

**TOWN OF HOPE MILLS  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES  
SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020 6:00 PM  
BILL LUTHER BOARD MEETING ROOM**

Mayor Jackie Warner called the special meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Sunday May 31, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Manager Melissa Adams (6:09 p.m.), Town Clerk Jane Starling, Public Works Director Don Sisko, Police Chief Joel Acciardo, Fire Chief Chuck Hodges, and Deputy Fire Chief Steve Lopez.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The invocation was led by Pastor Ellen McCubbin of Hope Mills United Methodist Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Jackie Warner.

**Item 1. Discussion of community safety plans.**

Mayor Warner thanked everyone for attending and stated the special meeting was called in order to update citizens and to be proactive in our response to whatever may be occurring or will occur in Hope Mills. Mayor Warner went on to say there was an attempted break in at the ABC store and some individuals were arrested by our Police force. Mayor Warner requested the Board's support in issuing a State of Emergency for Hope Mills. This would be separate from the State of Emergency we currently have for Covid-19. This would be to allow the Mayor to call a curfew if it becomes necessary.

*Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray, seconded by Commissioner Legge and carried unanimously, to support Mayor Warner issuing a State of Emergency and a Curfew, if necessary.*

Mayor Warner commented that due to rumors about possible protests the decision was made to close the two parks on Main Street both at the lake and the municipal complex.

Chief Acciardo commented he would give a brief overview from yesterday moving into today. Chief Acciardo commented we are all familiar with the events that occurred in the City of Fayetteville the day prior which prompted him to place his staff on call in the case the problems kept working towards Hope Mills. Additional Police staff were called in and on hand when there were some problems including the ABC store. The Police Department received word that there were other businesses that may have been targeted and officers were deployed in those areas as a deterrent. We did not have any further

problems. Chief Acciaro added that additional officers have been placed on duty for this evening along with reserve staff on call, should things get out of hand. The Police Department has a double shift coming on tonight and another shift on standby should we need to call them in. Hope Mills Police have been working with our law enforcement partners in the County to utilize our mutual aid options if they are available and so far, we've had assistance from the sheriff's department and been in good communication with the State Highway patrol. Chief Acciaro stated he has spoken with some of the protesters and they are very respectful and nice. Discussion ensued.

*Motion made by Commissioner Bryan Marley, seconded by Commissioner Jerry Legge and carried unanimously authorizing the Town Manager to spend up to an additional \$50,000 above the usual credit card limits while under a state of emergency only.*

**1. ADJOURNMENT.**

*Motion made by Commissioner Jerry Legge to adjourn the meeting.*

Mayor Warner adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

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Jackie Warner, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jane G. Starling CMC, NCCMC  
Town Clerk