

# Work required to maintain Clinton's quiet zone

By Randy Bell

Clinton was inches away from becoming a noisy city again.

Since 2010, there's been an agreement with the Kansas City Southern Railroad which makes Clinton a "quiet zone," with trains rolling the city without sounding their horns at every crossing. But the Federal Railroad Administration required the installation of crossing arms plus curb islands which are six inches high to prevent drivers from going around the barriers as a train approaches.

Consulting City Engineer Bill Owen told the Board of Aldermen at a September 1 work session that improvements the railroad has made to the crossings raised the pavement so that the curbs are no longer six



Photo by Randy Bell

inches. Owen said the City will have to foot the bill for an alternative to maintain its quiet zone status.

"Otherwise, the train horns will blow," Owen said.

Owen recommended the installation of flexible delineator posts at the six crossings to compensate for the lower curbs—at a cost of about \$6,000.

Even though train horns normally aren't used throughout Clinton, engineers are instructed to blow their horns if they see a vehicle, person, animal or something else on the track or to warn the public if they're hauling hazardous cargo.



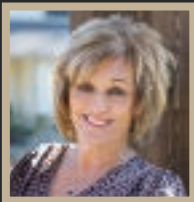
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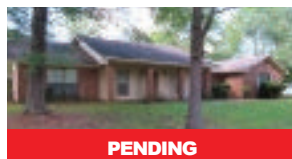
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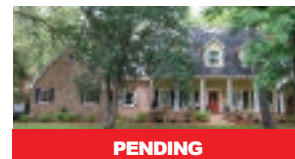
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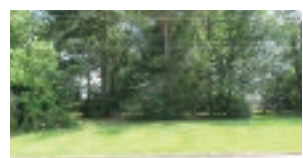
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