

Special Meeting Minutes  
May 24, 2012

Mayor Lewis called the Special Meeting to order at 7:30pm and gave the invocation. The meeting was scheduled at the regular May meeting for the purpose of a Budget Workshop, continued performance reviews, and other topics that will effect the 2012-2013 Budget.

The contract/resolution with Nash County to collect the town's property taxes was tabled due to the fact that the county attorney is making some tweaks to old language in the contract. Commissioner McClenny asked Clerk Lambert to call a couple of other towns that have the county collect their taxes to see how it is working out for them. Mayor Lewis advised there will be no advertising costs to the town above the 2% collection fee and the taxes advertising will have exposure in four (4) newspapers versus only one. If the county elects to continue offering the 1% discount, the discount would also be calculated on the town tax as well. Nash County is considering discontinuing the discount. Clerk Lambert recommended we notify all taxpayers of the change and post on the website if the Board decides to have Nash County collect the taxes.

Mayor Lewis reviewed the proposed 2012-2013 budget line item by line item throughout each department and fund. The proposed budget presented totaled \$1,314,505 for all funds. In the General Fund, the total budget presented was \$830,330 and we would need \$169,660 in fund balance for revenues to support expenditures. All interest earned throughout the budget were lowered from the previous year do to the current low rates.

Highlights in the General Fund include:

- (1) \$5,000 of the Logics Software and Hardware Upgrade is included as Capital Outlay in the Administration (the remaining costs is split \$5,000 in the Water Fund and \$5,000 in the Sewer Budget).
- (2) Reductions in the tax collection budget reflect the Board's decision to have Nash County collect taxes for the town
- (3) In Economic Development/Zoning \$3,000 was included for economic development/mileage for recruiting business/jobs/ water customers, and the final \$50,000 land payment for the Bailey/Middlesex Park
- (4) In Public Buildings, \$15,000 was included for maintenance on the S. Nash Street buildings and public works shop, and \$3,000 for maintenance at the Middlesex Family Dental building.
- (5) The community building budget includes a total of \$4,000 for painting and upgrading cabinets.
- (6) \$7,000 in departmental supplies in the police department budget includes \$750 for a camcorder, and \$2,000 for a 800 mhz portable radio. Salaries do not include the fifth police officer requested by Chief Murray, but does include \$20,000 for part time officers. Capital

outlay of \$8,000 reflects room renovations requested and a laptop for the fifth car. Commissioner Meacombs recommended Chief Murray contact L.E.S.S., which has surplus equipment for law enforcement only to try to find a generator.

- (7) The Powell Bill budget totals \$103,000, which needs \$75,000 in fund balance to cover \$77,000 in paving, \$20,000 for the town's part of the Possum Road railroad crossing installation, and \$3,000 annual maintenance for the Manning Street crossing.
- (8) In Public Safety, \$21,030 was included for contribution to the fire department, but will be removed because Nash County Finance will issue a check directly to the Fire Department when they begin collecting town taxes.
- (9) \$5,000 is included in Parks & Recreation for Wellness Park improvements
- (10) \$2,500 is included in the Library budget for building maintenance.

Highlights in the Water and Sewer Fund were as follows:

- (1) Water revenues include an extra \$14,500 for an estimated 300,000 gallons of usage for Pencco. Commissioner Bachmann commented that the Children's Home water line project will be an expenditure of \$450,000 to be added to the budget and he expressed concern that the town would receive a letter from the Local Government Commission because the project would have a negative effect on the financial statements, even if the project is a 100% principal forgiveness loan. Mayor Lewis explained that the project should not negatively affect the financials, and Clerk Lambert added the project would be an "in and out", but Bachmann asked Lambert to call John Anthony, the town's auditor to clarify/confirm.
- (2) The total water budget presented is \$148,720; the total sewer budget presented is \$355,45 bringing the total water and sewer budget to \$484,175. The water fund would need \$8,720 in fund balance, and the sewer fund would need \$48,055 in fund balance to meet expenditures.

The following items were requested to be added or changed in the General Fund:

- (1) Add money for a new flagpole for the town hall in Public Buildings
- (2) Mayor Lewis requested to add a capital expenditure in Non-departmental to purchase Christmas lights and to include costs for brackets and wiring. Commissioner Meacombs suggested ten (10) new lights. He also suggested we replace some of the Centennial banners in the worst condition with some new banners for the downtown area.

The following items were requested to be added or changed in the Water and Sewer Fund:

- (1) Commissioner Bachmann requested to reduce departmental supplies for water from \$12,000 to \$8,000. Departmental supplies were over \$12,000 so far for the current fiscal year due to installation of the Pennco and Fawn building digital meters. The town will be reimbursed for the Pennco meter installation and meter costs.
- (2) Reduce testing from \$10,000 to \$6,000.

Other significant items noted:

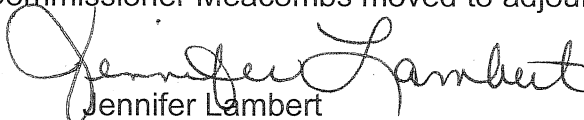
- (1) Sewer expenditures budgeted should be sufficient to cover the flow-meter problem at the Mudcat Stadium pump.
- (2) Mayor Lewis and Commissioner Bachmann have met with a company and will pursue reducing costs of the town's water tank maintenance by about \$2,000 per year. Utility Services has our current contract and the contract requires a ninety (90) day written notice of cancellation prior the July 1 contract date.

Commissioner Bachmann moved to go into Closed Session under G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) to complete employee evaluations.

Back in Open Session, Commissioner Meacombs moved to hold a Public Hearing at 7:30pm on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012, prior to the regular meeting, to hear public comment on the proposed 2012-2013 budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClenny and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to increase Robert Stamper and Freda Bailey salary \$.25 cents an hour effective July 1, 2012. Commissioner Alford seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Being no further business, Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjourn.



Jennifer Lambert

Town Clerk

Mayor Lu Harvey Lewis, Jr.  
Commissioners  
Harold Meacombs  
Danny Alford  
Dale Bachmann  
Cherrye Davis  
J.W. McClenny