Closed Session 143-318.11. (a)(#5) Property Acquisition for Utility Easement for North Drive Water Tank

To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract.

Randy Holloway updated the Board concerning the utility easement for the North Drive Water Tank.

Mr. Holloway, Crystal Smith, and John Scarbrough met last week with Francis Hagler and a real estate agent concerning utility easements across her property to the water tank. The easement is needed for AT&T to place fiber optic lines to the cell tower they would like to place on the water tank. The cell tower will provide revenue to the Town starting in September, 2019.

Mrs. Hagler felt she should be compensated for signing the utility easement. When asked about what figure she had in mind, the real estate agent said six figures.

Randy Holloway looked on GIS for the value of the 45ft right-of-way needed for the easement. He calculated $5,000 to $6,000 is the value of the land. He requested the Board to allow Mr. Scarbrough and himself to negotiate with Mrs. Hagler to secure the easement. They would like up to $10,000 to pay for the utility easement, but feel $6,000 would be sufficient. Mr. Holloway reminded the Board that the Town could take the property by condemnation; however, he does not want to be a "bad neighbor".

The consensus of the Board was to let Mr. Holloway and Mr. Scarbrough to negotiate with Mrs. Hagler for the utility easement for no more than $10,000.

Commissioner Simpson made a motion with a second from Commissioner Ashby to end the Closed Session. All Board Members were in favor. (5-0)