

Commissioners reduce tax rate

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line, Lower Colorado River Authority utility routes and U.S. highway construction.

"Now they want to build an electric farm out there," said Mrs. McWilliams. "The property is being destroyed little by little."

Kempner resident Paul Cook also addressed the court, saying Killeen and other urban areas will benefit from the new transmission lines much more than Lampasas County will.

Wittenburg said he would vote for a resolution supporting under-

ground lines or "monopole" structures, which some landowners consider less intrusive than the lattice towers. Oncor officials have said they plan to use in the Brown-ton Newton project.

"What they'll do with that [resolution], I don't know," Wittenburg said, "but I would be in full support of that."

Oncor has until Wednesday to give the Public Utility Commission a list of preferred and alternate routes. Boultinghouse urged concerned citizens to attend PUC public meetings in Austin as the

commission prepares to approve or disapprove the Oncor project.

Also at the meeting, the Commissioners Court tabled nominations for two vacant positions on the Lampasas Central Appraisal District Board of Directors and set a holiday list for 2010. County offices will be closed for 15 holidays, including two days for Veterans Day -- Nov. 11-12.

In addition, Precinct 1 Commissioner Robert Vincent noted that a recent tire collection effort has ended. His precinct collected between 900 and 1,100 tires,

the commissioner said. "That's 900 to 1,100 tires we won't see in our creeks, rivers and on the sides of roads," the commissioner said.

Burn ban suspended

Rain and moderate temperatures have prompted County Judge Wayne Boultinghouse to suspend the county-wide ban on outdoor burning in unincorporated areas. The ban has been lifted until further notice.

Kempner approves budget

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man.

In other business at the regular meeting, Police Chief David Sheedy discussed the National Night Out slated for tonight at Taylor Creek Elementary School.

Sheedy said representatives from the Lampasas County Sheriff's Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Department of Transportation, county animal control and area fire departments are expected to participate in the event. The police department is planning food, activities and identification kits for children, he added.

The council also approved a memorandum of understanding with Sheedy that gave approval for the police chief to use a police vehicle as a take-home car for business only.

The excess vehicle was replaced recently with a new Dodge Charger patrol car.

In the memorandum, Sheedy agrees to pay for gasoline and minor maintenance. The city will pay for insurance and repairs if the vehicle is used for official business or police emergencies.

Also, Isenhour updated the council on progress at the city park. He said base material has

been placed at the site of the Veterans Memorial. Construction of the concrete base will be the next step.

The mayor added that more than 60 engraved stones to honor veterans have been purchased, and the stones will be placed in a Wall of Honor that will encircle the Veterans Memorial.

Anyone interested in buying a stone should contact Kempner City Hall for more information.

Kempner City Council will meet in regular session next on Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Chairman touts job creation plans

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39.5 percent -- according to the Tax Foundation, a nonpartisan research group.

A border-adjusted consumption tax, Pauken said, would encourage domestic investment and help reduce outsourcing of jobs to foreign

countries. Most of the United States' trading partners, he added, have import consumption tax rates of at least 15 percent.

Whether through job creation tax credits or other policy changes, Pauken said economic stability depends largely on incentives for in-

vestment and domestic employment.

"We need to change to a tax system that rewards savings and investment," he said.



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