Environmental Committee
June 4, 2026 | 4:30 PM
Room 302 – Historic Courthouse

Members Present:	Others Present:
Sue York (A)	Torey LaMontagne, Mayor's Office
Vacant	Gary Nelson, *Crossville Chronicle*
Karen Shanks	Philip Burnett, County Attorney
David Gibson	Mayor Foster
Jack Davis (A)	Tom Isham, 2nd District
Joe Sherrill (A)	Darrell Threet, 3rd District
Mark Baldwin	Jerry Cooper, 7th District
Deborah Holbrook	Greg Maxwell, 8th District
John Patterson	Colleen Mall, 9th District
	Craig Clark
	Jonathan Miller
	Members of the General Public

CALL TO ORDER
With a quorum present, David called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm in Room 302.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Deborah made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes as presented. Karen seconded the motion, none were opposed, and the motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes as presented carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT(S)
The floor was opened for public comments on the agenda and there were a few:

A gentleman named Randall was present and mentioned a local survey he is conducting regarding interest in data centers—so far, he has around 2,400 responses.

A lady named Audrey was present and stated that she was present to learn more but was against a data center in our area.

Mayor Foster reiterated that currently there are no plans for a center and that these steps are proactive in nature.

DISCUSSION: COUNTY POWERS ACT
The County Attorney Philip Burnett was present. Philip stated that without adoption of the County Powers Act statute, there can be no action taken by the Commission on any development in Cumberland County. The County Powers Act (TCA 5-1-118) authorizes Cumberland County to adopt by resolution certain powers and authorities granted within the statute. The statute requires that adoption be approved by at least a 2/3 majority of the County Commission. Philip was asked if any other counties have adopted this and he stated that yes, other counties in the state have adopted this statute.

A motion was made by Deb to recommend to the County Commission the approval of TCA statute 5-1-118, also known as the County Powers Act. Karen seconded the motion, none were opposed, and the motion to recommend the passage of this statute to the County Commission carried.

DISCUSSION: DATA CENTER MORATORIUM

County Attorney Burnett noted that this resolution is a little trickier. He mentioned that it is the quickest way to protect the county after passing the Powers Act, but that the best way to protect Cumberland County in the long run would be zoning.

Philip mentioned that TVA currently has to approve any data centers that will be using over 20 megawatts of energy. VEC has mentioned that its entire energy grid's capacity is 100 megawatts.

Philip also mentioned that Cumberland County is what is considered a "soft landing" for entities such as data centers due to very little to no zoning restrictions.

Colleen asked if the city could act outside of this moratorium and Philip answered yes, the county cannot tell the city what to do.

Mayor Foster asked if this would buy time to find better solutions. Philip said yes, and that he recommended the commission speaking with a contact he has with the state regarding zoning in the long term.

John made a motion to approve the moratorium if it could be 10 years instead of 2. Philip mentioned that that would basically be a de-facto ban. There was no second on this motion.

Deb stated that she is interested in learning more from the state regarding zoning, and made a motion to approve the moratorium as-is. The motion was seconded by Karen. The motion failed with 4 ayes from Karen, David, Mark, and Deb and 1 nay from John Patterson. Mayor Foster stated that he will be placing this resolution on the County Commission agenda regardless of the vote.

ROADS FOR APPROVAL

At the May 2026 Regional Planning Commission meeting, Fairfield Glade Community Club submitted applications to add and extend the following roads on the county road list:

Add:	**Extend:**
Carnoustie Drive (0.20 mi)	Catoosa Blvd- extend by 2.11 mi totaling 4.00 mi
Leyden Circle (0.02 mi)	Forest Hills Drive- extend by 0.48 mi totaling 1.72 mi
Lytham Way (0.16 mi)	Leyden Drive- extend by 0.50 mi totaling 0.57 mi
Prestwick Circle (0.14 mi)	
St. Andrews Circle (0.10 mi)	
Spring Lake Drive (0.26 mi)	

A motion was made and passed in the Planning Commission to recommend the approval of these roads to the Environmental Committee.

John made a motion to add Carnoustie Drive at 0.20 mi, Leyden Circle at 0.02 mi, Lytham Way at 0.16 mi, Prestwick Circle at 0.14 mi, St. Andrews Circle at 0.10 mi, and Spring Lake Drive at 0.26 mi to the county road list. Mark seconded the motion, none were opposed, and the motion to add these roads to the county road list carried.

John made a motion to extend Catoosa Blvd to 4.00 mi, Forest Hills Drive to 1.72 mi, and Leyden Drive to 0.57 mi on the county road list. Mark and Karen seconded the motion, none were opposed, and the motion to extend these roads on the county road list carried.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS, IF ANY
None.

ADJOURNMENT
With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Mark. The motion was seconded by Deb, none were opposed, and the motion to adjourn carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 pm in Room 302 of the historic courthouse.

Approval:

David Gibson **Date** 6 Oct 2026