

June 11, 2007

Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr. opened the floor at 7:30 p.m. for a public hearing to review the proposed 2007-2008 budget. Administrator Joyner reviewed the highlights of the budget totaling \$1,507,531 which includes:

- .50 cents increase in water and .75 cents increase in sewer per 1,000 gallons
- .50 cents increase in the monthly sanitation rate
- No property tax increase
- 3% cost of living increase for employees
- Powell Bill paving projects totaling \$80,000
- Capital Projects:
 1. Grant for upgrade of police computers and software (75/25 match with the towns 25% share totaling \$6250)
 2. Public Works Building \$100,000
 3. Middlesex Bailey Sports Complex \$50,000
 4. New Dump Truck \$45,000
 5. Centennial Park Project \$15,000
 6. Centennial Program \$10,000
 7. Cemetery Wall \$30,000, paving cemetery driveway \$20,000
 8. Computer hardware and software upgrade for town hall \$19,000

Fund balance reserves used to balance the budget total \$518,731. The breakdown by fund is as follows: General Fund \$389,480, Powell Bill \$52,000, Water \$35,431 and Sewer \$41,820.

There were no questions or comments from the public. Mayor Lewis closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m., opened the floor for the regular meeting and gave the invocation. The guest list is attached and are part of these minutes.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the minutes of the April 30th budget workshop and the May 14th regular meeting. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis opened the floor for the public comment session. Malee Richardson, a resident at 10677 E. Finch Avenue asked the Board to consider adjusting her \$77.00 water bill for May due to a leak under the house, which increased her usage from 2,000 to 19,000 gallons. She stated that her bill was normally \$22.00 because she is not connected to the town's sewer system. Mayor Lewis asked the clerk to explain the current policy for adjustments. Clerk Lambert stated the town's policy was to adjust only the sewer portion of the bill in the event of a leak and that this has been the policy since 1998 when the town connected to Zebulon for wastewater treatment. With no further comment, Mayor Lewis closed the public comment session.

Administrator Joyner requested to add the following items to the agenda: (1) Under Item 8, New Business, add Page 67A requesting Board approval to recognize Billy Lewis as a Distinguished Citizen, (2) under Item 9, Closed Session add Pages 71A-E employment paperwork for Crystal Daughtry to be interviewed for a full time police officer. Joyner also requested to delete under Item 9 (1) the interview for Joey Webb for part time police officer and add Pages 72A-C interview Brad Shepard for a full time police officer. Commissioner Hough moved to accept the agenda with the requested changes. Commissioner Bissette seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Chief Ferrell reported the residents on Cope Avenue praised his department stating that it was now peaceful on their street.

Commissioner Bissette asked Joyner about tall grass at a house at the corner of Finch Avenue and 264 Alt. Joyner stated he had already taken pictures and was in the process of locating the property owner to send notification of non-compliance.

Commissioner Bissette moved to affirm the telephone vote for the purchase of a lawn mower for \$5,700 from Middlesex Motor (lowest bid). Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried 4-0, with Commissioner Lewis abstaining from the vote, due to the fact he was the seller.

The Board reviewed a letter from Liz Fairman with recommended language for a proposed policy to hold the developer responsible for the cost of infrastructure to the property being developed, and stating that when completed, the infrastructure would be turned over to the town's system. The Board agreed with the language and asked that this language be incorporated into the Utilities section of the Town Code of Ordinances and be presented for adoption at the July 9th meeting.

After a brief discussion regarding the Burrell annexation request on 264Alt west of Eagle Ridge, several Board members still had some questions for the developer, who was not present at the meeting, and they requested that Mr. Larry Keesler, the developer, present a timeline at the July 9th meeting before taking any action on the annexation request.

Joyner advised that all quotes for the dump truck (\$45,000 is included in the 2007-2008 budget) have not all been received. One quote received is just under \$40,000 and he is waiting for another quote from Bobby Murray Chevrolet and will report at the July meeting.

As approved by a motion at the May 14th meeting, the paving projects for 2007-2008 were awarded to the lowest bidder, Williams Paving, at \$37,500 ,and Joyner reported that he would begin work after July 4th and try to finish before school starts.

Commissioner Bissette moved to adopt a resolution stating the distribution formula for the town's annual contribution to the Fire Department would be equal to the fire tax for property located within the town limits as billed by Nash County. The fire tax rate at the present time is .05 cents per hundred dollars of property valuation. Commissioner Meacombs seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robinson rescinded his motion from the May 14th meeting to adopt the Hanes Inducement Agreement as a result of their announcement not to develop the property in Middlesex. Commissioner Meacombs seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Distinguished Citizen Award will be awarded to Billy Lewis as approved in a motion by Commissioner Meacombs, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lewis and Commissioner Robinson will attend the Senator A.B. Swindell breakfast on June 29th at Nash Community College. Commissioners Meacombs and Bissette requested a phone call before June 25th so they could check their schedule.

The following 2006-2007 budget amendment was presented by the clerk for approval:

EXPENDITURES:

Tax Collections:

10-460-2600	Advertising	+	\$600 (Increased adv.)
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Streets & Sidewalks:

10-560-7400	Capital Outlay	+	\$5,700 (Lawn Mower)
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Sanitation:

10-580-1100	Phones and postage	+	\$150
10-580-1700	Maintenance of vehicles	+	\$1,500 (Repair trash truck bed)
10-580-3600	Uniforms	+	100
10-580-4500	Contracted Services	+	<u>\$1,500</u> (Waste Ind. increased tonnage & fuel surcharge)

TOTAL	+	\$9,550
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REVENUES:

10-367-0300	Telecommunications Taxes	+	600 (Collected over budget)
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10-345-0000	Local Option Sales Tax	+	\$5,700
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10-359-0000	Refuse Collections	+	<u>\$3,250</u>
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TOTAL	+	\$9,550
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Commissioner Bissette moved to adopt the budget amendments as presented. Commissioner Hough seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Administrator Joyner advised the Board they currently have the authority to waive civil penalties but the town attorney advised the authority could be given to the Town/Zoning Administrator by amending the Town Code of Ordinances, but he did not recommend that the Board change its policy. The Board agreed.

Commissioner Robinson moved to go into Closed Session under G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) to interview Crystal Daughtry and Brad Shepard for full time police officer positions and under G.S.143-318-11(a)(5) to discuss the Raleigh Wastewater Contract and purchase of wastewater flow. His motion was seconded by Commission Hough and it carried unanimously.

Back in Open Session, Commissioner Hough moved to hire Brad Shepard and Crystal Daughtry as full time police officers at a starting salary of \$27,100 per year. Commissioner Bissette seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bissette moved to pay Raleigh for 50,000 gallons of sewer flow now at a rate of \$7.00 per 1,000 gallons (using the entire \$337,695 remaining in sewer grant funds) and reserve 30,000 gallons for future purchase at the current rate at the time the Little River Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade is completed (2010 or 2011), with the right to surrender the reserved 30,000 gallons if the town so desires. No flow will be available until the upgrade is completed, regardless of the fact that 50,000 gallons has been paid for. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to increase the sanitation rate .50 cents effective July 1st as recommended and included in the 2007-2008 budget. Commissioner Bissette seconded and the motion carried unanimously. This recommendation is due to increased tonnage fees and fuel surcharges from Waste Industries.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to recess the meeting and reconvene on Monday, June 25th, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. for the adoption of the 2007-2008 budget, when we determine if the sewer grant funds will need to be included in the 2007-2008 budget, and also for further review of the Raleigh Wastewater Contract.

Jennifer Lambert, Clerk

Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr.
Commissioners Harold Meacombs
Fred Hough
Luke Robinson
Derek Bissette
Basco Lewis