

Town of Fifty Six
Home of Blanchard Springs
6564 Hwy. 14 Fifty Six, AR
(870)757-2225

Mayor: Earnestine McDaniel

Recorder/Treasurer: Christina Byrd

Town Council Special Meeting
January 8, 2025

Members present: Eric Williams, Rick VanEvera, Lisa VanEvera, and Aaron Byrd

Corkey Barker and Tony Hudspeth presented a business proposal to the council. They would like to rent the old school building on Balentine St. Corkey informed the council they will renovate the old building to set up business. The business would be a wood working web based business. Eventually the business will grow into a retail business.

Corkey showed council what his finished product looks like. He will take new wood and put it thru a process that makes it look like old barn wood. The wood will be offered with a variety of colors.

The majority of the lumber will come from Tony Hudspeth's local sawmill. Corkey Baker was initially interested in buying part of Industrial Park but council has made it clear it is not for sale.

Corkey stated it will take a couple months to fix the building. They would like to check the status of the water lines. Council agreed to turn water on so they could inspect the plumping.

Lisa VanEvera asked about leasing the property to them rather than renting. Corkey is not interested in a lease because there is no guarantee the business will succeed or how quickly they will outgrow the building if it does.

Aaron Byrd asked once it is up and running who would be responsible for maintenance to the building. Corkey said the business would be.

It was asked about noise control. Council was informed it would not be disruptive.

It was also asked about any type of waste and were told there would be no waste product.

They are unsure of what their hours of operation would be but it would be daytime.

Aaron Byrd asked if they knew how many jobs they would bring to the community. Corkey said at first 4-5 but would increase as the business builded.

The city benefits from this business proposal because Corkey and Tony will renovate the old school building, it will bring in some jobs for the community, they will be a water customer, and eventually they will bring people into our community.

It was discussed and agreed that rent on the building would be \$100 a month. (no vote was taken)

Lisa VanEvera would like Earnestine to check into insurance on having a business in a city building.

Lisa VanEvera made a motion to adjourn 2nd by Eric Williams.

Mayor, Earnestine McDaniel

Recorder/Treasurer, Christina Byrd