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Mr. Adams stated that the resolution would state \$20 million at a tax rate of "X", which would be a published document. They would have marketing materials that would state \$20 million with a tax rate of "X" and additional taxes for operational costs. They were estimating 2.25%. This was a mechanism to put this issue on a referendum that would allow them to fund the facility. They would also explore all the best ways to fund this.

Consensus: *The resolution would state \$20 million at 2.25% stating "Indoor Pool Facilities".*

(5) REQUEST FROM THE PUBLIC LIBRARY: Mr. Adams stated that he received a letter from Tracy Fitzmaurice, County Librarian, concerning the issue of holiday decorations on the courthouse lawn. The Public Library received requests from the public and some staff members requesting the addition of a Menorah to the winter holiday display. Since then, he received an email from Ms. Fitzmaurice stating she had also been approached by an employee about decorations being placed on the courthouse lawn to represent the Kwanzaa holiday.

A couple of seasons ago, they received a last minute request for a Menorah to be placed on the courthouse lawn. Someone had a Menorah made of pool noodles, but nothing had been approved. He requested of the group to not put that up and for them to make a request of the Board in the spring. It must have slipped everyone's mind because no one brought it up.

They then found themselves just before this past holiday season again and the request came back up for a Menorah. He let them know that it was once again last minute, they needed to go through a process and to come back to the Board in the spring. There was now a request to place a Menorah and other holiday decorations. His initial thought was for them to make recommendations and do this in a way that the decorations were fitting for the courthouse lawn.

Chairman McMahan stated that he knew that County Staff, especially Maintenance and Landscaping worked extremely hard to make the courthouse lawn look the best it could with holiday decorations. They had a system in place with a map and a plan on how to decorate the hill to make it the most attractive it could be with what they had planned so that the public could enjoy it.

When the original Menorah concept was thrown in, it was someone that went out at the end of the week with pool noodles and set it in the midst of what had already been done. From a design standpoint, it did not fit well with the theme and the way Maintenance had set out the decorations. That was when they discussed that they needed to have a better conversation about this. It was not that they did not want it, they wanted to honor it just as well as they did the other holiday decorations, but it all needed to be done in a systematic approach.

Also, whether it be the pinwheels, flags or other items, the Board always approved. Anyone could not walk out onto county property and decide to put up any decoration they wanted because staff had worked really hard to make it very attractive and it had been recognized nationally because of the attraction. He was fine with doing a Menorah or a Kwanzaa decoration and thought they should work to incorporate that in with a design County Staff put together.

Commissioner Woody stated that she believed they needed quality control or a policy that people would follow and submit an idea and possible decoration. Then it would go through Public Works and a process. She thought it would be very respectful of the diversity in the community and they could celebrate that.

Mr. Adams stated that generally, in the past, the only items they had accepted had been by organized groups that had a public interest in mind. From that perspective, this was the Library Board making the request. They could let them know they were open to requests and conversations. Perhaps they could appoint a couple of people to sit down with county employees to develop a proposed plan to come back to the Board regarding what those decorations would be.

Commissioner Deitz stated that they only had the Christmas Trees for decorations currently. Was the Christmas Tree a specific symbol? He was all for it, but he worried if something was requested that they may not want to have up there.

Mr. Adams stated that he was bringing in the Library Board to take the leadership in the conversation. They already had inclusive decorations inside the library, so this was not a new conversation for them. That was why he would lean toward that organization, instead of it being an individual conversation, to sit down with County Staff to help lead this.

Consensus: Follow through with a process for holiday decorations.

(6) **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH:** Mr. Adams stated they would have a proclamation at the upcoming meeting designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. As in previous years, they would have pinwheel decorations and banners at courthouse hill and in downtown Sylva.

Informational item.

(7) **ROAD NAMING PROJECTS:** Mr. Adams stated that the applications for Mr. Conrad Burrell and Dr. Jerry Wolfe had been completed and submitted to the state. The state approved the application for Mr. Burrell and responded that they had received the application for Dr. Wolfe. The process would be once the applications were approved, they would submit the support letters and additional information.

Commissioner Woody stated that on the application for Dr. Wolfe, they requested to include the road sign to be in the Cherokee syllabary as well as in English.

Chairman McMahan stated that on the one for Mr. Burrell, there had been some preliminary planning take place. There was a good chance that the governor would be in Sylva on July 30th. They were trying to coordinate with him being there to do the ceremony for the unveiling of the "Conrad Burrell Highway". He had requested that staff tentatively reserve the Old Courthouse Community Room for that day.

As they discussed decorations with banners at the old courthouse, he wanted to see them order custom flags that would hang between the columns of the U.S. Flag, the North Carolina Flag and the County Flag to use for different ceremonial events.

Commissioner Deitz stated that he wanted the Board to consider naming the bridge that went up Hospital Road across Scotts Creek in honor of the athletes that lived in that immediate area. There were several kids in that area that were All American and he would love to name that bridge in honor of them.

Informational item.

(8) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

(a) Commissioner Woody stated that the Appalachian Women's Museum approached Commissioner Deitz about help with a septic system or attaching to TWSA. They met with Tim Parris, Alderman, Town of Dillsboro, representatives of the Appalachian Women's Museum and two representatives from the Health Department. After a long discussion about the best way to proceed forward, it appeared that the consensus was to look into a septic system.

They completed the application for the Health Department to come in and test the soil, but there was a \$490 fee. Since they were a nonprofit and ran on a totally volunteer basis, they were going to request that the county pay the \$490 fee so that they could move forward with the application.

Mr. Adams stated that they were also requesting that the county dig the test pits.

Commissioner Deitz stated that he mentioned to them that this was not the county's project.

Commissioner Woody stated that they wanted to do a joint septic with Dillsboro.

Chairman McMahan stated that he was in favor of it. As he had stated before, he thought this was the kind of project that should really come through the budget process when they funded the Appalachian Women's Museum. Also, they gave a municipal grant to the towns every year or they could do it as an individual donation out of contingency. His preference would be to go through the normal budget cycle.