

Devenger Special Tax District

Meeting Minutes October 13, 2009, 7:00 P.M. Foxcroft Family Center

DSTD Members Present: David Fowlkes, Randy Hull, Norman Kirkwood, and Bain Stewart.

Minutes

1. Randy Hull called the meeting to order at 7:52 PM.
2. Attendees were given the opportunity to be heard on matters contained on the current meeting's agenda. Kim Cowgill requested that the DSTD consider demolition of the Family Center building (estimated at anywhere from \$15-to-\$25,000) and also to consider entering into a contractual partnership with the Devenger Family Center Board in order to support improvements in community center property.
3. Commission members were asked to review the July 14th meeting minutes for changes and/or additions. Minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Old Business

1. Randy updated the Commission and all present on the status of the requested increases in the tax millage and Uniform Service Fee as these requested increases were denied by the Greenville County Council at it's July 27th Finance Committee meeting. Two deficiencies noted by the Committee Chairmen were a clear explanation as to how the increased revenues were to be used and some evidence that a majority of community residents were supportive of the increases
2. Two applicants applied for the open position on the Commission's Board. (Susan Lyness and Siobhan Tortora). An appointee was to be made at the County Council meeting the following week with the individual's term to commence shortly thereafter.

New Business

1. Review/Approval of 2008 audited financial statements was tabled by Randy until some clarifications could be obtained from Randy Price who was out of town.
2. Commission members reviewed the third quarter 2009 financials. These were unanimously approved following a note that there was an unplanned repair of \$125 to the gate leading to the common area on Paddock that was approved via email by a majority of Commission members.
3. Approval of 2010 budget was unanimously approved following an amendment to increase the 2010 Landscaping budget by \$500 to cover mulching in 2010. Approval of the Commission's 5-year Capital Plan was tabled until the January meeting in light of the Family Center Board's request for building demolition assistance.
3. Randy advised the Commission that a quote of \$1,550 had been obtained from Savage Electric to replace the burnt out lights on the tennis courts. No action on this issue was taken at this time

4. An update on Entrance Sign masonry repairs by Norm was given in which two requests for bid were made but that no subsequent responses had been received, primarily due to the small scope of work involved. Kim indicated that she knew someone locally that may be able to assist and that she would put them in contact with Norm
5. An update on the possible installation of “Sheriff Jurisdiction” signage on the Family Center Grounds was given by Bain who researched the verbiage that would need to be used but that a quotation for fabrication and installation still needed to be obtained...
6. An update on revitalizing a Neighborhood Watch program was given by Randy who looked on the County website. It was noted that the county sheriff’s website does offer the opportunity to establish a neighborhood portal through which to obtain current information on crime activities in the area.
7. A status update on the Commission’s Survey to determine Community support for a Tax Millage / Uniform Service Fee increase revealed that only 100 responses (18%) were received with 70 in favor and 30 opposed to the requested increases. Kevin commented that since 199 homes stepped up to pay the special assessment fund that should be a further reflection of favorable support by neighborhood residents.
8. Other items not scheduled but discussed:

Concern was expressed over deputies and what they contribute versus the expense for security and if the scheduling of working hours could be managed by the Commission. A number of issues were discussed including the most appropriate days and times that security should be monitoring the neighborhood and whether the focus should be on traffic control or protection of persons and property. It was finally pointed out that security is one of the primary charges of the Commission as set forth in the County Ordinance.

Additional follow up questions were raised about the “contractual partnership” between the Tax Commission and Family Center Board. It was noted that an opportunity for public review and comment would be given prior to the execution of any such contractual relationship.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.