

**GATES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING- WORK SESSION MINUTES  
JUNE 16, 2016**

The Gates County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session to conduct a work session at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, June 16, 2016 in the Gates County Courthouse, 202 Court Street, Gatesville. Commissioners Hofler, Owens, Jordan, Felton and Freeman were present. Also present was County Manager, Natalie Rountree.

Chairman Hofler called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

**New Business**

Mike Carver, Code Enforcement Officer, provided information on which surrounding counties and cities enforce their codes either civilly or criminally. Mr. Carver presented information on putting a lien on the property through the tax office if the County used funds to clean up property. The tax lien would be a junior lien and would be paid back to the County once any other liens on the property were paid. A junior lien does not allow the county to foreclose on property. A County has the authority to fine and place a lien on the property for chronic offenders. Mr. Carver explained the differences between criminal and civil enforcement.

Board members asked questions about the junior lien and foreclosure processes.

Board discussed the need for codification of ordinances to compile a code of ordinances or major updating of the ordinance book.

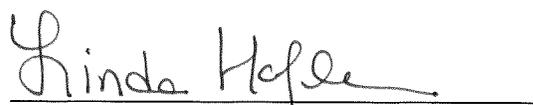
Mr. Carver discussed numerous ways of amending the ordinance to be enforceable either civilly or criminally.

Kathy Lane, Tax Administrator, explained the tax enforcement process for a junior lien and the difference between abatement costs and fees/fines.

The Board agreed they would like to keep the fees and fines civil and asked Mr. Carver to bring a proposal to the Board on rewording the ordinance to keep penalties civil and adding unpaid fines to tax bills.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Owens made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion; motion passed without opposition.

  
Linda Hofler, Chairman

  
Melissa C. Lawrence, Clerk

