

The regular meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Mayor Dees. Commissioners Luther, Maynor, Collins, Gorman, and Warner were present.

Others present were Town Manager Randy Beeman, Town Attorney William R. Davis, Police Chief John Hodges, Fire Chief Chuck Hodges, Finance Director Jeff Saleeby, Parks and Recreation Director Stan Braswell, Stormwater Administrator Melanie Clerkley, Chief Building Inspector Mike Bailey, Acting Public Works Director Roy Howard, and Police Captain John Smith.

Dave Arnold, Associate Pastor, Camden Christian Fellowship gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Warner.

1. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS, ADDITIONS, DELETIONS.

Mayor Dees presented the agenda and asked if there was any item the Board wished moved to regular agenda for further discussion.

Mayor Dees said he would like to add a proclamation to the regular agenda. He said the Mayor's Coalition signed a proclamation for MS Awareness week and he would like to present the proclamation to Ms. Lockamy representative from MS.

Commissioner Maynor made a motion to add the MS Proclamation to the agenda. Commissioner Collins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2. STATUS REPORT ON THE HOPE MILLS LAKE/DAM PROJECT.

Mayor Dees said he had attended the monthly construction meeting and everything was going well. He said as of April 7th they were approximately 42 percent complete and the schedule completion date has been moved to August. The final design of the pedestrian bridge is being worked out and Crowder is having the electrical department look into the bridge lighting. Mayor Dees said they will provide recommendation on the lighting, type, and design for Town approval before it is implemented as well as the design of the pedestrian bridge. He said they were waiting possibly for approval status from the Corps of Engineers for the boat ramp before they start that project.

Mayor Dees said everything looked to be going good, the concrete trucks are coming in on a regular bases, and everything is seems to be proceeding without any problems. He said there was some concerns about the road on the Lakeview side where the heavy dump trucks caused the left-hand side of the road to collapse. He noted that Crowder would be responsible for restoring it to the condition it was prior to the work on the bridge. Mayor Dees said there was some discussion on sidewalks that will connect to the pedestrian bridge and they will bring designs to the Board for that as well.

Mayor Dees opened the floor for public comments and/or questions, and there were none.

3. PRESENTATION FROM FAYETTEVILLE KENNEL CLUB TO HOPE MILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Ms. Squires and Cindy Stancel, Fayetteville Kennel Club presented the Hope Mills Police Department Canine with a ballistic-stab proof vest. The vest is valued at approximately \$3,000.00. Ms. Squires said canines give so much to us and they wanted to give something back in return.

4. MS PROCLAMATION PRESENTATION.

Mayor Dees read and presented a MS Proclamation signed by the Mayor's Coalition.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS WEEK

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Multiple Sclerosis is a chronic and disabling disease of the central nervous system in which the progression, severity and specific symptoms are not foreseen; and

WHEREAS, every hour of every day someone new is diagnosed with MS, a disease that can erode a person's abilities and hopes, halt a career and unravel the fabric of families; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Chapters of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society reports that in our state more than 10,000 people are affected by this devastating disease, and multiple sclerosis generally strikes young adults aged 20 through 40, attacking them in the prime of their lives; and

WHEREAS, our local Cumberland County Chapter joins with other North Carolina Chapters of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in their commitment to heightening public knowledge and insight about this devastating and disabling disease, helping raise money to find the cure for MS and helping to develop effective treatments for the disease, as well as provide a wide range of client programs; and

WHEREAS, research advances have brought us closer to finding the cure, much remains to be done, and services must continue to be provided to those who live with the disease; and

WHEREAS, finding the cause and developing a method of prevention for multiple sclerosis is an important task that all citizens throughout the county and state should support;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE UNDERSIGNED MAYORS of municipalities in Cumberland County, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 10- 17, 2008, as "MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS WEEK" in Cumberland County and commend this observance to all our citizens.

Charles McLaurin
Mayor, Town of Eastover

Clifton L. Turpin
Mayor, Town of Falcon

Tony Chavonne
Mayor, City of Fayetteville

Deborah L. Tew
Mayor, Town of Godwin

Eddie Dees
Mayor, Town of Hope Mills

Marie D. Jackson
Mayor, Town of Lindon

Ethel T. Clark
Mayor, Town of Spring Lake

Billy D. Horne
Mayor, Town of Steadman

Huell Aekins
Mayor, Town of Wade

Ms. Lockamy said to her knowledge this was the first time ever in North Carolina that they had received a proclamation signed by all the Mayors in a county. She said the logo on the Cumberland County trucks and vehicles, states, "Out of Many One" and this certainly fulfills that statement.

Ms. Lockamy distributed information on the MS Walk and she encouraged everyone, the employees, and co-workers to get involved with the walk.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Jonathan & Kristine Miller, 5352 Pringle Way, addressed the Board on the matter of graffiti and possible gang activity in the Brightmoor neighborhood. Mrs. Miller stated they had been a resident of Hope Mills for two years and they were proud to be members of the community.

Mrs. Miller distributed to the Board pictures of the graffiti in the neighborhood. She said it worries them about the property value, the safety of their families, neighbors, and safety of their property. She said all the electrical boxes on Masters Drive have been tagged with gang graffiti.

Mayor Dees said the graffiti is a problem in other areas as well and there have been a couple of arrests and charges. He hope the word gets out that the Town is cracking down on this matter.

In response to a question from Mayor Dees, Mrs. Miller said they have an informal community watch.

Mayor Dees said the Police Department has a kit on starting a community watch program and they would be willing to work with them in setting up the community watch program.

In response to a question from Commissioner Warner, Mr. Miller said the graffiti on the electrical boxes are not being painted over. Commissioner Warner said she would suggest contacting the electric company to have it cleaned up.

Commissioner Collins recommended getting in contact with Police Chief John Hodges and Police Captain John Smith to help start up a community watch group. He said you need to get the neighbors involved because they are the eyes of the community.

6. CONSENT AGENDA.

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

Commissioner Collins made a motion to have item C moved to the regular agenda for further discussion. Commissioner Gorman seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Luther made a motion to approve items A, B, and D as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

- a) **Consideration to approve Minutes of the February 4, 2008 Regular Meeting.**

Minutes approved as written.

- b) **Consideration to authorize purchase of truck (\$13,957.09), Vic Bailey Ford, for Stormwater Administrator, funds available in current budget.**

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby said the truck will be purchased on state contract from Vic Bailey Ford in the amount of \$12,638.00. He said the truck will also be equipped with a mobile radio (\$508.95), sprayed on bed liner (\$425.00) and will include tax and tag (\$385.14).

Purchase of truck authorized.

- d) **Consideration to authorize P&R purchase of T-shirts for all spring sports teams, funds available in current budget.**

Athletic Supervisor Maxey Dove said the purchase of T-shirts uniforms for all spring sports teams will include baseball, softball, and indoor soccer for ages 5-17. He said the money was budgeted and approved for the current fiscal year and the cost at this time will be between \$6,000.00 and \$7,000.00 depending on the number of participants that register the last week of the registration period.

Purchase of T-shirts authorized.

“END CONSENT AGENDA”

7. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF BASEBALL EQUIPMENT (\$17,739.24), FUNDS AVAILABLE IN CURRENT BUDGET.

Commissioner Collins said it had been brought to his attention Parks and Recreation had several thousand dollars worth of equipment at the Youth Association, and he wanted to know if anything had been done on getting the equipment donated to them or purchasing the equipment.

Town Manager Randy Beeman said they would look into it.

Parks and Recreation Director Stan Braswell said they did not get all the equipment back from the players. He said he would contact the Youth Association on this matter.

Mayor Dees said if this equipment was needed for the current season, and if it was not approved tonight, we might not have equipment for this season.

Commissioner Maynor suggested approval of the purchase contingent on the finding from Mr. Beeman and Mr. Braswell.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the purchase of baseball equipment contingent on the finding from the Town Manager and the Parks and Recreation Director. Commissioner Luther seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. PUBLIC HEARING: CASE NO. 08-12. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE HOPE MILLS ZONING ORDINANCE CREATING PROVISIONS FOR CONDITIONAL USE DISTRICT AND PERMITS AND MIXED USE DEVELOPMENTS IN ADDITION TO AMENDING OTHER AFFECTED SECTIONS.

Mayor Dees stated there were some ordinances that needed to be re-worked. He said there had been some problems in the past when things were zoned a certain way, and the Town had very little control over the zoning.

Ed Byrne, Cumberland County Planning, stated the mixed use development basically was brought about because of the possible future annexations by the Town that are currently in the County that are currently approved to the County Conditional Use District.

Mr. Byrne said to clarify, “Special Uses” are currently approved by the Town Board of Commissioners, the amendment proposes to change this title to “Conditional Use Districts” and what is currently referred to as “Conditional Use” requiring Town Board of Adjustment approval. He said the change in terms/titles is being proposed primarily to avoid confusion between the different types of approval for all involved in the process, i.e., citizens, staff and board members.

Mr. Byrne said adoption of this amendment will be a positive step in updating the codes and will help the Town with future development.

Mayor Dees briefly commented on the positives of approving the ordinance.

Attorney Davis said he recommended approval of the amendment.

Mr. Byrne said the Town Zoning Board heard this case on February 25th and recommended approval.

Mayor Dees opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone to speak in opposition to the matter, and there was none.

Mayor Dees asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of this matter, and there was none.

Commissioner Gorman made motion to approve Case No. 08-12 as presented. Commissioner Luther seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

A copy of the ordinance amendment is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

9. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AMENDED FEE SCHEDULE TO INCLUDE CONDITIONAL USE DISTRICT & PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE.

Town Manager Randy Beemen said it would be appropriate for the Board to adopt the Amended Fee Schedule to incorporate the Conditional Use District and permit fees into the Town's Fee Schedule after the proposed Ordinance Amendment for Conditional Use District and Mixed Use Developments is adopted.

Commissioner Luther made a motion to approve the Amended Fee Schedule as presented. Commissioner Maynor seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

A copy of the amended fee schedule is filed in the Book of Documents in the Town Clerk's office.

10. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO CLOSE AN UNOPENED, UNDEDICATED PORTION OF POPE STREET.

Town Clerk Phyllis Register noted the Board of Commissioners at its meeting on June 4, 2007 gave preliminary approval, subject to conditions, to a zero lot line subdivision site plan for Ethan's Place (town homes), located on the northwest intersection of Duncan Street and Pope Street. She said one of the conditions of approval was the developer must apply for and receive approval of the street closing from the Town of the old right-of-way of Pope Street. Mrs. Register noted the old right-of-way of Pope Street is shown on County tax mapping records, even though it has never been opened or used as a public street.

Commissioner Luther said PWC's easement comes very close to the development, should there be a problem even if they have an easement, what is going to happen as close as it comes to the apartment.

Attorney Davis said the easements would have to be preserved, so if the street is closed you would still have to keep the easement.

Commissioner Luther expressed concern with where the building was to be located. She said if work had to be done underneath the building how would it be done.

Mayor Dees noted that Attorney Jennifer Kirby advises they are in contact with PWC relative to obtaining the necessary reservation of utility easements and this information should be forthcoming. He said all we are doing is approving closing the road not the building.

Attorney Davis said they would still have to get the easement resolved with PWC before they can build.

Mr. Byrne stated the way easements work you can not build on top of an easement and the easement has to be wide enough for the utility company to be able to dig. He said the easement has to be big enough so that they can work on things that have to be placed in the ground, such as, sewer lines, water lines, and not affect anything outside of the easement.

Mayor Dees read a letter from PWC which stated, the Public Works Commissions has reviewed the subject request, according to our information, there are two sewer lines and one water line. All of these mains are active and are operated and maintained by PWC. PWC is not opposed to the closing of this portion of Pope Street. Should this right-of-way be abandoned, PWC will require a dedicated easement to continue our operation

and maintenance of these mains. The property owner will need to contact Mr. Jim Autry, Right-of-Way Agent, to begin the process of developing the appropriate easement documents.

Mayor Dees said it looks like they have worked it out with PWC and they will give them another easement or another way to run these lines before they are allowed to build on top of the easement.

In response to a question from Commissioner Luther, Mr. Byrne said the portion of Pope Street to be closed was actually never built, and only existed on paper.

Commissioner Maynor made a motion to approve Resolution of Intent to close and unopened, undedicated portion of Pope Street as presented. Commissioner Gorman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO CONSIDER THE CLOSING OF AN UNOPENED, UNDEDICATED PORTION OF POPE STREET TRAVERSING PROPERTY OF DANIEL J. CULLITON, CUMBERLAND COUNTY PIN #0417-47-4638

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-299 authorizes the Board of Commissioners to close public streets and alleys, whether or not it has actually been opened as well as unopened streets or alleys shown on plats that have not been accepted or maintained by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners considers it advisable to conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of giving consideration to the closing of an unopened, undedicated portion of Pope Street, traversing property of Daniel J. Culliton, Cumberland County PIN #0417-47-4638; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that:

- (1) A meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on the 7th day of April, 2008, in the Town Hall, Bill Luther Board Meeting Room #120, to consider a Resolution closing an unopened, undedicated portion of Pope Street, traversing property of Daniel J. Culliton, Cumberland County PIN #0417-47-4638; and
- (2) The Town Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Resolution of Intent once a week for four (4) successive weeks in The Fayetteville Observer, or other newspaper of general circulation in this area.
- (3) The Town Clerk is further directed to transmit by registered or certified mail to each owner of property abutting upon that portion of said street a copy of this Resolution of Intent.
- (4) The Town Clerk is further directed to cause adequate notices of this Resolution of Intent and the scheduled Public Hearing to be posted as required by G.S. 160A-299.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Maynor, and duly seconded by Commissioner Gorman, the above Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners at the meeting held on the 3rd day of March, 2008, in the Town Hall, Bill Luther Board Meeting Room, 5770 Rockfish Road.

Upon call for a vote, the following Commissioners voted in the affirmative:

Commissioner Maynor, Commissioner Gorman, Commissioner Luther, Commissioner Collins, and Commissioner Warner

and the following Commissioners voted in the negative:

None

Adopted this 3rd day of March, 2008, at 8:16 p.m.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk

11. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT BUDGET AMENDMENT 2008 #14, PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

Parks and Recreation Director Stan Braswell said he was requesting \$15,000.00 for part-time employment, and \$30,000.00 for contracted services. He said the reason for the request is that not enough monies were requested in the 2007-2008 budget for these line items.

In response to a question from Mayor Dees, Mr. Beeman said not enough funds had been budgeted, and that is why the budget amendment was needed. Mr. Beeman said with the contracted services the Town would actually have better benefits by utilizing those resources at lesser cost by using the contracted services.

Commissioner Luther made a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2008 #14 as presented. Commissioner Gorman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

12. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT CONTRACT WITH ROBERT SEGAL TO PROVIDE UTILITY FRANCHISE TAX AUDIT SERVICES.

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby said Mr. Segal will audit the Town's records to determine if we have received all of the tax that the Town is entitled.

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

A copy of the contract is filed in the Book of Contracts.

13. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LOCAL OPTION QUARTER CENT SALES TAX.

Mayor Dees said at the Joint Commissioners meeting on March 26th, Commissioner Blackwell and the other County Commissioners explained the purpose of the tax and reiterated their promise to lower the property tax rate from 88 cents to 86 cents if this quarter cent sales tax passes. He said it was explained to the Board that it would be a quarter for every hundred dollars you spend; it was not on groceries, but it did include prepared food and other items.

Mayor Dees said this would be a way that people that come into Cumberland County could help support programs in Cumberland County. Also, for people that live in Cumberland County and rent they do not pay property tax.

Mayor Dees said the County Commissioners were asking all the municipalities to adopt a Resolution of Support to try to get the quarter cent sales tax passed.

Commissioner Warner expressed concern with the fact it will affect the citizens of Cumberland County as well as anyone coming into the County. She said with the economy as it is now, and with the gas prices continuing to rise, she could not support it.

Commissioner Maynor said after running the numbers it is a tough situation facing the citizens of our County. He said he was one that never liked to support tax increases, but he weighed the dollar, and agreeing to the two cent sales tax reduction on the property tax, he felt it could be a win-win situation for us all. He said what concerns him if it does not pass will we be looking at a property tax increase. Commissioner Maynor said the only way he would support the quarter cent sales tax, is if they stick to their commitment of the two cent decrease.

Mayor Dees said at the Joint Meeting the County Commissioners said it was a binding, unanimous vote, and that they would not in anyway back out on their agreement.

In response to a question from Commissioner Gorman, Mayor Dees said the quarter cent sales tax would bring in approximately \$8,000,000.00 in the course of a year.

Commissioner Warner said we are faced with the revaluation coming up, and they going to see that much probably coming in from the current property tax rate.

Commissioner Collins said he was not against it, but he is against raising taxes; however, he felt this was a win-win situation due to the fact that everyone that comes into this County will start paying taxes.

Commissioner Warner said during this past election it was on the ballot at that time, and Hope Mills soundly said "we do not want it."

Mayor Dees stated he hoped that was because the County did not agree to reduce it by two cents.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Luther seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Collins, Commissioner Luther, Commissioner Gorman , Commissioner Maynor

NOES: Commissioner Warner

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

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LOCAL OPTION QUARTER CENT SALES TAX

WHEREAS, the 2007 State Appropriation Act (H1473) in its provisions implementing a Medicaid swap between the State and counties, authorizes county boards of commissioners to place before the voters of a county either or both of two referenda on additional revenue sources to meet local needs, including local school and infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Cumberland has determined that the issue of a local option one-quarter cent sales and use tax should be submitted to the voters of Cumberland County at the May, 2008 election; and

WHEREAS, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners resolved that it would reduce the property tax rate in the FY 08-09 budget by two cents if said referendum is approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills does support the local option quarter cent sales tax that will be on the ballot in May, 2008 and the reduction of property taxes in the amount of two cents, if the referendum is approved.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of March, 2008.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk

14. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING NAMING THE HOPE MILLS BYPASS.

Mayor Dees stated at the Joint Meeting the Board recommended by consensus to name the new Bypass from Legion Road to Camden Road continue with the name Elk Road, from Camden Road to Hope Mills Road to continue with the name George Owen Road, and to leave the others as they were. He said the County concurred that this was what the Public Safety officials had recommended. He said if approved, it will go back to the County for approval, and from there it will go to NCDOT.

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

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

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has asked the governmental agencies involved in this area for a recommendation on the naming of these new roads; and

WHEREAS, the public safety agencies agree that one name for this stretch of road would be confusing for fire and police and medical agencies having to respond in emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners and the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners met in a joint meeting on February 26, 2008 and came to a consensus on the naming of these new roads; and

WHEREAS, the consensus was to recommend extending the name of George Owen Road from its beginning point at the eastern end of Bingham Drive across its intersection with Hope Mills Road to the intersection with Camden Road, and to recommend extending the name of Elk Road from its beginning point at Cameron Road across the intersection with Legion Road to the intersection with Camden Road; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners does agree with and recommend that the new roads be named as above described..

ADOPTED this 3rd day of March, 2008.

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk

Commissioner Luther made motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Collins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

15. INFORMATION ITEM: EASTER FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH.

Mayor Dees said the Hope Mills Recreation Department in conjunction with the Hope Mills Kiwanis and the Hope Mills Chamber of Commerce will hold the annual Easter Festival on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at the Recreation Center and on the Municipal Park ball fields. Breakfast will be served and children will be able to have their picture made with the Easter Bunny. Games, inflatable amusements, pony rides, and train rides will also be available to entertain the children. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 12 noon for the following age groups: 0-3, 4-7, 8-10, and 11-12.

16. OLD BUSINESS: TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE.

Fire Department:

HMC Consultants, Min C. Hsu, PE is preparing a written report of recommendations and the town provided Mr. Hsu a blueprint of the structure on Friday, February 22, 2008

Railroad Crossing - Johnson Street:

Public Works Director, Mr. Bruce McLaurin is researching costs associated with crossings in the City of Fayetteville. Mr. McLaurin is obtaining the expenses shared between the City of Fayetteville and the CSX railroad.

Viper Radio System - 800 Mega Hertz System:

Captain Smith has been in contact with the North Carolina Highway Patrol VIPER group Mr. Harold Meacham, and per email response, the weather has caused a bit of a delay. The installation of the building to house the components is Friday, February 29, 2008 and PWC will run the electricity and then state inspection. The estimate of operation is latter portion of March 2008. Captain Smith will be able to address concerns.

Skate Park:

Mr. Braswell has met with the Recreation Advisory Committee and is researching information for future response to the Board.

Pier construction information - Lake No. 1.

Mr. Davis, Town Attorney, is working on the information concerning property ownership and liability concerns.

17. STAFF COMMENTS.

There were none.

18. OFFICIAL COMMENTS.

Commissioner Collins commented as follows:

1. Thanked Ms. Lockamy for her presentation on the MS Walk.
2. Expressed condolences to Mr. Percy Porter and said he did a lot of civic work for the Town.
3. Thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting.
4. Expressed concerns with the graffiti on the railroad trusses.

Town Manager Randy Beeman said CSX has been contacted as well as the Police Department who has been in contact with CSX also and it is scheduled to be taken care of.

Commissioner Luther commented as follows:

1. Thanked Mrs. Squires with the Fayetteville Kennel Club for their donation.
2. Stated she has never favored taxes, but we were promised by the County to reduce the property taxes, if the quarter cents passes. She said this way it is something everyone is going to pay.
3. Thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting.
4. Thanked Mrs. Lockamy for the MS presentation.

Commissioner Maynor commented as follows:

1. Commended Commissioner Warner for stating her views on the quarter cent sales tax. He said he strongly oppose any type of taxes, but out of all taxes, the sales tax is the fairest tax.
2. Expressed concerns with the liabilities with the piers at the lake, and asked the Manager to stay on top of it as it proceeds.
3. Thanked the Board for allowing him to be absent from the last meeting. He said as elected officials anytime that they are out in the public or abroad, we need to be good ambassadors and representative of our Town.

Commissioner Gorman commented as follows:

1. Thanked Ms. Lockamy for the MS presentation.
2. Stated he appreciated the Millers for coming out and expressing their concerns with the graffiti. He said this is a concern of all the Board.
3. Stated the meeting with the Cumberland County Commissioners went extremely well.

Commissioner Warner commented as follows:

1. Thanked Ms. Lockamy for the MS presentation.
2. Thanked the Fayetteville Kennel Club for their donation.
3. Stated a good bit of the gang graffiti is done probably by the youths of Hope Mills. She said we need to work towards having some of the parents start identifying the youths that are out in the evening and we need to cover the graffiti up as soon as possible.
4. She reiterated her stand on opposing the quarter cent sales tax.
5. Expressed concerns with the contracted services.

Mr. Beeman said the forms are ready to be mailed out this week for two of the services, and they are working on the third.

Mayor Dees commented as follows:

1. Welcomed everyone to the meeting and said the Board appreciated them coming out and to bring someone new to the next meeting.
2. Thanked the Fayetteville Kennel Club for their donation and taking care of Boo.
3. Thanked Ms. Lockamy for the MS presentation.
4. Stated he was hoping that they could keep the property taxes down. He said it will be up to the voters if the tax is to pass, and the Board is going to support the County Commissioners in their efforts to get this passed.
5. Expressed special thank you to a long time Town committee volunteer, Mr. Roland Schmidt, who retired recently from the Hope Mills Zoning Board. Mr. Schmidt had worked on the Town Planning/Zoning Board for over 20 years and his participation and input for so long is rare.
6. Congratulated former Hope Mills resident, Dr. Reggie Faulkner, on being chosen as the Health Management Associate Director of the year in Louisburg. He said Dr. Faulkner is a graduate of South View High School and the Pharmacy Director at Franklin Regional Medical Center in Franklin County.
7. Expressed condolences to the family of Percy Porter.
8. Expressed condolences to the family of Hope Mills Police Detective Dan Hardin in the passing of his mother.
9. Expressed condolences to the family of Colin Dees in the passing of his wife.
9. Extended best wishes to Public Works Director Bruce McLaurin, who is in the Cardiac Observation Unit at Cape Fear hospital.
10. Stated the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is hosting nine meetings throughout the area in March. He said citizens are invited to talk about their visions for our transportation future and these visions can cover any methods of transportation. He noted the Transportation Officials have said they would like citizens input on infrastructure, roads, bridges, highways, sidewalks, bike trails, or any safety issues. Mayor Dees said the two local meetings will be held at Gray's Creek Recreation Center, Monday, March 10th from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., and Wednesday, March 19th at the Hope Mills Recreation Center from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
11. Stated Spring Litter Sweep for Hope Mills will be Saturday April 19th from 9:00 until 12:00 noon and the Parks and Recreation Department will be organizing the event.
12. Stated local television program NC Spin is doing a segment on Hope Mills and it will be broadcast on several different TV stations. He said it will air at 6:30 a.m. on WRAL, Sunday, March 9th.
13. Noted Fayetteville Tech Community College is hosting Adult Education continuing education classes for anyone interested in obtaining their GED. He said classes will be held at the Hope Mills Recreation Center on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

14. Reminded everyone of the Hope Mills Police Department will again be sponsoring the carnival on ballfields 4, 5, and 6. He said the start day is Wednesday, March 26 - 30, 2008.
15. Reminded everyone of the next Board of Commissioners meeting on Monday, March 17th at 7:30 p.m.

19. CLOSED SESSION.

Commissioner 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.

At 8:46 p.m., Mayor Dees called for a five minute break before entering into closed session.

20. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION.

At 9:55 p.m., Commissioner Collins made a motion to return to regular session. Commissioner Luther seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

21. CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES.

Commissioner Gorman made a motion 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. Commissioner Collins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

22. ADJOURNMENT.

At 9:56 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Warner and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Natashia McCants, Deputy Town Clerk