

REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2006

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

Others present were Town Manager Roy Taylor, Town Attorney William R. Davis, Finance Director David Stafford, Public Works Director Bruce McLaurin, Fire Chief Chuck Hodges, and Police Chief John Hodges.

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

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

Mayor Dees presented an addendum comprising two proclamations for presentation.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to add the proclamations as requested. Commissioner Luther seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Mayor Dees reported he had met with three different groups who were interested in submitting a cost for clearing the lake bed area. Mayor Dees noted it was also possible the Town might be able to use the Department of Corrections or some volunteer labor. He stated more information on this would be forthcoming.

Mayor Dees shared an email received from Mr. Tim Labounty, McKim & Creed, and reported they were pressing forward as fast as they could on finalizing the construction documents. Mayor Dees reported Mr. Labounty indicated they hoped to have things wrapped up in 30 to 45 days. Additionally, Mayor Dees noted as a matter of information McKim & Creed was in process of constructing a six million dollar dam and spillway in the Research Triangle Park.

Mr. Taylor commented the Corps of Engineers was looking into some questions presented from the potential lake bed cleaning contractors regarding mulching of the trees.

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

3. STATUS REPORT ON RECREATION CENTER.

Mr. Taylor presented the following report:

The gym floor has been painted, the basketball goals are up, and the volleyball net system is in place.

All electrical and mechanical systems are functioning. The water heater is operational, and so is the fire sprinkler system.

All kitchen appliances have been installed to include a Hotpoint range, GE microwave, GE dishwasher, Whirlpool refrigerator, and a Manitowic ice machine.

The flagpoles are installed and landscaping has commenced.

All plumbing fixtures such as toilets, lavatories, sinks and drinking fountains are installed.

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Some exterior doors that are to be replaced have not yet been delivered at this time. The skylights for the gymnasium will probably not arrive for another week or two. Painting crews are continuing to do their job throughout the building.

Final grading and paving of the parking lot is expected to occur this week.

In response to a question from Commissioner Collins, Mr. Taylor responded an opening and dedication date had not been set at this time, but the target date would be sometime around Christmas or New Year's. Mr. Taylor said as the project and as the time got closer, plans would be well underway for a grand opening and dedication.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

There were none.

5. MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS.

a) Knights of Columbus Days to Help Mentally Handicapped Citizens, October 7, 2006.

Mayor Dees noted the Hope Mills Knights of Columbus had adopted mentally handicapped citizens as a project for special concern and assistance, and urged all citizens to support this special program and participate by making donations to this worthy cause. Mayor Dees presented the proclamation to representatives of the Knights of Columbus Council 8857.

b) Fire Prevention Week - October 8-14, 2006.

Mayor Dees read the proclamation and presented the same to Fire Chief Chuck Hodges. Mayor Dees noted the theme for this year is "Prevent Cooking Fires: Watch What You Heat," and urged residents to join the Fire Department as they teach families and kids how to keep cooking fires from starting, and also asked the residents to express appreciation to the fire and safety professionals and others working to reduce the risk of fires.

c) South View Band Day - "Rumble In The Jungle X" - October 14, 2006.

Mayor Dees read the proclamation and presented the same to members of the South View Band. Mayor Dees encouraged all citizens to recognize the band for its many contributions to the community and to support the band in all its endeavors.

d) Character Counts Week - October 15-21, 2006.

Mayor Dees proclaimed the week of October 15-21, 2006 "Character Counts Week" and urged all citizens to model the traits of good character in a commitment to promote character development in the youth of the community. Mayor Dees noted the importance of observing year round the six pillars of character - trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

6. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION OF MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR MR. E. A. "PETE" WARNER WITH SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO THE WARNER FAMILY.

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Commissioner Collins 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

RESOLUTION OF MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

WHEREAS, E. A. "Pete" Warner, a lifelong resident of Cumberland County, served this community in numerous capacities, including 14 years as Town Commissioner and Mayor Pro Tem from 1989-2003; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Warner was truly committed to his family, this community, and the residents, and was affectionately known to many as "Pop Warner;" and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Warner was committed to our State and our Nation and served in the U.S. Navy from 1943-1945 during World War II, both in the Atlantic and Pacific fronts on the destroyer escorts USS Snowden and USS Sacita; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Warner was awarded the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest civilian honor given by the Governor, on May 19, 1994 by Governor James B. Hunt; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Warner was owner and operator of Countryside Furniture in Hope Mills; and also worked in auto sales at M&O Chevrolet and Valley Motors in Fayetteville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Warner was a Master Mason of Phoenix Lodge No. 8, A.F. & A.M., Fayetteville; and was a past president and senior member of the Massey Hill Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Warner was a member of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in the Tolar-Hart Mill Village of Massey Hill; and

WHEREAS, his death on Sunday, September 24, 2006, leaves our community with a deep feeling of sorrow for the loss of such a dedicated resident, friend, and Elected Official;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills, speaking on behalf of all our citizens, hereby goes on record as expressing our sincere appreciation for E. A. "Pete" Warner's dedicated service to this community, and our deep realization of the loss we have sustained; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be spread across the record and that a copy be forwarded to the E. A. "Pete" Warner Family with our deepest heartfelt sympathy.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of October, 2006.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

BOB GORMAN, MAYOR PRO TEM

TONZIE COLLINS, COMMISSIONER

JERRY LEGGE, COMMISSIONER

DORIS R. LUTHER, COMMISSIONER

TERRY W. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

Mayor Dees called upon Commissioner Smith to assist in the presentation of the resolutions to Mr. Alex Warner and family and Mrs. Colleen Warner Smith and family.

Mr. Alex Warner on behalf of the Warner family stated only in a small town like Hope Mills would you experience such love and support and uplifting during a time of loss. He said that Hope Mills was a very special town and expressed appreciation to the elected officials, staff, and employees, and expressed on behalf of the Warner family their grateful appreciation for the resolution.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

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

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

- a) Consideration to approve Minutes of the September 18, 2006 Regular Meeting.

Minutes approved as written.

- b) Consideration to approve recommendation of Police Chief Hodges for observance of Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours.

Chief Hodges recommended that Halloween Trick-or-Treat be observed on October 31, 2006 between the hours of 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. for children 12 years of age and under.

Trick-or-Treat hours approved.

- c) Consideration to approve Training/Travel over five days for Mayor Pro Tem Gorman, Commissioner Luther, Commissioner Collins, and Town Manager Roy Taylor to attend the National League of Cities Conference, Reno, Nevada, December 5-10, 2006.

Training/Travel approved.

- d) Consideration to adopt Resolution of Intent to rejoin the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board.

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

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO REJOIN
THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY JOINT PLANNING BOARD

WHEREAS, the Town of Hope Mills does hereby declare its intent to rejoin the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board, for comprehensive planning services, subject to terms and conditions of an Interlocal Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills, NC, hereby declares its intent to rejoin the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board subject to execution of an Interlocal Agreement.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of October, 2006.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk

Resolution adopted.

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"END CONSENT AGENDA"

8. OLD BUSINESS.

Mr. Taylor reported he had contacted Mr. Jernigan, NCDOT Division Traffic Engineer, regarding the concerns about the storm drains and edging along Hope Mills Road and Main Street as well as the request for the signs at the entrance to the Town regarding the "Home of the Major League Dixie Youth Baseball World Series Champions." Mr. Taylor stated he was awaiting a response from the DOT and he would keep the Board advised.

9. STAFF CONCERNS.

Mr. Taylor informed the Board that Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor Tommy Tatum had repainted the large Hope Mills Municipal Park sign. He stated Mr. Tatum was able to complete this job at a very minimal cost which also resulted in a substantial savings for the Town. Mr. Taylor stated he would like to recognize employees that displayed such initiative to do their jobs well and to go above and beyond what was expected of them and their normal course of duties.

10. OFFICIAL CONCERNS.

Commissioner Legge commented as follows:

1. Stated the joint meeting with the County Commissioners was very good and he was hopeful to see some good things happen as a result of the meeting.
2. Thanked Mr. Tatum for repainting the Municipal Park sign.
3. Stated that the Recreation Center was a great facility.
4. Expressed deep sympathy to the Warner family, and stated he learned a lot from serving with Mr. Warner.
5. Thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting.

Commissioner Collins commented as follows:

1. Stated the Mayor had previously sent the Board a memo regarding the Cape Fear River Assembly membership, and inquired concerning the status of the matter.

Mr. Taylor reported the annual membership dues were \$1,000.00, but this had not been paid and would not be paid until the staff was directed to do so by the Board.

Mayor Dees commented having not heard back from the Board, he felt the Town could save \$1,000.00 by not paying the invoice, unless the Board instructed otherwise.

It was Board consensus not to pay the Cape Fear River Assembly membership dues.

2. Stated everyone had a great time at the Law Enforcement softball game, and expressed appreciation to Ms. Kilgore and the Parks and Recreation Department.
3. Stated the Board had a good meeting with the County Commissioners and he felt everyone was heading in the right direction.

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4. Encouraged everyone to attend the South View Band Day on October 14th.
5. Expressed condolences and appreciation to the Warner family.

Commissioner Luther commented as follows:

1. Thanked everyone for attending the meeting and said more people needed to be involved in their town.
2. Expressed condolences to the Warner family and stated it was her honor to sit in the chair previously occupied by Mr. Warner.

Commissioner Smith commented as follows:

1. Thanked Rev. Ballance for bringing the invocation.
2. Thanked Mr. Tatum for his initiative and improving the Municipal Park sign.
3. Thanked the Knights of Columbus for their work to help mentally challenged citizens.
4. Expressed appreciation for Mr. Pete Warner's years of service. He stated Mr. Warner and Mr. Alex Warner had inspired him to run for the Town Board, and it was an honor to know the Warner family.

Commissioner Gorman commented as follows:

1. Thanked the Knights of Columbus for their work in the community.
2. Invited everyone to attend South View Band Day.
3. Gave the Fire Department September report, and stated the department responded to 118 calls with 1,187 calls year to date.
4. Stated he was sitting on the Board due to Mr. Pete Warner and Mr. Alex Warner. He stated he would always cherish the memories of Mr. Warner, and expressed condolences to the Warner family.

Mayor Dees commented as follows:

1. Thanked everyone for attending the Board meeting.
2. Expressed condolences to the Warner family, and stated Mr. Warner was an outstanding community leader, businessman, and Town Commissioner for 14 years. Mayor Dees stated Mr. Warner was greatly loved by family and friends and he would be missed.
3. Stated the joint meeting with the Cumberland County Commissioners was very positive, and he looked forward to working with the County on many of the issues addressed.
4. Noted at the August 7, 2006 Board Meeting, he requested the Board receive a monthly financial report, and requested this be provided beginning the month of

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November.

5. Stated the Finance Committee needed to reschedule its meeting from October 9th. Following brief discussion, the Finance Committee meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, October 19, 2006.
6. Stated plans needed to be underway now to establish a dedication day for the new Recreation Center, and stated the Town should make this a very special occasion and invite everyone.
7. Reported the NCLM Annual Conference would be in Fayetteville next year the second weekend in October, and the Town had been asked by Fayetteville to participate. Mayor Dees suggested to Ms. Kilgore that the Town possibly have the Ole Mill Days Festival that weekend and perhaps showcase the walking trail and the new Recreation Center. In addition, Mayor Dees suggested the Town have a barbecue and some entertainment. He asked for the Board's thoughts and input and said there would be a planning meeting beginning in November.
8. Reminded everyone of the following upcoming events: Heart Walk, October 7; Operation Lamb Tootsie Roll fund-raising program kick off, October 7; South View Band Day, October 14; Ribbon Walk for Cancer, October 28; Ole Mill Days, October 28; Veterans Day, November 11; and the Friends of Hope Mills Lake Bluegrass Festival, November 11.
9. Reminded everyone there would not be a Town Board meeting on October 16th as several of the Board members would be in Greensboro attending the NCLM Annual Conference. Mayor Dees stated the next Town Board meeting would be November 6th.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

At 8:10 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Legge and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

EDDIE DEES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Phyllis C. Register, MMC, Town Clerk