

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2022 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Justice Reggie Cullom; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Joe Lewis; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Rick Ash; Economic Development Clif Chitwood; Finance Kelli Jones; Randy Scott; Brad Harrison; Treasurer Peggy Meatte; Judge John Alan Nelson.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. Clif Chitwood, Randy Scott, Brad Harrison requested the meeting today. Meeting was turned over to Clif Chitwood.

2. Resolution supporting Mississippi County Tax Back for Majestic Steel. Projected 240 jobs. First 100 allocated for Mississippi County hires. Motion was made by Justice Burge to support the tax back Resolution for Majestic Steel. Second was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan. Motion passed.

3. Baratelli Enterprises had purchased most of downtown Osceola and several residences. Request was for a recording studio in the Professional Building. Mr. Baratelli had invested \$100,000.00 down for a rebuilt vinyl record making machine. \$50,000.00 down on a printing machine that made covers. Request today was for \$50,000.00. Five jobs. Total cost for both machines \$350,000.00. Mr. Baratelli had a history of redevelopment. Motion was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan to appropriate \$50,000.00 to Baratelli Enterprises for a sound recording studio. Second was made by Justice Reggie Cullom. Motion passed.

4. Medex Waste Inc. owned by Shane Nichols. Medical waste processing and disposal company. Currently employed ten people. Waste material had to be purchased from them to clean before it could be put in a landfill. Request was for purchasing the machinery to sterilize waste. Ten employees would be added. Cost \$360,000.00. Requesting \$75,000.00. Shredding machine also would be purchased. Motion was made by Justice Reggie Cullom to appropriate \$75,000.00 to Medex Waste Inc. Second was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan. Motion passed.

5. Resolution for tax abatement for Lightsource Renewable Energy Development, LLC. Court had approved a similar project in Armorel. \$280 million dollars for solar panels. Asked for a 65% abatement. No financial the County was adding. Issued Act 9 bonds. Motion was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan to support the tax abatement for the solar field in Rotan. Second was made by Justice Cecil McDonald. Motion passed.

6. Call center project. Consultants were shown three building. Price Chopper, Wal Mart, Hood building. Company was established with offices in Atlanta, Memphis. Primary concern was parking. Primarily hired females. Minimum of 400 jobs up to 900. Average starting salary 13,000.00 to \$15,000.00. Success was rewarded. No request at this time.

7. EVTU Report. Electric trucks. City of Osceola had agreed to sell the Fruit of the Loom building. Net effect \$3 to \$5 million dollars in upgrades. No incentive asked for at this time.

People were starting to move to Osceola. Justice Cullom thanked Clif Chitwood for what he had done for Mississippi County

7. Work here live here program. Developers were looking to come to Mississippi County to build homes. People were interested in applying for the loans. Proposal today was to fund \$3 million dollars. \$500,000.00 for Nucor Yamato, \$500,000.00 for Nucor Steel, \$500,00.00 for Big River Steel, \$500,000.00 for U.S. Steel, \$1,000,000.00 for all other industries. Average house was around \$300,000.00. 100 houses to fund first. Fun balances in Economic Development fund \$4.8 million. CD fund \$7.8 million. Justice Cullom stated the school systems needed improving. Justice Burge said it was the number one problem in the County. Motion was made by Justice Tobye McClanahan to appropriate the \$3 million dollars for the work here live here program. Second was made by Justice Reggie Cullom. Motion passed. Industries needed to sign a contract to help offset capital costs and sponsor the work here live here program.

8. Resolution was needed for a Constable that had passed away. Request to temporarily keep 7:00 p.m. for Quorum Court this month. Ordinance was needed to change the time. Filing started at 6:00 on February 22.

9. Mississippi County was awarded a grant for the renovation of the Health Departments in the amount of \$250,000.00.

10. City of Dell fell short of a project. They had a grant for \$230,000.00 for drainage. \$53,000.00 short fall. Money might be received thru an additional grant or ARP funds.

11. Meeting set up in March to recycling bins.

12. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George