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Museum Solicits Funds For Exhibit
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Former Cowan councilman and Railroad Museum volunteer Mark Ledbetter approached the Cowan City Council at last week's meeting for funds to support the Smithsonian exhibit.

The Cowan Railroad Museum, in partnership with Humanities Tennessee, Museums on Main Street and the Smithsonian Institution, is bringing "The Way We Worked" to the Cowan Center for the Arts.

Museum organizers estimated the cost of the exhibit would be around \$13,000.

Most of that funding will be spent in advertising.

Ledbetter noted the exhibit would benefit local businesses and bring needed tax dollars to the city.

Councilman Adam Nelson asked how much the council thought would be a sufficient amount. A thousand dollar donation was suggested, but Nelson felt that was too much.

"There's been over a year for this to be budgeted," Nelson noted.

Members of the previous council, that didn't include Nelson, voted to cut the Cowan Railroad Museum's funding.

Former councilmen Ledbetter and Josephine Holman also voted against the museum's funding cut.

The museum has so far raised a little over \$1,000, according to Ledbetter. The group intends to increase its fundraising efforts in 2012.

Councilmen voted to approve \$750 for the exhibit. Councilmen Tom McGee and Nelson voted against the funding.

If you would like to make a donation for the event contact Pat Underwood at (931) 691-0722.

Fees Brought Into Question

Lawyer fees were cause for concern at Tuesday night's Cowan City Council meeting.

A new councilman requested the services of City Attorney David Stewart. Following Stewart's time working with the councilman the city was billed \$1,000 for the 10 hours of work.

Councilman Tom McGee offered to pay the city back the money, but several audience members felt there was no reason for him to do so.

In the meantime, Stewart will work with City Administrator Becky Sherman on coming up with a retainer fee.