

Special Meeting 3/7/2016 Council House

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Those in attendance were Barry VanMeter, Michelle Landon, Marianne Biviano, Jeff Stevens, and members of the community in the audience.

Barry VanMeter opened the meeting acting as Chairman in the absence of Lynn Schmitt not being present due to a death in the family and being out of state.

Suggested map shown from the county for Parcel that they suggest to sell off

The floor was then open to the public to speak with the 3 minute time frame per person

A member of the audience asked how much the Council House property would be sold for if sold. It was stated that it was not known.

Mr. Van Meter stated that at this point recommendations are being looked at as to whether to sell or tear it down etc.

Audience member asked if there were any restrictions or limitations as far as Shawneeland is concerned as to zoning of the property. It was stated that it would be residential the same as any other in Shawneeland.

Can you sell the cemetery? Van Meter responded saying as long as it is included in the deed they can. It is included in the map that was shown, along with the water wheel, and the spring to the right of the structure.

Up keep of council house would be up to the buyer. Audience member asked if there would be a concern in regards to the electricity from the water wheel that had been there years prior, it was noted that there is believed to be no electricity in the water house now.

Audience member asked if sold, where the money would go from the sell, it was stated that it would go back into the reserve.

Audience member asked about article that was printed in the Winchester star on Feb. 10 that it was stated by Lynn Schmitt in the article, that her concern and the committee concern is the effect of the water going under the structure, audience member stated that she does not believe this has ever been brought up at the meetings before and spoke with Mark he did not seem to be concerned about that. Audience member states that drain field and flood plains has been a concern and ask if it is related to the flood plains or something else? Barry stated that she would have to ask Lynn Schmitt what she meant by that particular quote, but the committee has brought up the fact the water from the leak in the damn has increased there at the side of the council house.

Audience member stated he didn't know how they could sell, because the lodge could not be sold due to it being a flood zone. It was stated that the buyer would have to take that into consideration when they bought it.

Audience member asked if not sold then what then happens to the structure, would it be torn down? It was stated if not sold then that would probably be the last option.

One audience member stated to sell it.

Audience member asked what the board (SSDAC) thinks the best thing to do with it would be. Told that it will be discussed that's why minutes were being taken, but wanted to get a quick feeling of what everyone thought.

New audience member at meeting asked what the purpose of all of this would be and if it should be sold, also asked if the ball field would be included? Barry gave a quick run-down of what had been taking place with the council house over the years. It was stated that according to the map the county gave it would include ball field, infield, grave yard, water wheel and the golf green.

Audience member stated that he had heard rumors that it would cost more to tear down the structure than to fix it. Another audience member stated that they believed that was limited to the floor tiles due to the asbestos, it was also stated that it was thought that an estimate for \$1400.00 had been given. It was then stated that it would be a minor cost compared to fixing it up.

The committee members then discussed the property being sold off to be rid of council house as Shawneelands or the counties responsibility.

Jeff stated that he felt it was a bad idea and does not want to give up the ball field or the golf course

Marianne stated that she does not want to take the chance of someone coming in and putting 5 or 6 houses there (Barry stated they may get a house there) or the fact that it is close to the kids area and it brings in more trouble than it's worth.

Michelle stated she is on the same page and it would mean the loss of one of the greens and Shawneeland paid a pretty penny for those greens, plus you would lose the ball field and a lot of kids use that.

Barry stated he concurred with most of those statements.

It was then asked what the option left was, does the committee recommend it being torn down? Jeff stated that he felt it was probably the best option. Michelle stated that is what she recommends.

Audience member asked what is the county pushing to do since they own the house themselves. Stated that the county wants to be rid of the liability, to either sell or tear it down. As far as the preference, there is none as far as it's known.

Audience member asked what about leasing the council house to the subcommittee and letting them pay Shawneeland to use as they seem fit like a museum or gathering place. It was then stated that the issue is you would still have the liability issue, the audience member then stated that the ones leasing it would take on the liability as part of the lease. It was stated that it may be something to ask the board of supervisors.

Audience member asked how much it would cost to fix the council house up, it was stated about \$30,000.00.

Barry asked for a motion, Marianne made a motion to tear it down, Jeff second the motion, Michelle also seconded the motion, all in favor, and motion passes.

Audience member asked if a pavilion could be put up and maybe have pictures and a dedication to the council house, it was asked what type of thing was thought to go there and is there numbers for that?

Audience member asked about eye sores in the neighborhood on Erie trail, Stated to call planning and zoning.

Audience member stated Thank You for the great job on snow removal and for the box for notices, but the bulletin board may be hard to see.

Audience member brought up the geese, and asked if there is anything that can be done proactive to keep them away. Is there a way to reduce their numbers? Stated that the only way really is to bring a trained dog in and it would be all summer and every day to scare them away. Audience member stated a natural way to keep them away from the ponds and we could plant cat tails to hide the edge of the ponds and they would think that a predator may be near where they would land.

Audience member asked about items possible worthy for people to purchase, also stated to possibly use them in a possible future pavilion?

Audience member asked if money could be raised for repair could this be done, the issue has always been having someone to take liability.

Audience member asked how high up Comcast is going up, stated they will not be going up Wolf Spring.

Audience member asked if the minutes from this meeting could be expedited quicker and it was told that they would have to be approved for the Quarterly meeting. Also asked if it could be released as a non-official release, it was stated no, but would be available at the Quarterly.

Audience member asked if Comcast will be fixing everything back the way it was and the grass reseeded, it was stated that it is all supposed to be put back the way it was. It was answered yes.

Audience member asked if there could be more community events. Also stated that another bulletin board will be placed at the Bowman mail house at a later time, right now the one on Tomahawk is a trial run to see if it gets vandalized.

Also stated the old mail house cannot be used as a place for gatherings or yard sales. When the new mail house was built due to the parking issue there it was shot down, due to people backing out as people pulling in.

Barry made motion to continue, Jeff second the motion, all in favor, motion passed and meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.