

**TOWN OF HOPE MILLS
CLOSED SESSION MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015**

Mayor Warner called the Closed Session to order at 9:42 p.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 and NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) to discuss personnel issues.

Mayor Warner suggested that now the election is done, the Board consider using the town email in lieu of the personal ones they have used in the past. This would be helpful in case of FOIA request is made for an email, they can have them printed straight from the server and not have to go through personal emails.

Mayor Warner requested new business cards for the Board with the correct email address for the town and for the Board to use only the town email for all their business communications.

Item 1.

Redacted.

Item 2.

Redacted.

Item 3.

Town Attorney Morphis commented the Palace Sweepstakes Lawsuit has moved forward and requests permission from the Board to start negotiations for a settlement to avoid court costs for the Town. Attorney Morphis commented the total amount over the three years was approximately \$73,000.00.

The consensus of the Board is to authorize Attorney Morphis to start process of seeing if the party will settle but to not make an offer of settlement until approved by Board.

Item 4.

Town Manager Ellis commented that Lowes has a site plan they are submitting since the old plan from 2009 had expired after 2 years. Discussion pursued among the Board in reference to the location and if possibly any issues with things like sidewalks were possible. Town Attorney Morphis commented the old plan has expired and they will have to resubmit their new plan for consideration. The ordinances that are in place at this time for the property will be the guidelines for them in terms of sidewalks.

Item 5.

Commissioner Marley requested additional discussion of the proposed gas station and the closing of the road. Discussion pursued between the Board members and the consensus of the Board was to make a motion at the next Board meeting on December 7, 2015 to close the road to commercial traffic.

Mayor Warner closed the session at 10:27 p.m.

JACKIE WARNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Melissa P. Adams, MMC Town Clerk