

**TOWN OF HOPE MILLS  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018, 5:30 P.M.  
WILLIAM F. "BILL" LUTHER, JR. AND DORIS LUTHER MEETING ROOM**

Mayor Jackie Warner called the special meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 5:40 p.m.

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Jackie Warner, Mayor Pro Tem Mike Mitchell, Commissioners Jessie Bellflowers, Pat Edwards, Meg Larson and Jerry Legge.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Manager Melissa Adams, Interim Town Clerk Deborah Holland, Finance Director Drew Holland and Planning & Development Administrator Chancer McLaughlin. Also present were Robert Van Geons and Teddy Warner of Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation.

The purpose of the special meeting was to conduct an Economic Development Workshop led by the Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation.

**1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP PRESENTATION**

Robert Van Geons, President of Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation presented an overview of his non-profit business that assists in the economic growth and development of Cumberland County by cultivating jobs and growing the non-residential tax base through marketing

Mayor Pro Tem Mitchell inquired of Teddy Warner, Director of Business Development, the types of incentives he'd suggest aside from tax relief to attract businesses to Cumberland County. Mr. Warner responded subsidizing, micro loan pools and various grants are some examples of incentives.

Discussion pursued in regard to formulating a plan for Hope Mills economic growth. Mr. Van Geons remarked the development of an industrial park typically promotes local spending as the companies, their clients and other affiliates stimulate the local economy.

Commissioner Legge requested Mr. Van Geons and Mr. Warner's contact information.

Mayor Pro Tem Mitchell inquired the types of contracts Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation has secured. Mr. Van Geons responded they handle everything from retail expansion to leasing and land purchasing.

Commissioner Bellflowers inquired how the Board and Town may assist Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation to ensure a successful partnership. Mr. Van Geons responded going over a map of the Town limits and sitting down with the Mayor to determine who she knows or who we can network with are good places to start.

Commissioner Bellflowers inquired which areas Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation are currently targeting. Mr. Van Geons responded they are interested in any site that is zoned appropriately with water and sewer.

Mayor Pro Tem Mitchell inquired if Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation has worked with any solar companies. Mr. Van Geons responded they've worked with two solar companies and he has a long history with solar projects.

Mayor Warner remarked the idea being presented is nothing new to Cumberland County but the idea has never been presented to individual municipalities and is a wonderful opportunity for Hope Mills.

**2. ADJOURNMENT.**

Mayor Warner adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

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Jackie Warner, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Deborah Holland, NCCMC  
Interim Town Clerk