

MINUTES OF THE HOPE MILLS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 16, 2009
Regular Meeting

Mayor Eddie Dees called the regular meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, February 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT. None

STAFF PRESENT

Town Manager Randy Beeman, Town Clerk Connie Spell, Town Attorney John Jackson, Finance Director Jeff Saleeby, Chief Building Inspector Mike Bailey, Parks and Recreation Supervisor Stan Braswell, Public Works Director Bruce McLaurin, Police Chief John Hodges, Police Captain John Smith.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was rendered by Rev. Neil Smith, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Dees.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS.

Motion was made by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Luther and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the following additions:

2 (b) Presentations to Hope Mills Senior Citizens Center, The Sunshine Center and Sycamore Tree Senior Citizens Center.

7 (d) Consideration to accept donation of land from the Sandhills Area Land Trust.

2. PRESENTATIONS.

a. Mayoral Proclamation: Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week, March 2-8, 2009.

Mayor Dees presented a Proclamation to Ms. Linda Lockamy and Pam Ray proclaiming March 2-8, 2009 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

Ms. Lockamy encouraged everyone to participate in the upcoming MS walk and she presented the board a fly swatter to “Swat out MS” and a mason jar to collect “spare change” to be contributed to these two MS Walk teams - PAMS Pals and Walking for All.

b. Presentations to Hope Mills Senior Citizens Center, the Sunshine Center, and Sycamore Tree Senior Citizens Center.

Mayor Dees presented a check from the Town in the amount of \$4,000.00 to each of the above Senior Centers.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS. None

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Pat Hall, 3511 Beechwood, Chairperson of the Historical Committee, presented a letter to the Board opposing the sale of the parking lot owned by the Town located at the corner of Main Street and Trade Street. She stated the lot is located in the heart of the Historical District. The Historical Committee recommended the parking lot remain as town property and be used for municipal purposes only.

Jean Clark, 5820 Fairway Drive, expressed thanks to the Town Board and staff for the great job that was done on the Ed Herring Park. She suggested a six-foot chain link fence be installed to replace the existing four-foot fence.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

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

a. Consideration to approve minutes of the January 5, 2009 Regular Meeting.

Minutes approved as written.

b. Consideration to approve out-of-state travel for Lt. Phillips of the Police Department to attend required training to receive the MTM equipment.

Training will be held in Washington, DC and is required to receive the MTM equipment. The equipment was received through a Homeland Security grant. There is no cost to the town for Lt. Phillips to attend.

Approved out-of-state travel for Lt. Phillips.

c. Consideration to approve Resolution Directing Clerk to Investigate a Petition received under G.S. 160A-31 for voluntary annexation, 33.29 acres – West Hampton.

The Town received a Voluntary Annexation Petition requesting the annexation of 33.29 acres – West Hampton, property of GHM Group, LLC and Spring Hill Missionary Baptist Church.

The following resolution was approved as presented:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CLERK TO INVESTIGATE
A PETITION RECEIVED UNDER G.S. 160A-31
RESOLUTION NO. 2009-02
Annexation #09-01

WHEREAS, a petition requesting annexation of an area described in said petition was received on February 16, 2009 by the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners for 33.29 acres, West Hampton, property of GHM Group, LLC and Spring Hill Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-31 provides that the sufficiency of the petition shall be investigated by the Town Clerk before further annexation proceedings may take place; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills deems it advisable to proceed in response to this request for annexation;

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

The Town Clerk is hereby directed to investigate the sufficiency of the above described petition and to certify as soon as possible to the Board of Commissioners the result of her investigation.

ADOPTED this 16th day of February, 2009.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Connie F. Spell, MMC, Town Clerk

d. Consideration to approve Contract to Audit Accounts FY 08-09, Haigh, Byrd & Lambert, LLP.

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby reported that Request for Proposals for auditing services had been sent out and the following responses to the RFP's were received:

Cherry Bekaert & Holland	\$33,000
Haigh, Byrd & Lambert	\$25,500
McFayden & Sumner	Did not bid

Approved Haigh, Byrd & Lambert, LLP Contract to Audit.

A copy of the contract is filed in the Book of Contracts in the Town Clerk's office.

- e. Consideration to authorize purchase of trench box/shoring system in the amount of \$9,717.00 – Powell Bill Department, funds allocated in the 2008-2009 budget.**

The Powell Bill Department requested to purchase a trench box/shoring system.

Authorized the purchase of trench box/shoring system in the amount of \$9,717.00

- f. Consideration of various committee appointments.**

The following committee appointments were submitted:

Stormwater Advisory Committee – Ronald Starling
Military Liaison – Edwin S. Deaver
Historic Planning/Advisory Committee – Edwin S. Deaver
Veterans Affairs Commission – William P. Conklin, James E. Clark, Edwin S. Deaver
Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee – Blaine Harris (Liaison member HMYA)

Appointments approved.

- g. Consideration to approve Report of Surplus Fixed Assets for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008.**

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby presented a copy of the surplus of fixed assets for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008. He said most of the items have no value. He stated the only department that had a fixed asset value of an item was the Parks & Recreation of \$115.76.

Report of Surplus Fixed Assets approved.

- h. Consideration to declare artificial panel Christmas tree, Fixed Asset 620-4883, surplus property.**

Finance Director recommended declaring surplus the old artificial panel Christmas tree, (Fixed Asset 620-4883).

Declared Surplus Christmas tree Fixed Asset 620-4883.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

- a. Consideration to approve NCDOT Supplemental Municipal Agreement for the participation in funding for sidewalk construction on Elk Road – Project U-3849.**

Town Manager Randy Beeman reported on September 8, 2008 the town entered into a Municipal Agreement with NCDOT for improvements on Elk Road. He further stated NCDOT was providing the town an opportunity to participate in the cost of sidewalk construction – within the corporate limits only. He stated DOT would participate with 70% of the cost and the Town would participate with 30% of the cost.

Mr. Beeman stated the estimated cost of the sidewalks was \$76,430 and the cost to the Town would be \$22,929 and Powell Bill funds could be used for the expenditure.

Motion was made by Commissioner Luther, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the NCDOT Supplemental Municipal Agreement, Project U-3849 to participate in sidewalk construction on Elk Road.

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

b. Consideration to adopt Resolution Authorizing the Upset Bid Process for Selling Certain Town-Owned Property.

A Resolution Authorizing the Upset Bid Process and declaring the property identified as 3636 N. Main Street (parking lot corner of Main Street and Trade Street) surplus was presented to the Board.

The Town received an offer to purchase the property by First Citizens Bank in the amount of \$265,000.00.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro tem Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Luther and carried unanimously to deny the request to declare the property surplus.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consideration to authorize purchase of two (2) Ford Ranger Trucks for the Inspections Department in the amount of \$29,809.00 and adopt Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 19 to allocate funds.

The following Budget Ordinance Amendment was presented to allocate funding for the purchase of two (2) Ford Ranger trucks for the Inspections Department.

Staff was commended for going with the smaller economical vehicles.

Motion was made by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Maynor, and carried unanimously to adopt the following Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 19:

**BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT
NUMBER NINETEEN**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Town of Hope Mills, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the General Fund for the 2008-2009 budget ordinance:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund for expenditures related to the purchase of two vehicles for the inspection department, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Revised</u>
Capital Outlay	\$ 0	\$ 29,809	\$ 29,809

Section 2. To provide for the additional costs, the following revenue sources are as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Revised</u>
Building Permits	\$ 100,000	\$ 29,809	\$ 129,809

Section 3. Copies of this amendment shall be furnished to the Town Clerk and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted by the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners this 16th day of February, 2009.

Eddie Dees, Mayor

Attest:

Connie Spell, MMC, Town Clerk

b. Consideration to adopt Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of Personal Property by Private Sale – 1993 International Real Loader and 2002 Lodal South Side Loader – Sanitation Department.

Finance Director recommended declaring surplus Sanitation Trucks 53 and 56 – Sanitation Department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Luther, seconded by Commissioner Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the following Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of Personal Property:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY BY PRIVATE SALE

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills, North Carolina desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the Town;

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

- (1) The following described property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the Town:
 - a. 1993 International Sanitation Truck – VIN # 1HTGPCT4PH533701
Truck # 53 (Sanitation Department – Fixed Asset No. 580-562)
 - b. 2002 Lodal South Side Loader – VIN # 19LAF59B32K006588
Truck #56 (Sanitation Department – Fixed Asset No. 580-572)
- (2) The Town Manager is authorized to dispose of the described property by private sale at a negotiated price.
- (3) The Town Clerk shall publish notice summarizing this Resolution in accordance with G. S. 160A-267.
- (4) The sale may be consummated not earlier than ten (10) days from the date of publication.

ADOPTED this 16th day of February, 2009.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Connie F. Spell, MMC, Town Clerk

c. Consideration adopt Public Facilities Naming Policy and application.

The proposed Public Facilities Naming Policy and application was presented.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro tem Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Maynor and carried unanimously to adopt the Public Facilities Naming Policy and application as presented.

A copy of the Policy is filed in the Book of Policies in the Town's Clerk's Office.

d. Consideration to accept donation of land from the Sandhills Area Land Trust.

Mr. Neil Smith representing the Sandhills Area Land Trust, Inc., made an offer to donate land to the Town of Hope Mills for a Greenway. The property is located off of Legion Road and is

adjacent to the Brookridge Subdivision. According to tax information and deed of record, there is approximately 19 acres.

In response to a question from Mayor Dees, Mr. Smith stated there was an easement off of Hunting Path Trail giving access to the property.

Attorney Jackson questioned the reference made on the deed of an easement granted to American Uniform. Ms. Candice Williams said there was an easement and she would give a copy to Mr. Jackson.

Motion was made by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Luther to accept the land donation from Sandhills Area Land Trust contingent upon a title search by Town Attorney and no encumbrances or environmental issues. Motion carried unanimously.

8. REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. Town Manager's update.

Town Manager Randy Beeman presented a written update on the following:

- Railroad Crossing - Johnson Street
- Viper Radio System – 800 Mega Hertz System
- Skate Park
- Pier Construction Information – Lake Number one
- Hope Mills Youth Association, Parks and Recreation Agreement
- Lake Ordinance Update
- Public Property Damage – Graffiti

Commissioner Maynor asked if there was additional information on the 800 Mega Hertz radios. Mr. Beeman said last month the report was delivered to the Police Department via Cumberland County. He stated the City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County were coordinating on how they are going to handle the communication. Mr. Beeman said they were still in the testing mode and they have not settled on what frequency or what equipment they will use.

In response to a question from Commissioner Maynor, Mr. Beeman said the old radios are still in the vehicles and the Police Chief will make the decision on when to remove the 400's from the patrol vehicles. He said some of the newer vehicles do not have the 400 installed.

Commissioner Collins expressed concerns with the graffiti on the train overpass at South Main Street. Mr. Beeman stated the town was placed on the railroads schedule to have the graffiti removed, but was told with the number of crossings they could not give a time-line of when it would be removed. Commissioner Collins asked the Town Manager to follow up.

b. Department Monthly Reports – January 2009.

The following Departments presented reports for the month of January 2009:

Inspections Department

Police Department

Fire Department

Parks & Recreation Department

Public Works Department (Building & Grounds, Street, Fleet Maintenance and Sanitation)

c. Update report on the Hope Mills Lake/Dam project.

Mr. Beeman reported he had spoken with the engineers and was informed that the west side repairs of the leaks should be completed later this week and they would be finishing up the east side. He stated they were also following up on the punch list and were anticipating being finished sometime in April. Mr. Beeman said he had asked what was the possibility of having to lower the water level again and was told at this time they do not know what Dam Safety may require. He said some leaking had been observed on the side gates and would have to be repaired before the finalization.

Mayor Dees suspended the rules and asked if anyone had questions. There were none.

9. STAFF COMMENTS.

Town Manager reported the Town had received forty-two (42) applications for the Human Resources Administrator vacancy and six had been selected for interviews.

10. OFFICIAL COMMENTS.

Mayor and Commissioners: Thanked everyone for their attendance; thanked Mrs. Lockamy and Mrs. Pam Ray for their MS presentation; expressed condolences to the Lowder and Thames families; thanked Mr. Neil Smith and the Sandhill Land Trust for the offer of land to the town.

Commissioner Gorman: Thanked the Safety Committee on finding safety violations and their recommendations to rectify; expressed thanks to Mr. Beeman for taking care of the Ed Herring Park issue.

Commissioner Gorman stated there was a need for stop signs on Gilliam and Trevino Street. He said there were stop signs at these locations at one time but they had been removed.

After discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Collins and carried unanimously to replace the stop signs at Trevino and Gilliam Street.

Attorney Jackson stated an amendment to the Stop Sign Ordinance should be brought back to the board at the next meeting.

Commissioner Warner: Asked who was responsible for removing the logs out of the log booms. Mr. Beeman said the removal was coordinated between the Fire Department and the Public Works Department.

Mayor Dees: Thanked the Senior Citizens and Parks and Recreation staff for the Valentine Senior party; Requested the finance staff look into the interest rates the Town is currently paying and the possibility of refinancing to save the Town money.

In response to a question from Mayor Dees, Mr. Beeman said the Town does have an appeal process for civil citations.

Mayor Dees said some of the merchants on Trade Street had requested handicap parking on Trade Street. He said the handicap parking is at the end of the street and is not convenient for the handicap visiting the businesses on Trade Street.

Mayor Dees reminded everyone to submit questions on the Dam. There was discussion on setting a deadline for submitting the questions. It was consensus that a deadline was not needed at this time because they wanted to allow all citizens an opportunity to submit questions.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

At 8:16 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Luther, seconded by Commissioner Warner and unanimously carried the meeting was adjourned.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Connie F. Spell, MMC, Town Clerk