

County Executive's Newsletter to the County Commission



Roane County Government

"Community Investment Fund" By Ron Woody, County Executive

Volume 6, Issue 5

May 2015
Memorial Day
May 25th



In the May County Commission packet, we are filing under Correspondence an article entitled, Proposal: Community Investment Fund (CIF), an "Initiative to Grow" program. This program is like establishing and accumulating funds for a down payment on a home or in the county's case, a down payment for community investment.

This article outlines or summarizes how the program could operate. Recognizing that more details are noted in the Proposal and even more may need to be agreed upon by the County Commission, here is a brief summary:

1. Establish a Community Investment Fund (capital fund)
2. County would match a city's request of one half of the project cost up to the specified limit.
3. Project would have to meet certain criteria related to economic development.
4. County would become a partner with the city, but no return of grant funds would be required. Return on Investment would be indirectly through increased sales and property tax collections.
5. A structured grant program would be established.

- ◆ Business conference center
- ◆ Lakefront development
- ◆ Municipal commercial/retail development
- ◆ Manhattan Project National Park gateway development
- ◆ Historical downtown developments

Commission did you accumulate funds for a down payment on a house? Should we accumulate funds for a down payment on our county's future?

Examples of success: Sevier County government has partnered with the cities of Sevierville, Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg-Pittman for sports complexes, community centers and baseball stadiums. We don't want to be Sevier County, but we do want to rejuvenate and enhance our communities. Let's start with this Proposal: Community Investment Fund, an "Initiative to Grow" program.

The Roane County Budget Committee is considering this investment for the FY16 budget. More information is located on the county website at www.roanecountytn.gov under County Executive>Published Articles/Speeches, titled Proposal: Community Investment Fund (CIF).

What would be some potential projects?

2016 Budget Work Continues . . .

Information on the 2016 Budget can be found on our website under County Executive drop down menus >FY2016 Budget Work

"Changing Government through Research, Study and Analysis"

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What's My Tax Liability Next Year?

The county has a property tax calculator where one can calculate the reappraisal impact and any proposed tax increase impact. Located on the county website Home Page-

**New Property Tax
Calculator**

Congratulations
Ralph Stewart

Ralph Stewart, director of Roane County's Solid Waste Recycling Center, is this year's recipient of the Kingston Rotary Club's Vocational Service Award.

Ralph was honored for his personal accomplishments along with the progress that the Roane County Solid Waste program has achieved under his direction.

Congratulations Ralph!

Congratulations to the
Roane County EMS
Department!

The Roane County EMS Department underwent their annual service audit on April 23, 2015. The State examiner noted, "Very good Audit at Roane County EMS. All documents are very well organized and correctly kept." The Audit declared the department "100% complaint with no deficiencies."

Congratulations to Tim Suter, Director, and the EMS staff.

2015
Student Gov't Day
Friday, May 1st

Area high school students will be shadowing elected officials and learning about the workings of county government. Students from all 5 area high schools will participate. A total of 120 students are expected.



TENNESSEE
County Services
Association
POST-LEGISLATIVE
CONFERENCE

JUNE 3-5, 2015
Pigeon Ford

Please contact
Melanie @ 717-4101
if you would like to
attend.

Highway Department Update by Brian Matthews

First, we want to thank the businesses in Midtown that have changed their signs to promote "Keep Roane Litter Free" and our mission of bringing awareness to the issue of litter and then cleaning up litter in Roane County. The Co-Op and East Tennessee Pool and Spa were the first two (2) businesses to change their marquee. You will see others in the near future.

Over the last month, we have continued to make all home games for the Roane State baseball team litter free events. We have also had the opportunity to attend high school sporting events around the coun-

ty to speak with people about litter in their areas and what we can do together to improve these areas.

We want to thank Roane County Sheriff Jack Stockton for allowing us to come speak at the Sheriff's Citizen Academy about the various things people can do to get involved with our litter program.

The Adopt-a-Highway program has continued to add organizations and people. There are still many miles of roads in Roane County that need to be adopted.

At the office in Midtown, we are in process of ac-

cepting phone books, eyeglasses, and cell phones to be recycled and/or taken to organizations that can reuse them.

If you want to get involved in one of our programs or would like us to come and speak to your organization then call us at 882-9782.



Also, follow us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/RoaneCountyHighwayDepartment as we are finalizing plans for a community litter pickup day that is scheduled for May 7th.



Annual
Household Hazardous
Waste Day

May 2, 2015

Recycling Center
In
Midtown

9 am to 2 pm



Did You Know . . .How Dyllis Got Its Name?

By Robert Bailey, Roane County Historian

Sometimes it is very difficult to find the origin of the names of the many rural communities in Roane County. However, we know the origins of the Dyllis Community. It was named after Dyllis Hendrick, the daughter of Claude Hendrick. Claude was the mayor of Harriman (1901-1915) and the Harriman City Treasurer (1895-1901). He also served on the Harriman City School Board. He was also involved in the Railroads. A railroad line was run from Harriman to Dossett and an excursion was made from Harriman to Knoxville. One of the stations was called Dyllis and the other station was named "Elsa" after Claude's wife. Today it is known as Elsa Gate.

**Manhattan Project National Historical Park Update
by Ron Woody**

As we prepare for the Manhattan Project Historical National Park (MPHNP), we thought we would share a bit of history about the Manhattan Project each month.

1. The Roane-Anderson Company (with a staff of 10,000) operated the Secret City for the Army. Remember, Oak Ridge did not become a municipality until 1959.
2. The Secret City maintained 3,000 head of cattle during the war.
3. The Manhattan Project "borrowed" 14,700 tons of silver from the U.S. Treasury's West Point Depository for key electrical systems for operations at Y-12, because copper was in short supply. The silver was "supposedly" returned in 1969.
4. Oak Ridge enriched uranium, Hanford made plutonium, and Los Alamos assembled the atomic bombs.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
May 5th	Budget Committee	QCR	6:00 pm
May 7th	Budget Committee	QCR	6:00 pm
May 7th	ERB	CR	6:00 pm
May 11th	In Lieu of Tax Committee	CR	6:30 pm
May 11th	Commissioin	QCR	7:00 pm
May 12th	Fire Board	QCR	6:00 pm
May 14th	Budget Comittee	CR	9:00 am
May 14th	Emergency Services	OES	6:00 pm
May 18th	Sheriff's Liaison Committee	QCR	6:00 pm
May 20th	Risk Management Cmte	Gloria Jean's	12:00 pm
May 20th	Board of Zoning Appeals	QCR	6:00 pm
May 20th	Planning Commission	QCR	7:00 pm
May 21st	Non Profit Committee	CR	6:00 pm
May 25th	MEMORIAL DAY	CH CLOSED	
May 28th	Public Utility Board	WWP	5:30 pm

Natural Resource Trustee (NRT) Program

Roane County is preparing to submit a \$750,000 grant request to the NRT for environmental and recreational improvements within the Emory, Clinch and Watts Bar watersheds. TVA was fined by TN Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) for the 2008 ash spill. These funds were put into a trust for environmental and recreational programs. In April, the Roane County Commission approved the County Executive to submit over \$1,000,000 worth of programs. The county, in conjunction with the city governments, has outlined a plan for use of the funds. See the full proposal on the county website under County Executive> Published Articles> Proposal: Natural Resource Trustee Program.

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

What Happens During Reappraisal?

All property is revalued as of January 1, 2015. Based on these new values a certified tax rate is set by the State of Tennessee insuring the local government neither gains nor loses tax revenue due to reappraisal.

Individual and business tax liabilities change or shift during a reappraisal year and there will be some who pay more and some who pay less taxes. Very seldom, one might pay the same amount of taxes as the previous year.

The safe statement to make during reappraisal is that your taxes **will** change.

Harriman Back Tax Property: Miller Brewer Building Update by Lynn Farnham

The Purchasing Department is currently working with engineers at S&ME, Inc. to develop plans and specifications for the demolition of the two buildings that are adjacent to the site of the Miller & Brewer Building in Harriman. Lee Maines is providing the demolition project oversight.

There has been some delay in design due to additional structural engineering that is required to be sure that the site(s) once demolished will support the adjacent sidewalk and the highway.

Below is a proposed schedule that has been provided by the engineers:

- Buttress Design Completion – Week of May 4
- Bid Documents Ready – Week of May 11
- Open & Award Bids – Week of June 1
- Contractor Bonding – 2 Weeks after Award
- Project Time – Week of June 22 – Middle of October (Estimated 120 Days)

**The Courthouse Courts
and Business Offices**

Will be closed

Monday, May 25, 2015

**In observance of
Memorial Day**

National Day of Prayer



“Hear Our Cry”

May 7, 2015
12 noon

Front lawn of Courthouse
www.nationaldayofprayer.org

Site Visit from the State for the Recycling Center by Jack Jinks

On Monday March 16, 2015, Mr. Seth McCormick and Mr. Will Ward of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) paid a site visit to Roane County’s Solid Waste and Recycling Center. In most cases TDEC site visits are to ensure county landfills and recycling centers are within state and federal guidelines; however, this visit was different. Both Mr. McCormick and Mr. Ward are environmental specialists for TDEC and they came here to view how efficient Roane County has become handling its recyclable material.

The Director of Roane County Solid Waste Department, Ralph Stewart, met with them and gave them a tour of our

recycling center. TDEC is showing interest in using the center as an example of how smaller counties can have a major impact when they partner with other entities in their counties. Our work with the cities, schools and businesses of Roane County has resulted in us obtaining several grants allowing us to hit high marks in our diversion rates.

Mr. McCormick and Mr. Ward were impressed with the new layout of our collection site and Mr. Stewart’s idea of using discarded open top collection boxes as collection containers, “remanufactured and freshly painted by staff”.

County Executive Ron Woody and County Commission have been exceptionally

committed to improving our solid waste efforts. We are grateful for the working relationship we have developed with TDEC and that they have selected us as an example for other counties in the recycling process.

Both Mr. McCormick and Mr. Ward have expressed a desire to return in the near future to observe the operation of the soon to be installed sorting line and see how that operation will improve safety and efficiency.

