

HICKORY WITHE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MINUTES JUNE 7, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Kenney followed by prayer led by Terry Leggett. The Pledge of Allegiance was also led by Terry Leggett.

Officials attending included Mayor Skip Taylor, Homer Bunker, and Robert Sills.

The meeting was held at the Hickory Withe Presbyterian Church with approximately 75 in attendance.

Business included election of officers for the coming year. All officers will stay the same, with Bob Kenney as President, Eddie Brewer as Vice President, Sandra Brewer as Secretary, and Merrel Miller as Treasurer.

The evening's program was focused on the new I-40 Interstate exchange at Highway 196.

Mayor Taylor opened the presentation with an update on the interchange project which is expected to be completed by the end of October, 2018, weather permitting.

A representative of TDOT explained details of the road project and answered questions from the floor.

It was explained to the group that plans to widen Highway 196 to 4 lanes have not yet begun. It was stated that it would take several years to approve and move forward on that plan. Such a widening project would follow higher daily traffic counts on 196 than present counts indicate. The segment of Highway 196 north of the I-40 interstate will be widened in near future, however.

There was discussion about safety issues with the increased traffic, as well as about what businesses might be built at the four corners of the interstate exchange.

It was suggested that concerned citizens might wish to ask the county commission for a traffic study of the area in question, especially the cross street intersections along 196 between Hwy 64 and the new interchange.

The next meeting of the association is Thursday, July 5th, 2018, at 6:30 pm.

It will be a cookout to honor our fire department first responders, and it will be held in the gym of the Hickory Withe Baptist Church on Hwy 196.

Minutes submitted by Sandra Brewer, Secretary

