

ORDINANCE #130

An ordinance to abandon Robin Hood Road and remove said road from the City street/road list.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the Town of Ashland City, Tennessee that Robin Hood Road, located in the 2nd ward of the City, and in the 1st civil district of Cheatham County, located between Highway 12 South of Ashland City and property owned by John Haywood and wife, Louise Mandrell Haywood, be abandoned,

And being the same road that has caused the City Police and Maintenance Departments many problems due to trash, garbage, drunks and drug user, as it is partially secluded from view,

And being the same Robin Hood Road that has continuously been used by all of the property owners living on the land previously known as "Robin Hood Ranch", as their private driveway and serves no other family, or business,

And that the City wishes to relieve itself of the responsibility of an undersized, inadequate bridge over Marrowbone Creek, along with the policing and maintaining of Robin Hood Road,

Be it therefore ordained that the City has no further interest in this road and that it shall become the property of, and maintained by, John and Louise Mandrell Haywood and that they will in good faith, receive such property and give the City written receipt of same.

This Ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days from and after its first reading or final passage, whichever is later, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed 1st reading March 14, 1995

Public Hearing April 11, 1995

Passed 2nd reading deferred until further notice (4/11/95)

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

City Recorder



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
Resource Manager, Cheatham Lake  
1798 Cheatham Dam RD  
Ashland City, TN 37015-9805  
Phone: (615) 792-5698 or 254-3734

March 3, 1995

Mayor Mary Jenkins  
101 Court Street  
Ashland City, TN 37015

Dear Mayor Jenkins,

This is in reply to your recent letter concerning Robin Hood Road. The Cheatham Lake Resource Management's interest in this road is because it provides a convenient public access to an area that receives moderate use from fisherman & hunters. As you may know, we own land on either side of the road as well as a small portion of the land on the west side of the bridge. We have this land leased to the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency and closing of this road would certainly have an effect on use of the area by the general public.

We have trash removed from the sides of the road and at the small turn around areas approximately 4 times per year by our contractor.

I have no first hand knowledge of the drinking and drug problems you mentioned but suggest that if a security light was placed by the city at the east-end of the bridge and additional patrols were made to "break-up" this type of activity, then maybe the area could continue to be used by decent law abiding citizens.

I certainly would not object to a gate of cable being placed on the east end of the bridge to restrict any vehicles from crossing. This would still allow pedestrian access for fishing.

I realize that you have some legitimate concerns about this road, but from a public use viewpoint, I respectfully ask that the road not be closed.

Sincerely,

*George M. Patterson*  
GEORGE M. PATTERSON  
RESOURCE MANAGER  
CHEATHAM LAKE

# TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY

101 Court Street  
Ashland City, Tennessee 37015

February 23, 1995

*George M. Talburt*

Mr. Mike Patterson  
Cheatham Reservoir Resource Manager  
1798 Cheatham Dam Road  
Ashland City, Tennessee 37015

Re: Robin Hood Road


Dear Mr. Patterson:

Since our conversation several weeks ago about the possibility of the City abandoning Robin Hood Road and turning it over to Jon and Louise (Mandrell) Haywood, I have received several complaints about the road. It is being used for dumping trash and garbage in the creek and along the roadway and as a secluded parking place for people drinking and using drugs. It is extremely hard to police the area, since there is not adequate parking or turn around space.

I have also received a formal request from the Ashland City Chief of Police and informal requests from Gary Norwood, our Director of Public Works, and Chuck Walker, our Fire Chief, to take the road off the city "street" list and let it become the private drive for which it was built. The City could then bring our water meter back to Highway 12S, and not have to cross an extremely narrow bridge. Needless to say, the City would not have any legal responsibility for the bridge. Anyone with a legal and legitimate need would have access to the road, but it would be closed to the general public.

Our City Council will consider an ordinance to abandon the road at our March 14, 1995 meeting. The public hearing would then be held on April 11, 1995. I would appreciate your comments prior to the March meeting.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Grey Jenkins  
Mayor, Town of Ashland City

cc: Jon Haywood  
W.R. Baker

*County Seat of Cheatham County*

P.O. Box 36 • 615 792-4211 • FAX: 615 792-3501

John Haywood  
Executive Producer

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March 2, 1995

Mr. Mike Patterson  
1798 Cheatham Dam Road  
Ashland City, TN 37015

RE: Proposed closing of Robin-  
hood Rd. - Cheatham Co. TN

Dear Mr. Patterson:

My father recently had a telephone conversation with you concerning the possibility of closing Robinhood Road to the public. You suggested we write you requesting such closing and stating the reason(s). Therefore the purpose of this letter.

My wife, Louise, and I recently moved into our new home on a 425 acre farm in Cheatham County (commonly know as Robinhood) which accesses State Highway 12 by Robinhood Road. This road is approximately 400 yards in distance and serves no other property owners. It is the only access from Highway 12 to our property.

Louise and I have an eleven year old daughter living with us, together with Louise's secretary and a lady who takes care of our daughter. Therefore, we travel Robinhood Road frequently at various and sundry times of the day and night and many times alone. Louise is in the entertainment business which requires frequent travel at odd hours. She is exposed to personal risks beyond that of the average citizen and has been the target of threats of bodily harm on more than one occasion. At many of her performances she employs special security to afford her maximum protection. I strongly feel Robinhood Road, as a public roadway, affords a perfect sanctuary for someone seeking to rob and/or do bodily harm to others, especially a woman late at night. Once you leave Highway 12 there is no turning back in the event you detect problems. This road is lined with trees and bushes making it hard to determine from a distance that any problems might lie ahead. One becomes open prey for someone seeking to do you harm. The safety of my family, invitees and guests is a primary factor in requesting this road be closed. The Ashland City police department will attest to the fact that strange looking cars and

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trucks with darkened windows are seen with frequency parked along Robinhood Road. It is apparent that drugs and alcoholic beverages are used and consumed with great frequency in this area.

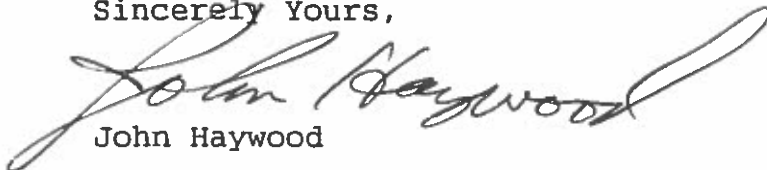
Another problem created by the public having access to this road is the dumping of trash, dead animals, household appliances, furniture and other refuse. Beer cans and liquor bottles line this roadway requiring frequent removal by us.

As you know, there is no public boat ramp in this area although on occasion someone will put a boat in the water near the bridge. About the only public bank fishing available is on or near the bridge. This creates a safety problem in that the bridge is very narrow with no side rails requiring evacuation each time a car crosses it. Certainly the safety of those using Robinhood Road for valid reasons far outweighs the rights of a few people who fish from or near the bridge.

Mayor Mary Grey Jenkins of Ashland City has given strong support to the closing of Robinhood Road as has the Cheatham County Road Commissioner.

For the reasons stated above I respectfully request that you give your approval to the closing of this roadway to public use. I would be pleased to meet with you if you desire to view the site.

Sincerely Yours,



John Haywood

cc: Mayor Mary Grey Jenkins  
Ashland City, TN 37015

JH/bke

Ordinance 130  
Abandon Robin Hood Road

1. Why should Robin Hood Road remain open?
  - A. Provides convenient public access for fisherman and hunters.
  - B. Cheatham Lake Resource Management owns land on both sides of Robin Hood Road and on west side of bridge.
  - C. Cheatham Lake Resource Management request that the road not be closed.
  - D. Taxpayers monies were used to build the bridge, pave the road and run water lines to the property.
  - E. Ashland City is pushing its nature trails and wildlife environment and this seems to be contradictive of what we want.
  
2. What can be done by Ashland City to address the concerns of Mayor and the Haywood family?
  - A. Post signs = No fishing from bridge while vehicles are present.
  - B. Post sign = Dangerous Water--no guard rail on bridge, please use caution.
  - C. Cut/trim the trees and bushes along roadway.
  - D. Place street lights on road possible every 300 ft. after completion of Highway 12.
  - E. Move water meter to Haywood's property line eliminating the need to drive across narrow bridge.
  - F. Widen turn around space before crossing bridge for police officers/water meter readers.
  - G. Widening of Highway 12 will reduce length of road.
  
3. Comments regarding Mayor's letter to Mr. Mike Patterson:
  1. Concern: Road is being used to dump trash and garbage.  
Response: Corp of Engineers removes trash four times per year.
  2. Concern: Road is being used as a secluded parking place for people drinking and using drugs.  
Response: Placing street lights and providing adequate turn around place for police officers should reduce this activity.
  3. Comment: Let it become a private drive for which it was built.  
Response: When did the city or county get into the business of spending tax payers monies to build private drives?

4. **Comment:** City could then bring our water meter back to Highway 12S and not have to cross extremely narrow bridge.  
**Response:** The water meter should be placed on the property line instead of having meter next to housing structure, this would allow the meter reader the ability to walk across the bridge without the need to drive over the bridge.
5. **Comment:** City would not have legal responsibility for the bridge.  
**Response:** Work with City Attorney to find out what signs and etc can be placed on bridge to limit liability.