

Housing Authority asks city officials for support

BY **LISA HOBBS**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

McMinnville Housing Authority is seeking support from city officials for a project to construct new duplexes in the area of Nashville Highway and Spring Valley Road.

"We've bought some land, but we've had a very difficult time getting any funding out of Washington," said McMinnville Housing Authority executive director Patricia Basham. "HUD funding has completely and utterly dried up. We applied for the Tennessee Housing Development Agency."

A grant was awarded to provide \$500,000. However, more is needed.

"Now, we are applying to the Cincinnati Home Loan Bank for an additional \$250,000. We are contributing slightly over \$1 million of our own money we received from the sale of Beersheba Towers to this project."

Part of the application process with the bank



McMinnville Housing Authority is planning a project to build duplexes like this one near Newtown at Nashville Highway and Spring Valley Road.

requires a local government commitment and documentation to indicate savings with the project be at least \$500. In order to meet the requirement, Basham requested the city grant fee waivers for plans review, building permit fees, and water and sewer tap fees.

Said Basham, "One of the point criteria for affordable housing grant for the Cincinnati Home Loan Bank, and I cop-

ied it straight out of the application, is fee waivers for building permits, water and sewer tap fees, plan review, or any sort of fee waiver will give us some points in this very competitive process. It has to be a minimum of \$500. That's not a huge commitment for us to, perhaps, get an additional \$250,000 for the project."

The city of McMinnville is prohibited from pro-

vided services free of charge.

"It is my understanding that enterprise fund fees cannot be waived," said city attorney Tim Pirtle. "The building permit fee is a city fee. It might be subject to waiver. To be honest with you, I would have to take a closer look and give you a definitive opinion."

Board members unanimously approved waiving building permit fees up to \$501, if legal counsel determines it can legally be done.



BASHAM

County suggests no tax increase

BY **LISA HOBBS**
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Warren County government is attempting to make it 16 years without a property tax increase.

The county Budget and Finance Committee met Tuesday and unanimously voted to recommend to the full Warren County Commission to leave the property tax at \$1.9661, as well as provide county employees a 75-cent pay increase per hour.

Prior to the salary adjustment, the county's General Fund balance on June 30, 2019 was estimated to be \$1.4 million.

Finance Department director Linda Hillis provided the following breakdown and its

effect on the estimated ending balance:

- 25 cents, ending balance drops to \$1.95 million
- 50 cents, ending balance drops to \$1.80 million
- 75 cents, ending balance drops to \$1.66 million

"If we do the 75 cents, does that satisfy what the state says we have to keep within the general fund?" asked Commissioner Gary Prater.

Hillis said, "Yes, I think it would."

The state recommends the county retain enough to cover one month's expenses. For fiscal year 2017-18, the state recommended \$1.25 million.

The committee's recommendation must be approved by the full Warren County Commission in August.

Flashing lights

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"Construction signs should go up shortly thereafter and utility relocations should begin soon after the signage is installed. Traffic signal project schedules are generally driven by the utility relocations required. The contractor will have to order the traffic signal components, but they will generally begin the setting of poles as soon as the utilities can be cleared," Degges added.

Degges estimates the project could take months, once the work order is given some time in November.

"For a project like this, I would expect the work to be complete no later than four to five months after the work order is given,"

he said.

Killed last week was Clifton Harville, 60, of Crossville. He was being transported by White County EMS toward McMinnville when a vehicle drive by Carol Simpson, 63, struck the ambulance causing it veer into a guardrail and flip. Simpson faces several charges: vehicular homicide by recklessness, four counts of reckless endangerment, and one count of vehicular assault.

The emergency vehicle also contained two employees.

"I can confirm both paramedics are recovering at home," said Tennessee Highway Patrol Sgt. Kevin Ballew.

Simpson's first court appearance is Aug. 2.

WARREN COUNTY VOTING PRECINCTS

McMINNVILLE CIVIC CENTER
500 GARFIELD STREET, McMMINNVILLE

WARREN COUNTY COURTHOUSE
111 COURT SQUARE, McMMINNVILLE

WARREN COUNTY AIRPORT
635 AIRPORT RD, McMMINNVILLE

WESTWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST
511 MORRISON STREET, McMMINNVILLE

SMARTT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
4907 MANCHESTER HWY, MORRISON

TSU NURSERY CROP RESEARCH STATION
472 CADILLAC LANE, McMMINNVILLE

THREE STAR MALL
1410 SPARTA STREET, McMMINNVILLE

BEERSHEBA TOWERS
E. MAIN STREET, McMMINNVILLE

CANEY FORK AUDITORIUM
920 SMITHVILLE HWY., McMMINNVILLE

FRIENDSHIP THE BAPTIST CHURCH
11821 SPARTA HWY, ROCK ISLAND

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER
4450 BEERSHEBA HIGHWAY, McMMINNVILLE

BONNER CHURCH OF CHRIST
1692 VIOLA ROAD, McMMINNVILLE

MORRISON RURITAN CLUB
121 W. MAPLE STREET, MORRISON

VIOLA VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
9586 VIOLA ROAD, MORRISON

CENTERTOWN U. METHODIST CHURCH
335 W. GREEN HILL RD, McMMINNVILLE

CENTERTOWN CIC
92 GILBERT STREET, McMMINNVILLE

MIDWAY COMMUNITY CENTER
5966 GREAT FALLS RD., ROCK ISLAND

HIGHWAY 56N CHURCH OF CHRIST
3897 SMITHVILLE HWY, McMMINNVILLE

NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
1574 YAGER ROAD, McMMINNVILLE

LUCKY COMMUNITY CENTER
8406 LUCKY RD., McMMINNVILLE

JIMMY VOTE AUGUST 2

HALEY

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

This campaign has never been about me. It is about improving the lives of all of Warren County's citizens and providing hope for the next generation. I'm Jimmy Haley and I'm asking for your vote for Warren County Executive.

Jimmy Haley

Together, we can build a better tomorrow for Warren County!

PAID FOR BY JIMMY HALEY