

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

**March 25, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.**

## **Special Meeting – FY 2009-2010 Budget Workshop**

Mayor Dees called the Special Meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

### **GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Town Manager Randy Beeman, Town Clerk Connie Spell, Finance Director Jeff Saleeby, Public Works Director Bruce McLaurin, Building and Grounds Supervisor Lamar Marshall, Sanitation Supervisor Billy Thompson, Service Garage Supervisor Roy Howard, Street Department Supervisor Ira Peterson.

### **1. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.**

Public Works Director Bruce McLaurin thanked the Board for allowing him to present the 2009-2010 budget. He requested reclassification for the Public Works Secretary.

The board briefly discussed the current pay scale for the Public Works secretary.

### **BUILDING AND GROUNDS.**

Building and Grounds Supervisor Lamar Marshall presented the following budget request:

- Two (2) Royal 1058 Vacuum Cleaners.
- Pyramid 4000 computerized time recorder for time cards.
- Club car with auto charger.
- Mower bagger attachment.
- Scissor Lift.
- Two (2) security cameras installed on the pedestrian bridge with monitor being located at the Town Hall.

A discussion followed concerning the cost of purchasing the scissors lift verses renting a lift, and/or leasing.

### **STREET DEPARTMENT/POWELL BILL**

Street Department Supervisor Ira Peterson addressed the board and discussed decreases and increases in the line items.

- Decrease in travel and training.  
They will be looking into free training, in-house training or training provided locally.
- Decrease in funds used for equipment maintenance and parts.
- Increase in automotive maintenance funds.  
This account is currently over budget. There are several trucks that are 16 years old that needs maintenance.
- Decrease in funds for safety shoes.  
Steel toe boots are required for the Street Department personnel and \$850.00 will be enough for two pairs of shoes for each employee.

- Increase in funds for contracted services.  
These services include land surveys, attorney fees, easements, recording fees, and tree removal.

### **POWELL BILL ACCOUNT**

- Equipment Maintenance.  
This department has a lot of equipment that is over 10 years old that has to be sent out for maintenance.
- Traffic Control funds.  
To replace some of the old signs to include work zone signage, cones and barricades.
- Departmental supplies.  
This would include gravel, dirt, asphalt, and other items the Street Department will need.
- Bridge Inspection funds.  
The Town pays approximately 20% for inspections and the State pays 80% on the two bridges the Town owns and maintains.

### **CAPITAL OUTLAY ITEMS**

- Two (2) Stihl Farm Boss Chain Saw.  
These saws are heavy duty with a 20" bar. The current chain saws are light duty for small limbs and trees. This department needs heavy duty saws for storm recovery and to remove dead trees that may fall into the roadway.
- 3M 740 Series Portable Multigas Detector.  
The gas meter is needed to test air quality in confined spaces.
- Two (2) I Series Bendable Plugs.  
The bendable plugs would keep debris, sand, and dirt out of cleaned storm drain pipes while cleaning lines connected to the same system.
- TS800 Concrete Walk-bind saw.  
This equipment would reduce damage that a conventional breaker would cause when cutting asphalt and concrete.
- Sure Stripe 400 – professional airless striper.  
This equipment is needed to mark stop bars, cross walks, center lines, and other pavement marks.
- Atlas 2 cycle breaker – jackhammer.  
The current jackhammer is in need of maintenance to make it safe to operate. The maintenance is costly and is harder to maintain and the current jackhammer is over 13 years old.
- Kera 10 – asphalt kettle crack sealer.  
The asphalt kettle is needed to apply crack seal material to extend the life of pavement between overlaying/repaving.
- Hydraulic Boom Mower.  
This equipment is needed to cut and trim ditch lines and cut back limbs and brush on the right-of-way overhead.
- Tandem axle dump truck.  
The current truck is in very bad shape and has had several maintenance issues lately. The tandem axle truck will haul up to four times the payload and able to pull a fully loaded 10 ton trailer. This vehicle would reduce loading and hauling time and fuel cost.

- Roadway and pavement improvements.  
They are looking into having the Civil Engineers to give an analysis of the Town roadways and the Street Department is not equipped for large scale asphalt repairs.

In response to a question from Mayor Dees, Mr. Peterson said there was enough money in the Powell Bill to cover all of his requests under Powell Bill funds.

Finance Director Jeff Saleeby said currently the Powell Bill funds received is decreasing as the gas prices are going down. He said this budget year would wipe out the fund balance and in the event of an emergency there would not be any money in the Powell Bill fund at the end of the fiscal year.

A discussion followed concerning the fund balance in the Powell Bill and the average age of the equipment in the Street Department.

Total estimated proposed budget \$1.5 million.

### **SANITATION DEPARTMENT.**

Sanitation Department supervisor Billy Thompson presented the Board with his 2009-2010 budget.

Mr. Thompson discussed the following budget items:

- Two Maintenance Workers II with CDL Class B.  
Due to the growth of the Hope Mills area and the additional truck added to the fleet, two additional employees are needed.
- Increase of funds for mosquito control machines.  
Mr. Thompson said they do some of the maintenances on the machines, but also had to hire a consultant to help with the calibration of the machines which is done yearly. We will be maintaining both of these machines and if there are any necessary repairs, parts or labor, then the town would be responsible.

Mr. Thompson discussed decreases in line items and said he was trying to make cuts in the Sanitation Department to save the Town money.

- International 4300 - Dump/leaf truck.  
Truck 54 has 180,000 miles on a diesel engine. This truck is very hard to start in the mornings and is in need of replacing due to age. The doors and cab of the truck are worn out and will need major repairs. There needs to be major repair work done to the engine and transmission.
- Loader trash truck.  
Due to the growth of the town and the aging fleet of trucks a new trash truck is needed. Mr. Thompson said he had also looked into leasing a trash truck and it was very expensive.
- Mobile radio for new trash truck.  
Without the radio the truck would be without communication with the office.
- (400) 96 gallon roll out trash carts.  
The last carts were purchased in 2008 and there are only 285 remaining. With the growth of Hope Mills there is the need to be able to provide trash carts.
- Two (2) 55 gallon drums of Biomist.  
Biomist is used to control mosquitos.

A discussion followed concerning a four day work week for the sanitation department, one day a week trash pick-up and increasing the rates.

### **SERVICE GARAGE**

Service Garage Supervisor Roy Howard presented the 2009-2010 budget request to the Board. He briefly went over the following requested items:

- Shop Apprentice.  
An apprentice is needed to help assist the mechanics on repairs; cleaning the shop; run parts; and help maintain shop equipment. This would allow other mechanics to concentrate on repairs.
- Safety Shoes.  
The steel toe shoes are a required safety item and the Town furnishes only one pair a year. Wearing the shoes in the shop, around grease and grime associated with repairs on the garbage trucks, causes the shoes to be un-serviceable before the year is out. Also, safety shoes have increased in price.
- Service Truck F350.  
The current service truck is a 1997 F150 with 140,000 miles and is overloaded with tools and supplies, and the frame is setting on the axle. This truck can only carry two people in the cab and we would have to make several trips to bring the workers back if one of the trash trucks breaks down.

The F350 is larger and can carry up to six passengers and the body is bigger so that it could carry a heavier load.

Mr. Howard briefly discussion the price of the truck with and without different options.

- Brake Lathe.  
The brake lathe is used to turn rotors and drums, aiding in brake work. Having the brake lathe will help to reduce time and cost for a brake job by keeping from having to pay outside labor. This piece of equipment will be a 30 year or more investment to work with present and future vehicles.
- OTC Air End Lift Jack.  
The 10 ton capacity for trucks and trailers has a lifting saddle, which are adjustable and automatic mechanical safety catch. The jack has the lifting capacity for the front or rear end of a heavy truck. Mr. Howard said continuing to use the small jack on the larger trucks could be a safety issue.

The Board felt Mr. Howard had justified the need for everything that was requested for his department.

A brief discussion followed concerning a time line on preparing a list of all the department capital outlay items requested and when to meet with each department head.

The Board thanked Mr. Saleeby for everything he had done for the town.

Commissioner Collins thanked Ms. Diana Krist for her hard work and stated she should be rewarded for her work.

Mr. Saleeby said based on the estimated tax revaluation if the rate stayed at \$ .46 cents per \$100.00 valuation it would equal \$560,000.00 extra for the Town, but if the rate was lowered to \$ .42 cents it would equal \$200,000.00 extra with a loss of \$360,000.00.

At 8:21 p.m. the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Dees.

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Eddie Dees, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Connie F. Spell, MMC, Town Clerk