

**TOWN OF HOPE MILLS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020 5:00 PM
BILL LUTHER BOARD MEETING ROOM and Via ZOOM**

Mayor Jackie Warner called the special meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 5:29 p.m. The beginning of the meeting was delayed due to technical difficulties.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT-in Board Room

Mayor Jackie Warner, Mayor Pro Tem Kenjuana McCray, Commissioners Jessie Bellflowers, Pat Edwards and Bryan Marley.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT- via Zoom

Commissioner and Jerry Legge

STAFF PRESENT-in Board Room

Town Manager Melissa Adams, Finance Director Drew Holland, and Planning & Economic Development Director Chancer McLaughlin.

STAFF PRESENT- via Zoom

Town Clerk Jane Starling, Parks & Recreation Director Lamarco Morrison, Public Works Director Don Sisko, Chief Building Inspector David Ray Reeves, Deputy Public Works Director Bruce Clark, and Stormwater Administrator Beth Brown. Also present **was Town Attorney Dan Hartzog.**

1. NEW ITEM:

a. Discussion of fiscal year 2020/2021 budget.

Mayor Warner welcomed everyone and turned over the meeting to Town Manager Adams. Consensus was to go through each segment of the budget in the order presented.

Commissioner Bellflowers had questions about several requests. They included a sound system for the Board room, Neo-gov software for HR; and additional employees for Inspections, Code Enforcement and a Construction Manager. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro Tem McCray inquired if the construction manager would be in charge of the public safety building project. Finance Director, Drew Holland responded that the public safety building project manager is the architect and is not part of this request.

It was questioned why there is an increase for police overtime. Mr. Holland explained that there are not enough officers to cover all shifts and provide police coverage at Parks and Recreation events within their regular shifts.

Mayor Pro Tem McCray inquired if the Town was pursuing any of the federal funds that Cumberland County is tasked with distributing to the municipalities. Finance Director Holland responded that the Town has incurred very little increase in spending due to COVID-19. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Legge inquired if Parks and Recreation would be refunding spring sports fees. Parks and Recreation Director Lamarco Morrison responded and stated that most spring sports are being refunded and a final decision related to Dixie Youth Baseball would be made by the next Wednesday. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Bellflowers inquired if the Parks and Recreation maintenance staff has been moved to the building at the former golf course property. Parks and Recreation Director Lamarco Morrison responded that the equipment has been moved but Maintenance staff continues to work out of the Recreation Center as there is no heat or restroom currently in that building. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Bellflowers questioned what grants have been applied for related to several Parks and Recreation items. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Bellflowers asked that the Board start considering a Parks and Recreation Bond. Finance Manager Holland remarked that the Town has already starting looking into that as a representative from Davenport made a presentation to the Board explaining how the process works. Discussion ensued.

Consensus was to:

- Leave off the new microphone system for the board room.
- Include the Neo-gov system for HR which has been requested for several years.
- Fund the additional Code Enforcement position as a full-time position.
- Fund the Construction Manager beginning January 1, 2021.

Commissioner Legge requested that we hold another budget workshop, consensus was to hold a second budget workshop on June 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

2. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Warner adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Jackie Warner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jane G. Starling CMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk