

**TOWN OF HOPE MILLS  
CLOSED SESSION MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2015**

Mayor Warner called the Closed Session to order at 10:45p.m.

Mayor Jackie Warner, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Gorman, Commissioners Pat Edwards, Bryan Marley, Edwin Deaver and Jerry Legge were present.

Others present were Town Manager John W. Ellis, III, Town Clerk Melissa Adams and Town Attorney T.C. Morphis.

**PURPOSE:** Closed Session was called pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with the attorney and maintain the attorney-client privilege.

Item 1.

Mayor Warner commented that she had been contacted by Rajan Shamdasani, developer of the Fox Meadow Subdivision, in reference to the three non-buildable lots by the retention pond in Fox Meadow. Mr. Shamdasani has received a sizeable fine from DEHNR and would like to get lawsuit settled as quickly as possible. Mr. Shamdasani told Mayor Warner that he would like to give the lots to the Town and have the Town share with PWC the cost to make the pond conforming. After that, the Town would retain the lots for recreational use.

Town Manager Ellis commented they want us to take the pond over. Town Manager Ellis remarked we should have a response to them by the end of the month.

Item 2.

Town Manager Ellis commented he received a letter on Friday from Brooks Pierce law firm in reference to Palace Sweepstakes Privilege License fees paid in 2012 through 2013, after the increase in 2011. The firm was requesting refunds of the amounts paid and threatened litigation. Consensus of the Board is to have Mr. Morphis ask the NC League of Municipalities about this and then bring back to the Board. Mr. Morphis commented for Mr. Ellis to talk with Steve Lee with the League.

Item 3.

Town Attorney Morphis remarked that he has obtained an estimate from the law firms as they had discussed at a previous meeting. Mr. Morphis commented the amounts they have quoted are higher than he had expected, but the amount to get the started would be \$12,000.00 and requested the Board to authorize them to research the permitting laws and exceptions. Discussion pursued in reference to the need of starting the process prior to meeting with the US Army Corps of Engineers representatives. The consensus of the Board is to have Mayor Warner contact the political representatives to ask for their help in dealing with the US Army Corps of

Engineers. The consensus is to make a motion by the Board to authorize the start of the research process with the new legal firm for the permitting process. Mr. Morphis will give a brief explanation for the need to do this research.

Item 4.

Discussion began concerning the property on Legion Road where the gravesites are located. Mayor Warner commented that the family will need an access to the graveyard and a place to park. The family will need an easement to be able to do this. Discussion pursued among the Board with no action taken.

Mayor Warner closed the session at 11:45 p.m.

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**JACKIE WARNER, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**Melissa P. Adams, MMC Town Clerk**