

Haywood County “Toeprints”

June 23, 2013

Vol. #4 Issue #4 (Subject: **Under the Radar - (the “2013 Project”)**)

www.haywoodtp.net

What’s Happening?

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform Haywood County Taxpayers of what transpires at the bi-monthly County Commission Meetings. This newsletter will be written from the perspective of a casual observer, myself. Any opinions expressed will be mine.

The “2013 Project”.

What is this? This \$650,000 project was snuck under the radar at the last Special Meeting of County Commissioners on June 20, 2013, when **Julie Davis** presented item IV, when she requested approval of a resolution ... **Providing for Certain Related Matters**. No surprise, it passed.

The county commissioners are out of money, and have been for some time. They are desperate and determined to spend additional money on this building on Elmwood Way. They figured out that they could refinance a whole bunch of current debt, come up with \$650,000 in savings, and presto!, they now have a fresh supply of money. This savings could have been applied to the burgeoning county debt, but no.

The following is the original resolution **Julie Davis** presented to county commissioners at the June 17, 2013 county commission meeting:

Section 1. Official Declaration of Intent. The County presently intends and reasonably expects to reimburse itself for the Capital Expenditures incurred or to be incurred and paid by the County in connection with the Project before the issuance of the Tax-Exempt Obligations from a portion of the proceeds of the Tax-Exempt Obligations which are reasonably expected to be issued during calendar year 2013. The Board of Commissioners expects that the maximum principal amount of tax-exempt obligations reasonably expected to be issued as Tax-Exempt Obligations for the Capital Expenditures with respect to the Project to be reimbursed is \$650,000.

The only reference to where this \$650,000 is going to be applied is to “the Project”.

Background, “the 2013 Project”.

When something is finally placed on a county commission agenda, you know damn well that the project has already been decided in the minds of these commissioners. This project was first discussed at the February 4, 2013 meeting, Item 3 under new business:

3. Discussion of Haywood County Auxiliary Services Facility project and consideration of approval to enter into negotiations with low bidder - **Dale Burris**, Facilities and Maintenance Director - ATTACHMENT 5.

This was the old run-down long building behind the Auxiliary Services Facility / Senior Citizens Center on Elmwood Way. **Dale Burris** indicated a few roof rafters had to be replaced, and he was securing bids to do a “Shell Package” for \$332K. It would take another \$700K to complete the inside, for a “Total Package” of \$1,009,000. Commissioners decided they did not have the difference and authorized commencing with replacing a few roof rafters, the “Shell Package”.

See (13) photographs taken at this facility on 4/13/2013 immediately following this newsletter. Observe the roof rafters.

TDA 2% tax increase fiasco.

Commissioners were further stymied when the TDA 2% increase failed -

[UPDATE E-mail dialog with Gavin Brown, Mayor of Waynesville, on the origins of DRAFT LETTER OF SUPPORT from Town of Waynesville - Revised Legislation Supporting Increase in Haywood County Occupancy Tax. 5/15/2013...](#)

[re: <http://haywoodtp.net/pubII/130515Brown.pdf>]

Whoops, there goes the money for starting on the **James W. “Kirk” Kirkpatrick, III Park** on Jonathan Creek. By the way, has anyone looked at this property on Maps Online recently? Practically the whole thing is in a flood plain. What are they going to do? Spend a bunch of money on stuff and have it all wash away in the next big storm?

Back to the “Shell Package”.

See what a difference \$400K can make on a hulk of a building. By the way, this \$400K is roughly the same amount of money the Haywood County School Board was seeking from the county to hire additional four (4) resource officers to protect Haywood County taxpayers children in our schools.

Mark Swanger and **Kevin Ensley [RINO]** soundly reprimanded the Haywood County School board for asking for this money in the first place. We don't have any more money, they said. **Ensley [RINO]** upped the ante when he said adding four (4) resource officers would not be enough, we need eleven (11), which would then cost over a Million dollars, and we would then have to raise the property tax rate by 2 cents., he said. The Haywood County School Board, not willing to be the scapegoat for having had property taxes raised, backed off on their request.

But wait!

If you take the \$332K to replace a couple of roof rafters on this “**2013 Project**” building, and add the \$650K commissioners just approved under the radar for this project, presto - you have the funds for providing all the resource personnel to protect our kids, without having to raise the property tax rate as **Ensley [RINO]** and **Swanger** threatened.

But no, these [expletive deleted] commissioners decided to go under the radar and build another building the county does not need. What is the intended purpose of this building? Loading it up with Not for Profit organizations and not charge them a cent, i.e. rent free? Place your name on the waiting list immediately!

By the way, have you noticed that **Kirkpatrick, Sorrells** and **Upton** are dark on all these threats to raise the property tax rate? Do you want to know why?

These three are up for election next time. Do you think they want anything in Haywood County Taxpayers recent memory that has anything to do with the phrase “tax increase”. No! **Swanger** and **Ensley [RINO]** are now the current mouthpieces for doing that, to take heat off the other three.

Additional photos were taken on 6/11/2013, see the improvement a couple of hundred thousand dollars make on this building. Photos follow the photos taken on 4/13/2013.

More Threats from Swanger.

In a recent article in the Mountaineer by Vicki Hyatt on June 18, 2013, entitled: **County, town leaders dismayed with tax plan**, Revenue loss could be cutting libraries, recreation, **Swanger** said:

“If the cuts go through, Swanger said the county property tax rate will need to increase by 2 cents on every \$100 of value to break even, ...”

This was the same damn amount **Ensley [RINO]** threatened when he thought the Haywood County School Board were seeking four (4) resource officers to protect our kids in Haywood County Schools, and he kicked the number up to eleven (11) and threatened it would take a 2 cent increase to pay for those.

Where were **Ensley [RINO]** and **Swanger** when it came time to dump 1 Million into this stupid building on Elmwood Way?

Why didn't the commissioners take this \$650,000 they saved with refinancing county debt loans and plow it back into paying off some of these loans and reducing the debt. This question was asked at the Special Meeting on June 20, 2013, by Jonnie Cure, and **Swanger** simply blew her off, never did answer her question. Looks like these two, **Swanger** and **Ensley [RINO]**, have formed a tag team of piling on Jonnie Cure when she makes a public comment at these meetings.

You know, if **Swanger** and **Ensley [RINO]** keep harping on raising the property tax rate 2 cents for every new issue that comes along, pretty soon Haywood County taxpayers are going to get desensitized to this, and subconsciously start to get worn down.

Here's an idea! If the county is looking for dead wood to cut out of the expenses, they need look no further than the Erosion and Sediment Control Department. Eliminate it and all the personnel in that department, starting with **Marc Pruett**.

Coming up soon...

David Francis, Haywood County Tax Collector.

Legend: If any name is in **bold**, it can't be a good thing. [RINO] Republican In Name Only (i.e. **Kevin Ensley**).

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Continue scrolling to next page for photographs of the “**2013 Project**”.

Photographs of “the **2013 Project**” on 4/13/2013.



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



All of the roof rafters you see here looked like they were eventually replaced when you see the next set of photographs taken on 6/9/2013.

4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013



4/13/2013

End of pictures taken on 4/13/2013.

Continue to scroll down...

Photographs of “the **2013 Project**” on 6/11/2013.



6/11/2013



6/11/2013



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