to help establish our drug court. We also received \$350,000 grant over three (3) years to administer the drug court. The drug court will be a joint endeavor of Roane County General Sessions court, Ninth Judicial District District Attorney and Public Defender Offices and the Roane County Sheriff's Department along with a contract with WestCare for rehabilitation services. We are very excited about this new program.

"Changing Government through Research, Study and Analysis"

Did You Know About . . .What Happened at the End of the Civil War ?

By Robert Bailey, Roane County Historian

Even though the Civil War ended in 1865, animosities continued in every aspect of life. One of those was the petition sent in 1865 by the Paint Rock Baptist Church, located South of the Tennessee River, to all of the Baptist churches in the Hiwassee Baptist Association in which part of it stated, "Whereas some of our brethren and sisters have been engaged in bringing about the rebel-

lion of 1861 which has brought the death of many of our sons and daughters made widows and their children orphans and drenched our land and country in blood" . . . "do hereby denounce discontynence & protest Against the wicked Rebellion & will exclude from among us all such as may have participated in said wicked Rebellion by premeditated acts of aid or

comfort to said so called confedersey or to the advancement of Rebellion & Against Eney & Against enney acts of enney or our Bros. & Sisters May have committed which would defanchise & in(?) chredous n A governmently point view & consequently so soon or as fast as we may arrive at proper testimony of Enney Such transgressor among us. Resolved that we will rid ourselves as A Church

of all such offenders by a strict course of discipline ordering such offenders up for an investigation of their wicked conduct & Upon conviction unless an acknowledgment & satisfaction on their parte & Exclusion shall Be their distney." [The words in quotations are transcribed as they are written. The next article will discuss the results of this petition and what happened next.]

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
Nov 2nd	Legislative Cmte	QCR	5:00 pm
Nov 2nd	Budget Cmte	QCR	6:00 pm
Nov 2nd	Work Session	QCR	7:00 pm
Nov 3rd	Founders Day	CCR	6:00 pm
Nov 5th	Environmental Review Board	QCR	6:00 pm
Nov 9th	Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
Nov 10th	Public Utility Board	WWP	5:30 pm
Nov 10th	Fire Board	QCR	6:00 pm
Nov 11th	COURTHOUSE CLOSED		
Nov 12th	Emergency Services Cmte	OES	6:00 pm
Nov 16th	Codes Cmte	QCR	6:30 pm
Nov 18th	BZA- if needed	QCR	6:00 pm
Nov 18th	Planning Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
Nov 26th	COURTHOUSE CLOSED		
Nov 27th	COURTHOUSE CLOSED		

MARK YOUR CALENDAR- OTHER EVENTS

- Nov 30th- Kingston Christmas Parade
- Dec 3rd- Harriman Christmas Parade
- Dec. 7th- Rockwood Christmas Parade
- Dec 12th- Oak Ridge Christmas Parade
- Dec 24 & 25- Christmas Holiday- Courthouse closed

ROANE ALLIANCE GALA

The Roane Alliance rolled out the red carpet on October 17 for their annual Gala, once again hosted by Volkswagen Group of America at their Southeastern Regional Distribution Center located in the Roane Regional Business & Technology Park. Guests attending this year enjoyed, not only one of the coolest venues ever, but also Hollywood-worthy red carpet photo ops, instant photo booth pictures, fabulous lighting and sound, UT's favorite DJ Sterl the Pearl, and lots of selfie sticks! After a home-style meal from Gloria Jeans Southern Provisions, Auctioneer Bear Stephenson kept the party going with a live auction that included the help of celebrity spotters County Executive Ron Woody and Congressman Chuck Fleischmann, while Nashville recording artist Chris Hennessee entertained the crowd. This was a special night for the Roane Alliance as they rolled out their new logo and tagline - 'A Unified Drive. A United Force.' To view more photos from the Gala visit RoaneAlliance.org/Gala and to learn more about the new brand identity visit RoaneAlliance.org/brand.



Please submit articles/items of interest to Melanie at melanie.townsend@roanecountyttn.gov by the 20th of the month. ~Ron