

REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2007

The regular meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners was called to order by Mayor Dees at 7:30 p.m. Commissioners Luther, Gorman, Smith, Legge, and Collins were present.

Others present were Interim Town Manager Bob Nicholl, Town Attorney William R. Davis, Fire Chief Chuck Hodges, Public Works Director Bruce McLaurin, Parks and Recreation Director Anita Kilgore, Finance Director Jeff Saleeby, and Police Chief John Hodges.

Rev. Garry Ballance, Victory Baptist Church, gave the invocation, and Commissioner Legge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS, ADDITIONS, DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.

Mayor Dees noted an addendum for an old business item, consideration to adopt ordinance amendment, Chapter 62, Parks and Recreation, Code of Conduct.

Commissioner Legge made a motion to add the item to old business. Commissioner Gorman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2. PRESENTATIONS.

- a) Certificate of Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Al Brafford in recognition of their 65th Wedding Anniversary.**

Mayor Dees presented on behalf of the Board a Certificate of Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Brafford in recognition of their 65th Wedding Anniversary, and gave them best wishes for many more years of happiness and good health together. Mr. and Mrs. Brafford were recognized with a round of applause.

- b) Proclamation for Loyalty Day - May 1, 2007.**

Mayor Dees read the proclamation and stated it would be presented to VFW Post 10630 at the May 1st Loyalty Day Ceremony at the Armed Forces Veterans Memorial Park, 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Dees encouraged all citizens to join the VFW at the Veterans Memorial Park and to reaffirm allegiance to the Flag and Country.

- c) Proclamation for National Day of Prayer - May 3, 2007.**

Mayor Dees read the proclamation for the National Day of Prayer and urged all citizens to observe this day by joining members of all faiths and creeds all over the community and nation in seeking divine guidance. Mayor Dees stated the proclamation would be read and presented to the Hope Mills Ministerial Association at the ceremony on May 3rd, Noon, in front of the Town Hall, and encouraged all citizens to attend.

3. STATUS REPORT ON HOPE MILLS LAKE/DAM PROJECT.

Mayor Dees reported the biggest news on the lake/spillway project of course is that the Town has obtained LGC approval to finance the remainder of the project. He said with the

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lateness of the audits, this was not an easy task. Mayor Dees stated he was grateful to those who worked behind the scenes to help make this happen and he was grateful to the LGC for the show of confidence they displayed in this Governing Body.

Also, he said he would like to thank Mrs. Register, Ms. Diana Krist, and Mr. Nicholl for all their work in helping make this happen.

Mayor Dees noted the clearing of the lake bed is nearing completion and Saffo Contractors has done an outstanding job and they went above and beyond what was required of them in completing their work. Mayor Dees said the Town was grateful for Saffo's sincerity and hard work.

Mayor Dees stated construction should start on the new lake spillway in May, and a big preconstruction meeting to finalize all the plans will be held on April 30th. He also noted that representatives from the Town, McKim & Creed, Crowder Construction, Dam Safety, Corps of Engineers, FEMA, and many other regulatory agencies will be present as they review the requirements.

Mayor Dees opened the floor for public comments and or questions.

Mike Mitchell, 5411 Thompson Circle, stated the Friends of the Lake were in process of completing their second grant application. He asked the Town to assist them in obtaining information for the grant application. Mr. Mitchell stated the Friends of the Lake wanted to assist the Town in retiring its debt on this project.

Al Brafford, 4743 Legion Road, commended the Board and staff on all their hard work which had been done well under all sorts of circumstances. He stated the citizens appreciated everyone's efforts in restoring the lake.

Commissioner Collins commented Saffo Construction did a great job on the lake bed clearing. He stated he visited the site many times, and was well pleased with their efforts.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Jessie Bellflowers, 3819 Sturbridge Drive, encouraged all citizens to attend the Loyalty Day, May 1st, 5:00 p.m. ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park. He stated this was an annual memorial service hosted by VFW Post 10630 and Ladies Auxiliary, and said a list would be read giving the names of those who had passed in the last year.

Mr. Bellflowers asked for everyone's prayers for the victims and their families at the Virginia Tech tragedy at Blacksburg, Virginia.

Mike Mitchell, 5411 Thompson Circle, stated he was Treasurer of the Hope Mills Area Chamber of Commerce and invited everyone to their annual banquet at the Shrine Club, 6:00 p.m., on Saturday, April 21st. He stated the theme would be "Hee-Haw."

5. CONSENT AGENDA.

Mayor Dees presented the consent agenda and asked the

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Commissioners if there were any items they wished moved to the regular agenda for discussion.

Commissioner Luther made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

- a) **Approval of the Minutes of the April 2, 2007 Regular Meeting and Minutes of the March 5, 2007 Closed Session (Sealed).**

Minutes approved as written.

- b) **Consideration to approve Memorandum of Participation, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC, for actuarial studies for post employment benefits.**

Human Resources Administrator Kimberly Lockamy presented a recommendation to the Board for consideration to approve consulting with an actuarial consulting firm, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC, to conduct the necessary actuarial evaluation work required to comply with the new GASB rules. She stated this firm had agreed to conduct the necessary work to comply with the new rules at costs that were significantly lower than if a city or town contracted with a firm individually. Mrs. Lockamy reported GASB 43 and 45 standards would require the Town to determine the costs of retiree benefits (other than pensions) and show these as expenses on financial statements. She stated the new standards did not require the Town to advance fund health insurance benefits - rather than pay-as-you-go - but not doing so may have a negative effect on the audit or credit/bond ratings. Mrs. Lockamy stated advance funding meant the Town would be required to fund the retirement benefits during the working years of the employee rather than just paying out the benefit after he or she retired. Further, Mrs. Lockamy reported the new standards were being phased in with the larger cities having to comply first, and the Town was considered Phase III based on total annual revenues in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. She said the implementation date for Phase III municipalities would be fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and the implementation date under GASB 45 for Phase III municipalities would be fiscal year ending June 30, 2010.

Mrs. Lockamy reported the North Carolina League of Municipalities encouraged its members to conduct actuarial studies at least one to two fiscal years in advance, prior to accounting entries, of the effective dates in order to meet the compliance deadlines and to consider any budgetary actions to respond to the results of the study.

Mrs. Lockamy stated she had spoken with Todd Green, Cavanaugh Macdonald, and Mr. Green stated the Town's total cost would be approximately \$3,300.00 based on 107 full time employees and three retirees. She stated the cost was determined by the Town's annual revenues, number of employees, membership in the retirement system, membership in MIT of NC, and other factors.

Mr. Nicholl stated the cost for the actuarial studies for Post Employment Benefits would be included in the FY 2007-2008 budget, and recommended the Board authorize the execution of the 2007 Memorandum of Participation with Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC for the Post Employment Benefits.

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Memorandum of Participation for actuarial studies approved.

- c) **Consideration to approve water and/or sanitary sewer annexation agreement - Peartree Subdivision, Section Four.**

Mr. Nicholl reported the water and sewer annexation agreement from the Public Works Commission was to provide water and sewer extensions to the Peartree Subdivision located within the Hope Mills petition zone. He stated Peartree Subdivision was located a couple of miles west of the existing corporate limits on Camden Road. Mr. Nicholl noted once the agreement was approved by the Town Board and recorded in the Cumberland County Register of Deeds Office, the Town would be able to request the properties be annexed into the corporate limits of the Town at such time the Board so chooses and deemed appropriate. He stated this agreement was considered routine, and recommended the Board approve the agreement.

A copy of the annexation agreement is filed in the Book of Agreements in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water and/or sewer annexation agreement approved.

- d) **Consideration to adopt BB&T Resolution and Agreement for Deposit Account.**

Mr. Nicholl presented the BB&T Resolution and Agreement and stated the purpose of the resolution and agreement was to authorize adding the signature of Finance Director Jeff A. Saleeby to the Town's accounts. Mr. Nicholl recommended adoption of the Resolution and Agreement as presented.

A copy of the Resolution and Agreement is filed in the Book of Resolutions in the Town Clerk's Office.

BB&T Resolution and Agreement for Deposit Account adopted.

- e) **Consideration to approve Amended 04-05 Audit Contract (changes report of audit submit date to April 30, 2007).**

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby reported that before the Local Government Commission would approve the Town's 04-05 audit, the amended contract to audit accounts must be approved by the Board.

A copy of the amended audit contract is filed in the Book of Contracts in the Town Clerk's Office.

Amended contract to audit accounts approved.

- f) **Consideration to authorize ANTEX termite contract; authorize available funds (\$1,720) for Town Hall; authorize funds (\$981) for Police Department (funds unavailable in current Police Department budget); and authorize appropriate budget amendments to cover these expenditures.**

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby reported the Police Department and Town Hall had been recently inspected for termites and some minor damage was discovered. He stated the

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Town's current vendor, ANTEX, suggested a yearly service contract to inspect and provide booster treatments which should prevent any future damage from termites. Mr. Saleeby said the contract for the Town Hall building was \$1,580.00 for a one time application of Termiticide and \$140.00 annually to inspect the building for termite damage. He said this was not budgeted in the 2006-2007 fiscal year, but funds were available in the Contracted Services line item. Mr. Saleeby said this item would be budgeted in 2007-2008.

Mr. Saleeby stated the contract for the Police Department was \$866.00 for a one time application of a booster and \$115.00 annually to inspect the building for termite damage. Mr. Saleeby said this was not a budgeted item for the 2006-2007 fiscal year and funds were not currently available in the contracted services line for this item. He said this item would be budgeted in the 2007-2008 budget year.

Mr. Saleeby recommended approval of these items and said a budget amendment would need to be submitted for the Police Department to provide funds for the expenditure.

Termite contracts authorized and authorized preparation of budget amendments to cover expenditures.

"END CONSENT AGENDA"

6. PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT ANNEXATION ORDINANCE #07-2 FOR AN AREA LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF ELK ROAD, CONTAINING 2.14 ACRES, PROPERTY OF BROADWELL LAND COMPANY.

Mayor Dees opened the public hearing. There being no one to speak in favor or in opposition to the matter, the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Legge made a motion to adopt annexation ordinance #07-2, 2.14 acres located on the south side of Elk Road, property of Broadwell Land Company. Commissioner Luther seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS
OF THE
TOWN OF HOPE MILLS, NORTH CAROLINA
Annexation #07-2**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has been petitioned under G.S. 160A-31 to annex the area described below; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has by resolution directed the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk has certified the sufficiency of the petition and a public hearing on the question of this annexation was held at Town Hall, Board Meeting Room #120, 5770 Rockfish Road, at 7:30 p.m. on April 16, 2007, after due notice by publication on April 3, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners finds that the area described therein meets the standards of G.S. 160A-31;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills, North Carolina that:

Section 1. By virtue of the authority granted by G.S. 160A-31 the following described territory is hereby annexed and made part of the Town of Hope Mills, effective April 16, 2007:

BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE TOWN LIMIT LINE OF HOPE MILLS, SAID POINT BEING THE SOUTHERN MOST CORNER OF FLORENCE LUCAS AS DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 6523 AT PAGE 781, SAID POINT ALSO BEING THE WESTERN MOST CORNER OF FLORENCE LUCAS AS DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 4604 AT PAGE 471, SAID POINT ALSO BEING IN THE LINE OF BROADWELL LAND CO., THENCE FROM SAID BEGINNING POINT AND WITH THE LINE OF SAID LUCAS AND BROADWELL LAND CO. AND THE NEW HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE SOUTH 72 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 51 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 58.39 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE WITH THE NEW HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE SOUTH 12 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 450.93 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE WITH THE NEW HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE SOUTH 55 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 51 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 91.01 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE WITH THE NEW HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE SOUTH 20 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 37 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 101.81 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE WITH THE NEW HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE NORTH 77 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 54.83 FEET TO A POINT IN THE OLD HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE; THENCE WITH THE OLD HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE AS SHOWN IN ANNEXATION DEED AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 3018 AT PAGE 459 NORTH 02 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 338.81 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING WITH THE OLD HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE NORTH 29 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 131.72 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE CONTINUING WITH THE OLD HOPE MILLS TOWN LIMIT LINE NORTH 48 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 209.96 FEET TO THE POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING **CONTAINING 2.14 ACRES** AND BEING A PORTION OF THE LAND DESCRIBED IN DEED TO BROADWELL LAND COMPANY AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 6905 AT PAGE 6 CUMBERLAND COUNTY REGISTRY.

Section 2. Upon and after April 16, 2007, the above described territory and its citizens and property shall be subject to all debts, laws, ordinances and regulations in force in the Town of Hope Mills and shall be entitled to the same privileges and benefits as other parts of the Town of Hope Mills. Said territory shall be subject to municipal taxes according to G.S. 160A-58.10.

Section 3. The Mayor of the Town of Hope Mills shall cause to be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Cumberland County, and in the Office of the Secretary of State at Raleigh, North Carolina, an accurate map of the annexed territory, described in Section 1 above, together with a duly certified copy of this ordinance. Such a map shall also be delivered to the Cumberland County Board of Elections, as required by G.S. 163-288.1.

ADOPTED this 16th day of April, 2007.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk

7. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE EMERGENCY PURCHASE FOR RECORDING SYSTEM FOR BOARD ROOM.

Mrs. Register presented a request to authorize an emergency purchase not to exceed \$5,700.00 for the FTR Gold Recording System, lap top computer, and USB thumb drive. She reported Mr. Jim Mills, Analog Digital Solutions, made an on-site demonstration of the FTR Gold Recording System on April 4th. In addition, Mrs. Register reported she had obtained some

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very high recommendations on this equipment from Clerks throughout the state including Holly Springs, Wake Forest, Laurinburg, Brevard, Hendersonville, and Carteret County. Mrs. Register noted as mentioned at the previous Board Meeting, the current system being used for recording meetings was inoperable and could not be repaired without undue cost and was basically outdated. She stated most professional organizations were going totally digital recording for the most accurate and safest means of recording.

Mr. Nicholl concurred and supported the recommendation and request for emergency purchase of this needed software and lap top computer. Mr. Nicholl stated funds were available in the unappropriated fund balance for this purchase.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to authorize the emergency purchase for the recording system for the board room. Commissioner Gorman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE HOPE MILLS FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION FUND-RAISER.

Fire Chief Hodges reported the Hope Mills Firefighters Association was requesting Board approval for its annual fund-raiser. He stated this year the Association wanted to sell reflective address signs. Chief Hodges noted the Firefighters Association would offer the reflective address signs to Town residents for a \$15.00 donation.

Commissioner Legge made a motion to authorize the Hope Mills Firefighters Association fund-raiser. Commissioner Luther seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) Consideration to adopt Resolution requesting NCDOT traffic study for the erection of a traffic control device at the intersection of Dove Drive and North Main Street (N.C. Hwy. #59).

Commissioner Gorman made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Luther seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
TOWN OF HOPE MILLS, NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills is concerned about the traffic safety and the convenience of residents and the motoring public; and

WHEREAS, there have been numerous documented traffic accidents on North Main Street (N.C. Hwy. #59) at Dove Drive including an unfortunate fatality in December, 2006; and

WHEREAS, traffic on North Main Street (N. C. Hwy. #59) has increased as the Town has grown and the 2004 daily traffic count at the Dove Drive - North Main Street (N. C. Hwy. #59) intersection was estimated at 31,000 vehicles per day and is increasing daily; and

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WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing on April 2, 2007 to receive input and citizen comment concerning a proposed traffic pattern change or other options for a better means of traffic control at this intersection; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners urges the N. C. Department of Transportation to consider erecting a traffic control device at this intersection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills does hereby request that the North Carolina Department of Transportation conduct a traffic study for the erection of a traffic control device at the intersection of Dove Drive and North Main Street (N. C. Hwy. #59) and provide its recommendation to the Board of Commissioners at the earliest possible date.

ADOPTED this 16th day of April, 2007.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk

b) Consideration to adopt Ordinance Amendment, Chapter 62, Parks & Recreation, Code of Conduct.

Commissioner Luther made a motion to adopt the ordinance amendment. Commissioner Gorman seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

**AYES: Commissioner Luther, Commissioner Gorman,
Commissioner Smith**

NOES: Commissioner Legge, Commissioner Collins

Attorney Davis stated the ordinance amendment would be brought back for a second reading.

10. STAFF CONCERNS.

There were none.

11. OFFICIAL CONCERNS.

Commissioner Luther commented as follows:

1. Thanked everyone for attending the Board Meeting.
2. Congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Brafford on their 65th Wedding Anniversary and wished them a continued wonderful life together.
3. Asked everyone to remember all of the victims and family members as a result of the tragedy at Virginia Tech.
4. Encouraged the citizens to become more involved in their town and to volunteer for committees.

Commissioner Smith commented as follows:

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1. Thanked Rev. Ballance for bringing the invocation.
2. Congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Brafford on their 65th Wedding Anniversary and wished them much happiness.
3. Thanked the staff for all their work in obtaining the Local Government Commission approval on the financing application.
4. Asked that everyone keep the families involved in the Virginia Tech tragedy in their prayers.

Commissioner Gorman commented as follows:

1. Congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Brafford and gave them best wishes.
2. Expressed condolences to the Virginia Tech students and families and said this was a horrible tragedy and a sad situation.
3. Thanked Mrs. Kilgore for organizing and all her efforts in the Spring Litter Clean-up. He stated there were a lot of participants and he appreciated everyone's help.
4. Briefly reviewed the Fire Department March activities report and stated the Board needed to look at facilities and equipment for the Fire Department during the budget.
5. Briefly reviewed the monthly activity report for the Police Department, and stated he appreciated everything the department was doing.
6. Stated he appreciated all the employees and departments.

Commissioner Legge commented as follows:

1. Welcomed Mayor Dees back from his vacation, and stated Mayor Pro Tem Gorman did a good job presiding at the previous meeting.
2. Expressed appreciation for everyone attending the Board Meeting, for the invocation, and for all the speakers.
3. Stated he worked on Friday cleaning up on Rockfish Road.
4. Congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Brafford on their 65th Wedding Anniversary.
5. Reminded everyone of the Opening Day Ceremony on Saturday at 9:00 a.m., and stated this was a joint effort between the Hope Mills Youth Association and the Hope Mills Parks and Recreation Department. He stated the ball fields were in great condition.
6. Welcomed Finance Director Jeff Saleeby.
7. Inquired concerning the grant status for the 800

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MHZ radios.

Police Chief Hodges stated the grant fell through because this grant was specifically for large cities, such as Charlotte, Greensboro, and Asheville.

8. Expressed condolences to the Virginia Tech students and families and asked everyone to keep all those involved in the horrible tragedy in their prayers.
9. Asked that everyone keep his wife in their prayers as she had recently had surgery and was doing well.

Commissioner Collins commented as follows:

1. Stated he had reviewed the grant application for the 800 MHZ radios and said that only the state could apply for this grant, then local departments could apply through the state.
2. Encouraged everyone to attend Opening Day Ceremonies on Saturday and said Hope Mills had one of the biggest youth programs in the state. He stated the Town had the best volunteer program anywhere.
3. Remarked Mrs. Kilgore did a great job organizing the Spring Clean-up Day and said it was a great day and he appreciated everyone who participated. He identified some specific areas that needed additional attention.
4. Expressed appreciation to Mr. Nicholl and the staff for all their hard work.
5. Expressed condolences to the Virginia Tech families.
6. Stated he appreciated all the speakers, and everyone who attended the Board meeting.
7. Expressed appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Brafford on their 65th Wedding Anniversary.

Mayor Dees commented as follows:

1. Stated he was glad to have everyone at the meeting and he was glad to be back as well. He stated Disney World was a very nice place to visit, but it definitely was suited to the four year olds of the world and not their aging daddy. He said be it ever so humble, there is no place like home in Hope Mills.
2. He gave thanks to all those who participated in the Spring Litter Sweep this past Saturday. He said he was unable to attend because of a previous commitment but he understands there was a good turnout. Mayor Dees expressed thanks to Mrs. Kilgore, the Appearance Commission, and Mrs. Sally Bailey for making this happen.

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3. Noted this is National Volunteer Week and would like to thank everyone who volunteers in the community and especially those who volunteer to serve on Town committees. Mayor Dees said we could not do what we do without volunteers.
4. Reminded everyone the Hope Mills Dixie Youth Opening Day ceremonies are this Saturday, April 21st. He noted that traffic will be heavy on Rockfish Road all day especially around 9:00 a.m., and asked everyone to please drive carefully. Mayor Dees stated Hope Mills is the home of the defending North Carolina State Champions and the defending World Series Champions.
5. Announced the Hope Mills Area Chamber of Commerce will have its Annual Banquet on the evening of April 21st and the theme of the banquet is "Hee Haw." He said also the new officers for the next year will be installed.
6. Announced First Baptist Church is having an Antique Car Show on April 21st. The youth of the church will be selling drinks and snacks and the proceeds will go to support the youth ministry of the church.
7. Reminded everyone of the Annual Alms House Barbecue Dinner fund-raiser will be held on April 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose building located behind Hope Mills United Methodist Church on Legion Road. He asked everyone to come out and listen to local entertainers while they eat. He noted tickets were \$10.00 each and all proceeds go to support the Alms House.
8. Mayor Dees remarked that Hope Mills was joining forces with Fayetteville, Cumberland County and Spring Lake to help the homeless. He said the Homeless Project has a big day planned for Tuesday, April 17th and stated there would be health screenings, job opportunities, haircuts, housing and lunch, among the services being provided. Mayor Dees stated the Hope Mills area homeless were personally given the details including transportation arrangements by members of the Hope Mills Police Department.
9. Commented he had heard the final work on the Hope Mills Bypass section from Legion Road to Cameron Road will begin this week and the road could be opened by the end of this month.
10. Congratulated Percy and Kenneth Porter, Hamilton-Porter Funeral Home on Trade Street, and noted the funeral home has been in business for 89 years. Mayor Dees said that is a long time providing services to our community and asked everyone to stop by and congratulate the staff at Hamilton-Porter.
11. Congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Brafford on their 65th Wedding Anniversary and said it is an unbelievable

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accomplishment.

12. Welcomed Mr. Jeff Saleeby the new Finance Director. He remarked Mr. Saleeby started with the Town the first of the month and said we are certainly glad to have him on board.
13. Reminded everyone about Loyalty Day on May 1st at 5:00 at the Veterans Memorial Park; and reminded everyone Mother's Day is Sunday, May 13th.
14. Said the next Board meeting is Monday, May 7th.
15. Mayor Dees said next Wednesday, April 25th, is Administrative Assistants Day. He said that day is set aside as an occasion to recognize the valuable contributions of administrative support staff members. Mayor Dees said the Town of Hope Mills and the Governing Body in particular is lucky to have the best Administrative Assistant possible in our Town Clerk Mrs. Register. He said she was the hub of information here in Town Hall and not only does she plan and coordinate all of our meetings and travels, she handles all of our correspondence and answers most of the questions that come into this building. In the year and a half that he has had the pleasure to work with Mrs. Register, he has learned the following: she leads by example, she takes pride in her work and in her profession, she approaches all projects with a high level of integrity and professionalism, and she is actively involved in her professional association. Mayor Dees said Mrs. Register is a role model and a mentor to all of us and she makes us better elected officials because she cares. Mrs. Register was recognized with a round of applause.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

At 8:05 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Legge, seconded by Commissioner Gorman and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk