

May 8, 2006

The Middlesex Governing Body held its' regular meeting in the Conference Room of the Town Hall. Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and gave the invocation. Members present were Commissioners Basco Lewis, Luke Robinson, Derek Bissette, and Fred Hough. Commissioner Meacombs was absent. The guest list is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner Hough moved to approve the April meeting minutes. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis opened the floor for the Public Comment Session. Mr. Cephus Ray advised the Board that he has spoken to Bob Murphy, Nash County Manager, and has requested a senior center/sports complex for the Middlesex/Bailey area and advised that he will continue to follow up on this matter.

Vennie Brock asked the Board what was being done regarding drug dealing around the park and down the West Hanes end of town. Chief Ferrell stated that his department has been working the area, but drug surveillance takes time and manpower.

Administrator Joyner requested to remove from the agenda under Old Business, Carpentry/Upholstery Quotes, Wording/Letter Type, Contract Approval for Brick Pillars, and MPD K-9 Issue and requested to add under New Business, Item f. Contract for sewer laterals for the sewer rehab project.

Clerk Lambert requested to add to New Business, Item g, Set a date for the Public Hearing for the Proposed 2006-2007 Proposed Budget, and Item h, Request employee reimbursement for hotel expense over the policy limit of \$60 per night for required training. Commissioner Bissette moved to approve the agenda with the requested changes. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robinson moved to accept the financial statements as correct. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and it carried unanimously.

The Clerk reviewed the major proposed changes to the Utilities Ordinances and after a brief discussion, Mayor Lewis requested the Clerk to call the town attorney and recheck to make sure it is legal to charge citizens for utilities when they are not connected to the system and report at the June meeting.

Chief Ferrell advised the Board that he had located a "propane cannon" the town could borrow for the turkey buzzard problem. Commissioner Bissette moved to keep a check to see if the problem has subsided or moved to another location in town and to borrow the propane cannon if we continue to have a problem. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Joyner presented quotes from two contractors for replacing the sewer laterals in need of rehab. The first contractor quote was \$7.50 per running ft. for the plumbing connection only, with the town obtaining all permits, buying all materials, and all digging and recovering; or, \$15.00 per running ft. for a turnkey job with the only exception being the town pay for all permits. The second contractor quote for the first scenario above is \$5.00 per running ft and \$10.00 per running ft for second scenario. Administrator Joyner and the Board agreed the best solution would be the turnkey job. Commissioner Hough moved to allow Joyner to proceed with the lowest turnkey bid with good references. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Joyner presented charts to the Board showing where employee salaries would be if the MAPS Study results had not been altered and the appropriate cost of living added since adoption. A second chart showed where employee salaries would be with the adopted scale plus cost of living added for both years. Joyner advised the Board that by altering the MAPS Study, they defeated the objective of the study and invalidated the effect of the study. Commissioner Hough stated that he stood by what he said in April and he thought the matter was closed at the last meeting. Joyner advised that he was trying to provide the best information possible for the Board to make the best decision for the town and felt the matter was still open until the adoption of the budget. Commissioner Bissette stated he was sticking to 3%, and the other members agreed.

After a long discussion regarding the updating of the Pay Class/Pay Scale with the cost of living for July 1, 2005 at 3.39% and July 1, 2006 at 3.36%, the Board agreed to stand by a 3% cost of living increase and change the scale when the new budget is adopted.

After discussing problems with the time clock for the Police and Utilities Department and presenting quotes for service and new clocks, Commissioner Bissette moved to purchase an automatic time clock with automatic punch, automatic month-change, digital readout and automatic time calculation. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis reviewed a Clean Water Bond Resolution, which supports the NC Rural Center in its effort to promote a \$1 Billion Clean Water Bond Issue to the NC General Assembly. Commissioner Robinson moved to adopt the 2006 Clean Water Bond Resolution. Commissioner Bissette seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Clerk Lambert reviewed a requested 2005-2006 Budget Amendment to cover Board approved improvements at the park, which were not in the original budget. Commissioner Bissette moved to approve the following Budget Amendment, Commissioner Hough seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

<u>Acct#</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>Parks &amp; Rec.</u>		
10-590-1500	Maintenance-Bldgs & Grounds	8,000.00
10-390-0100	General Fund Balance Appropri.	8,000.00

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the following sewer adjustments:

- (1) Jose Silva from \$144.00 to \$24.00

Commissioner Lewis seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hough moved to set the Public Hearing for the Proposed 2006-2007 Proposed Budget on June 12, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Town Hall. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bissette moved to approve to reimburse the full cost of \$80.00 per night plus tax for Gordon Joyner's hotel bill for zoning school last week. Commissioner Hough seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Joyner summarized all the requested budget changes from the April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. After a brief discussion, all Board members agreed to decrease Parks and Recreation from \$9,000 to \$4,000 and transfer the \$5,000 to Streets and Sidewalks. The \$5,000 would be for signage and landscaping, since the park benches have already been completed and paid from the current year's budget. Also, there was a brief discussion regarding the amount of reserve fund balances needed to meet the water and sewer budget and the Board agreed that water and sewer rates would probably have to be increased in 2007-2008 budget year.

The Board also looked at sample lettering for entrance signs and Joyner will present pricing at the June meeting for the brick pillars, signs and lettering.

Being no further business, Commissioner Robinson moved to adjourn.

Jennifer Lambert  
Clerk

Mayor Lu Harvey Lewis, Jr.  
Commissioners  
Fred Hough  
Luke Robinson  
Derek Bissette  
Basco Lewis