MINUTES
OLD COURTHOUSE AD-HOC COMMITTEE
August 27, 2026

Present
Clay Haynes, Chairman
Reginald Mudd, Vice-Chairman
J. Wes Wynne, Commissioner
John Isbell, Mayor of Sumner County
Amy Nixon, Citizen
David Klein, Commissioner
Absent
Paige Brown, Mayor of Gallatin
Ben Harris, Commissioner

The Old Courthouse Ad-Hoc Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Clay Haynes at approximately 5:30 p.m. in conference room 112.

Invocation
Commissioner Klein provided the invocation

Approval of Agenda
Motion made by Commissioner Klein, seconded by Commissioner Wynne, to accept the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes
Motion was made by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Ms. Nixon, to accept the minutes from July 30, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.

Recognition of the Public
Jenna Landstrom of 814 Butler Bridge Road, Portland, TN was present to discuss the plans for Christmas lights on the Old Courthouse. She noted that the City of Gallatin would like to partner with the County in coordinating the project.

Further discussions ensued regarding the coordination of the lights, type of lights, and cost of the project. Discussions also included how many sides of the building would be decorated as well as the shading of the lights and who would hang the lights. Mayor Isbell stated the County would be willing to share the cost with the City of Gallatin if this would be agreeable with the City Mayor. It was noted that the estimated cost is approximately $16,000 of which Mayor Isbell felt the County could contribute $8,000. The vendor which submitted the current estimate has requested a decision by 9/1/26.

Old Business
None

New Business
Chairman Haynes provided a brief update of the progress to date. He noted the RFQ went live on 8/20/26 and is currently on the County website. He also noted the mandatory site tours have begun, and the first tour was today, 8/27/26. Questions from architects and engineers can be asked until 9/9/26 and answers will be posted by 9/10/26 with the final submissions due by 9/17/26.

Chairman Haynes also discussed that once the bids are received, the committee would use a scoring mechanism to rate the firms. This committee panel would meet on 9/24/26 to review and rank the submissions. Chairman Haynes also noted that to limit the risk of limited response, he and Mr. Shamrock will reach out to qualified firms.

Chairman Haynes stated he would request an updated synopsis on 8/28/26.

Discussions then moved to an open house/public event. This would encourage the public to become involved and build excitement surrounding the project. Mayor Isbell then noted a good time to unveil the project could be 11/14/26. On this date the County is holding an event to place a time capsule in front of the Jethro Sumner Monument followed by a drone show. The open house could be included in this event by opening a small portion for viewing. Another idea suggested was to have someone tape a short history of the courthouse being played during the tour.

Discussions then moved back to the lights around the building. A motion was made by Commissioner Klein, seconded by Mayor Isbell, to suspend the rules to hear from the audience. Motion passed unanimously.

A question was asked regarding the lights being used on 11/14/26 and the fact the Christmas lights were not usually turned on at this early date. They also discussed the other events that would take place within the City of Gallatin during this time of year, which could interfere with this plan. Chairman Haynes asked where to find a list of events currently scheduled and Ms. Nixon stated the websites where the information can be found. Mayor Isbell stated the date could be changed if necessary.

Mayor Isbell also discussed the possibility of having renderings of the project visible to the public during the open house.

Chairman Haynes also noted the need of public involvement and stated through QR codes, questionnaires and other avenues, ideas can be shared.

Recognition of the Public No-Agenda Items
None

Adjournment
With no more discussions, Chairman Haynes called for adjournment at approximately 6:15 p.m.