

**MINUTES OF THE HOPE MILLS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**July 21, 2008  
Regular Meeting**

Mayor Eddie Dees called the regular meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, July 21, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

**GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Eddie Dees, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Gorman, Commissioners Eddie Maynor, Tonzie Collins and Jackie Warner.

**GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS ABSENT**

Commissioner Doris Luther (via telephone – discussion only did not vote)

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Manager Randy Beeman, Town Attorney John Jackson, Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk Connie Spell, Human Resource Administrator Kimberly Lockamy, Finance Director Jeff Saleeby, Parks and Recreation Director Stan Braswell, Fire Chief Chuck Hodges, Police Captain John Smith, Chief Building Inspector Mike Bailey and Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Wade.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The invocation was rendered by Rev. Tim Gore, Chaplain Advantage Hospice & Homecare. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Eddie Dees.

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS, ADDITIONS, DELETIONS**

Mayor Dees presented the agenda and asked if there were any adjustments, additions or deletions. Mayor Dees said two additional items needed to be added to the consent agenda.

1. Presentation by NC Department of Transportation to the Heath Hardin family.
2. Acknowledge Certificate of Sufficiency and consider adoption of resolution fixing date of public hearing on voluntary annexation No. 08-1, Millstone, 80.26 acres, property of Landfall Partners, LLC and Thomas L. Bradford.

*Commissioner Collins made a motion to add the additional items to the consent agenda and approve as presented. Commissioner Maynor seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.*

**PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:**

**a. Status Report on Hope Mills Lake/Dam project.**

Mayor Dees reported the construction crew had essentially completed the diversion dam and the water had again been diverted to the east side of the spillway. He stated if there was another rain event, the water should go over the spillway itself. Repairs have begun on the remaining spillway wall site on the west side. He stated the road remains closed but would reopen as soon as possible.

He reported the lake committee continues to meet twice a month planning the activities for the Ole Mill Days/Lake Festival. A slate of events and agenda will be formally presented to the board for approval at the August 4<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

He encouraged the committee that was assigned to review the lake park ordinances and fees meet as soon as possible and report their recommendations.

He stated this had been a huge project for a small town. He said using the best advice and guidance, we have done what we have done for one simple reason – because we believed it was the right thing to do. He said the project had taken a long time and a lot of money, but this was a project that was designed to last 100 years. He further stated future generations would benefit from this project long after most of us are gone.

He stated the State of North Carolina had come forward to help the town once again financially. He read the following excerpt of a letter received from Mr. Dowling: "I wish to advise you that your letter of May 20, 2008 requesting additional funding for the completion of the Hope Mills Dam Project has been carefully reviewed and has been approved ....the most recent approval is for \$1,071,750."

Mayor Dees reported this brings the total amount received by the State for this project to approximately \$8,156,000.00.

Mayor Dees thanked Town Manager Randy Beeman, Finance Director Jeff Saleeby, Mr. Bill Dowling, Public Assistance Grants Manager for the NC Division of Emergency Management, Mr. Doug Hoell, Director of the NC Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Mr. Bryan Beatty, Secretary of State, and Governor Mike Easley for their support of this project.

Mayor Dees opened the floor for public comments or questions about the Lake/Dam project.

Mr. Jessie Bellflowers thanked Town Manager Randy Beeman, Finance Director Jeff Saleeby and the Town Board for requesting the additional funding. He stated this shows commitment and he personally thanked Mr. Beeman for his work.

Mrs. Sally Bailey stated she had concerns with the safety of the lake for swimming.

**b. Committee Reports - None**

**c. Presentation by NC Department of Transportation representatives to the Heath Hardin Family.**

Mr. Mac Campbell representing North Carolina Department of Transportation stated on behalf of the NC Board of Transportation he would like to thank the Board for allowing him to attend the meeting and deliver a presentation to honor the memory of Sgt. James Hardin. He said it was not everyday the Board of Transportation passed a resolution that carries such personal meaning to so many people. Mr. Campbell said through Sgt. Hardin's life and even through the tragic circumstances surrounding his death, Sgt. Hardin exemplified the true meaning of public service by going above and beyond on behalf of this community and the people that live in this community. He stated they reserve the naming rights of bridges to honor our law enforcement. Mr. Campbell stated on January 11, 2008 they dedicated the bridge over the CSX Railroad between Camden Road and Legion Road/Hope Mills Bypass, as the Sgt. James Hardin Bridge, for the ultimate sacrifice he made in order to ensure a better quality of life for the citizens of Hope Mills and Cumberland County.

Mr. Campbell presented the Hardin family with a commemorative sign. Mrs. Hardin thanked the North Carolina Board of Transportation and Hope Mills Board of Commissioners for the presentation. Mrs. Hardin said they were very proud of their son Sgt. Heath Hardin. She also gave special thanks to Officers Lee Sumner, Mark Phillips and presented them with the Police Officers Bible.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jessie Bellflowers, 3306 Harrisburg Drive. He encouraged the Town Board to consider the lake safety equipment as recommended. He stated safety out weighs the unknown. He recommended the town invest in the community's safety now and \$38,000 was not a large investment on a twelve-million project.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**a. To receive input on renaming roads along Hope Mills Bypass.**

Mayor Dees stated due to the newly built Hope Mills Bypass project, several roads were severed and had necessitated the need for renaming of roads within the town's jurisdiction. He stated property owners were notified and given the opportunity for input

on the respective road. A total of eight (8) letters were sent to property owners with five (5) votes for Eagle Landing Drive and three (3) no returns.

Mayor Dees asked if anyone was present to speak in favor of renaming roads along the Hope Mills Bypass. There were none.

Mayor Dees asked if anyone was present to speak in opposition. There were none.

Public Hearing was closed.

*Upon motion of Commissioner Maynor, seconded by Commissioner Warner and carried unanimously the following resolution was adopted:*

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

**RESOLUTION RENAMING ROADS ALONG HOPE MILLS BYPASS**

**WHEREAS**, the completion of the Hope Mills Bypass has necessitated the need for officially naming the roads encompassed by this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the name of Elk Road for the portion of the Hope Mills Bypass within the jurisdiction of Hope Mills;

**WHEREAS**, Pinewood Drive has been severed by the Hope Mills Bypass from the northern portion, and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of residents on Pinewood Drive chose an approved street name of Eagle Landing Drive; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the renaming the northern section of Pinewood Drive to Eagle Landing Drive.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners does adopt the renaming of the roads as above described.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eddie Dees, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Connie F. Spell, MMC, Town Clerk

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Dees presented the consent agenda and asked if there were any items the Board wished to have placed on the regular agenda for further discussion.

*Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Gorman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.*

**a. Consideration to approve Minutes of the June 16, 2008 Regular Meeting.**

*Minutes approved as written.*

**b. Consideration of appointments to the following committees:**

- C.O.E.D. – Sylvia H. Dean and Gerald C. Patterson.
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee – Michael Seals.
- Quality of Life Committee – Carol St. George and Kathy Rouleau.

Appointments approved.

**c. Consideration to approve the Financial Statement as of June 30, 2008.**

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby presented the Financial Statement for month ending June 30, 2008.

Financial Statement approved.

**d. Acknowledge Certificate of Sufficiency and consider adoption of resolution fixing date of public hearing on voluntary annexation No. 08-01, Millstone, 80.26 acres, property of Landfall Partners, LLC and Thomas L. Bradford.**

The Town Clerk presented the Certificate of Sufficiency for the above voluntary annexation request and a resolution was presented fixing date of August 4, 2008 for a public hearing.

**RESOLUTION FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON QUESTION OF ANNEXATION PURSUANT TO G .S. 160A-31**

**ANNEXATION NO. 08-01**

**WHEREAS**, a petition requesting annexation of the area described herein has been received; and

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

**WHEREAS**, certification by the Town Clerk as to the sufficiency of the petition has been made;

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

**Section 1.** A public hearing on the question of annexation of the area described herein will be held at Town Hall, 5770 Rockfish Road, Bill Luther Board Meeting Room #120, at 7:30 p.m. on August 4, 2008.

**Section 2.** The area proposed for annexation is described as follows:

**LYING** in Rockfish Township, Cumberland County, North Carolina. Bounded on the north by the southern right of way margin of Camden Road – SR 1003 (public right of way varies); bounded on the south by the northern right of way margin of Rockfish Road (public 60 feet right of way) and being all of:

Lot 3 as conveyed to Landfall Partners, LLC, as described and recorded in Deed Book 7609, Page 005,

The tract as conveyed to Thomas L. Bradford as described and recorded in Deed Book 7478, Page 053,

Tracts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 as conveyed to Landfall Partners, LLC, as described and recorded in Deed Book 7574, Page 175, Cumberland County Registry and being more particularly described as follows.

**Commencing** from the aforementioned northwest corner of Lot 3 as shown on a plat titled “Subdivision of Dillon Property” as described and recorded in Plat Book 119 Page 192, Cumberland County Registry; said corner located in the southern margin of Camden Road and also being the **TRUE POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING**;

**THENCE** with the southern margin of Camden Road the following calls:  
 North 67 degrees 46 minutes 50 seconds East for a distance of 373.11 feet to a point;  
 North 67 degrees 46 minutes 50 seconds East for a distance of 535.58 feet to a point;  
 A curve to the left having a radius of 3548.44 feet and an arc length of 540.93 feet, being subtended by a chord, North 63 degrees 24 minutes 48 seconds East for a distance of 540.41 feet to a point;  
 North 59 degrees 02 minutes 47 seconds East for a distance of 938.96 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** leaving said margin, South 03 degrees 03 minutes 17 seconds West for a distance of 617.54 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** South 87 degrees 24 minutes 17 seconds East for a distance of 687.17 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** South 03 degrees 45 minutes 19 seconds West for a distance of 586.72 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** South 03 degrees 46 minutes 56 seconds West for a distance of 609.18 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 84 degrees 40 minutes 44 seconds West for a distance of 1380.74 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** South 14 degrees 25 minutes 56 seconds West for a distance of 743.22 feet to a point in the northern right of way margin of Rockfish Road (60 feet public right of way);  
**THENCE** with said right of way margin of Rockfish Road, North 80 degrees 46 minutes 11 seconds West for a distance of 686.74 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** leaving said right of way margin, North 03 degrees 12 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 1106.42 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 86 degrees 52 minutes 37 seconds West for a distance of 199.05 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** South 03 degrees 10 minutes 58 seconds West for a distance of 671.31 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 80 degrees 23 minutes 55 seconds West for a distance of 150.00 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 04 degrees 03 minutes 32 seconds East for a distance of 418.01 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 04 degrees 03 minutes 36 seconds East for a distance of 70.96 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 85 degrees 57 minutes 24 seconds West for a distance of 54.54 feet to a point;

**THENCE** North 17 degrees 33 minutes 14 seconds West for a distance of 108.78 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** a curve to the right having a radius of 200.00 feet, an arc length of 69.22 feet, and being subtended by a chord of North 07 degrees 38 minutes 18 seconds West for a distance of 68.88 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** a curve to the left having a radius of 235.00 feet, an arc length of 100.47 feet, and being subtended by a chord of North 09 degrees 58 minutes 16 seconds West for a distance of 99.71 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 22 degrees 13 minutes 10 seconds West for a distance of 25.39 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** South 67 degrees 46 minutes 50 seconds West for a distance of 54.13 feet to a point;  
**THENCE** North 17 degrees 33 minutes 14 seconds West for a distance of 20.07 feet to a point in the southern margin of Camden Road, **THE TRUE POINT AND PLACE OF BEGINNING.**

Said property contains 80.26 acres (3,496,246 square feet).

**Section 3.** Notice of the public hearing shall be published in the Fayetteville Observer, a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Hope Mills, at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the public hearing.

**ADOPTED THIS 21<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2008.**

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Eddie Dees, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Connie F. Spell, MMC  
Town Clerk

*Acknowledged Certificate of Sufficiency and resolution adopted.*

**“END CONSENT AGENDA”**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Town Manager’s update.**

Mr. Beeman presented a written update report.

The board had concerns with the ongoing problems with the Viper Radio System – 800 MEGA Hertz system. In response to questions, Captain Smith stated the Police Department had switched back to using the 400 megahertz system. Captain Smith explained Hope Mills was in a valley and the antennas do not receive as well as they should. He stated there was discussion on placing an antenna on the water tower.

**b. Consideration to approve proposal presented by Blashfield Sign Company for the John T. Henley Spillway and Al Brafford Pedestrian Bridge signage.**

This item was tabled at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting to receive additional bids. Mr. Beeman stated the Town did solicit additional vendors and Blashfield Sign Company was the most responsible bidder to submit a bid.

*Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Collins and carried unanimously to approve the proposal submitted by Blashfield Sign Company for the John T. Henley Spillway and Al Brafford Pedestrian Bridge signs in the amount of \$3714.52.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Consideration to approve Slate’s Computer Consulting Contract.**

Mayor Dees presented the proposed contract as submitted by Jim Slate for computer consulting services. Mr. Slate’s proposed contract requested an increase of hours from ten (10) to fifteen (15) hours per week.

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby reported the total yearly cost would be \$27,300.00 and funds were budgeted in the 2008-2009 budget. He indicated the increase of hours was desperately needed.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the Slate’s Computer Consulting Contract for the period beginning July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 as presented.*

*(A copy of the Contract is attached and made a part of the official minutes).*

**b. Consideration to approve Personnel Committee recommendations.**

Mr. Beeman reported the Personnel Committee met on July 8, 2008 along with consultant Gene Dillman to review the Pay and Classification Study as prepared by The Dillman Group. Mr. Beeman presented the following committee recommendations for consideration:

1. Bring the proposed pay and classification plan to the full Board for adoption;
2. Raise ten (10) employees to his or her minimum salary as indicated;
3. Determine whether salary compression is prevalent;
4. Create an effective performance management plan that incorporates pay for performance, "merit-based pay system."

Mr. Beeman stated the "merit-based pay system" would be completed by January 2009 and implementation July 2009.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the four recommendations as submitted by the Personnel Committee.*

**c. Consideration to approve Change Order No. 5 – Request for contract time extension – Hope Mills Dam Project.**

Mayor Dees stated the Town had received a change order request from Crowder Construction. He reported they were requesting 38 days of additional time for delays resulting from work performed for PWC and unanticipated flood events that impacted their work. Mayor Dees stated this time would be added to the substantial completion date. In addition, they were requesting 12 days to be added to the final completion date for additional work added to the contract.

Mayor Dees stated no additional cost would be involved with the change order.

For clarification, Gordon Rose stated the request for additional time did not include the latest flood event that occurred this week.

The board was complementary on the hard work they were doing and the progress they were making.

*After a brief discussion, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Collins and carried unanimously to approve Change Order No. 5 - request for contract time extension as presented by Crowder Construction Company for the Hope Mills Dam project.*

**d. Consideration of Hope Mills Dam Improvements.**

Mr. Gordon Rose, representing McKim & Creed gave a slide presentation in response to some questions that were raised at the last board meeting. He said one concern was the requirement of Dam Safety with regards to buoys or other protection. He said the original proposal that was presented consisted entirely of what is known as a TuffBoom, which is designed to prevent logs and other debris from going down stream. He said the original proposal included the TuffBoom for all locations at the spillway as well as for the beach area with a total cost of approximately \$81,000.00.

Mr. Gordon said the same company makes another product called TuffBuoy which is less substantial and if installed around the beach area it would save approximately \$18,000.00. Mr. Gordon said the buoy would prevent someone from taking a boat through but it would not necessarily prevent debris from going through.

Mr. Gordon explained in detail four different options and prices for the installation of buoys and/or barriers around the spillway and beach areas.

The board discussed at length that safety was their main concern and Option 4 that was presented by Mr. Rose was the best option for the board to consider.

In response to a question from Commissioner Warner, Mr. Rose said the previous beach area had a bulkhead/wall so it was a complete drop-off down to the swimming area. He said one of the change orders approved earlier was to smooth the whole area out so that it would be a flatten surface into the water, which he felt was some level of protection. He said with the issue of water flow, the current should not be any stronger then it was in the past, and it could possibly not be as strong.

*Commissioner Gorman made a motion to approve Option No. 4 for Hope Mills Dam Improvements. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion.*

A brief discussion followed concern the safety and what was the difference in maintenance between option 5 and option 7.

*Commissioner Gorman made a motion to amend his motion, Commissioner Warner seconded the motion.*

*Commissioner Gorman made a motion to approve Option 4 in the amount of \$34,865 and to include up to \$750.00 for buoys for the swimming area. Commissioner Warner seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.*

**e. Consideration to approve the acquisition of replacement vehicle for the Police Department.**

Mr. Beeman reported the acquisition of a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria from Lafayette Ford with 7,272 miles was available for \$15,900.00. He stated the Police Department had been looking for a replacement vehicle for Fleet #36 that was recently totaled. He stated staff had inspected the vehicle and it was their opinion that the cost of the vehicle was reasonable.

In response to a question from Commissioner Warner, Mr. Beeman stated the town allocated in the approved budget two new patrol vehicles and this would be one of the two vehicles.

There was discussion on purchasing this vehicle as a replacement and also purchasing the two new patrol vehicles as budgeted. Mr. Beeman stated the Board could do this but would require a budget amendment.

Commissioner Maynor stated with the increase in fuel cost the town should look at more fuel efficient vehicles to be used instead of a Crown Victoria. There was discussion on a Dodge Charger.

It was the consensus of the Board to purchase the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria as a replacement vehicle, plus purchase the two additional patrol vehicles as budgeted.

*After a short discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the acquisition of the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria and prepare budget amendment for purchase.*

**f. Consideration to approve structural design to display the dedication plaques for the spillway, bridge and pedestrian bridge.**

The board was presented four structural designs to display the dedication plaques for the spillway, bridge and pedestrian bridge for their consideration. Mayor Dees stated the Board would need to approve the design first and then proceed with the bid selection process.

There was discussion on the Appearance Committee reviewing the designs and the limited space available for the structure. Everyone was in agreement that the smoke-stack design would be a nice replica of the original smoke-stacks used on the Mills.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Warner, seconded by Commissioner Collins and carried unanimously to approve the “smoke stack” design structure and proceed with obtaining estimates for the construction cost.*

## **DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS**

The following departments submitted written activity reports for the month ending June 30, 2008:

- a. Parks & Recreation Department.
- b. Sanitation Department.
- c. Police Department.
- d. Fire Department.
- e. Inspections Department.

Mayor Dees asked if there were questions or comments on the reports presented. There was none.

## **STAFF COMMENTS - None**

## **OFFICIAL COMMENTS**

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The Mayor and Commissioner said they appreciated the money from the State, and thanked the staff for all they had done to acquire the money.

Mayor Dees reported on the following:

Mayor Dees reported the Stormwater Committee still needed members. He stated the town has four members on this committee but two more members are needed for the committee to function properly.

He reported our youth baseball and softballs teams have been playing in State tournaments and are representing Hope Mills well.

Stated the annual Police Golf Tournament was a big success and thanked everyone who participated and sponsored the tournament.

Mayor Dees stated he and Mr. Beeman met with County Manager, members of the county staff and two county commissioners last week to discuss ways that the Town could help with the drinking water problems in the Brooklyn Circle community, which is in Hope Mills MIA. He said they were coming up with a proposal to present to the Fayetteville Public Works Commission and then bring it back to our board for consideration.

Stated the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization recently held their Transportation Improvement meeting and they released the latest updates on road projects countywide. He provided a copy to the board of the projects that would impact the Hope Mills area.

Reminded everyone that Grays Tabernacle Christian Church would host a prayer vigil for our nation, troops, economy, and the safety of our community, on July 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m., in front of Town Hall and the public was invited to attend.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

*Mayor Pro Tem Gorman made a motion to conduct a Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to consult with the attorney on matters within the Attorney-Client privilege. Commissioner Collins seconded and the motion carried unanimously.*

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

*At 9:25 p.m. Commissioner Collins made a motion to return to regular session. Commissioner Gorman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.*

**CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**

*Mayor Pro Tem Gorman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maynor and unanimously carried to seal the minutes of the Closed Session until such time as the release of the information would no longer frustrate the purpose of the Closed Session, and further no action was taken.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*At 9:27 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gorman and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.*

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Eddie Dees, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Connie F. Spell, MMC, Town Clerk