

**TOWN OF HOPE MILLS  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020 7:00 P.M.  
BILL LUTHER BOARD MEETING ROOM**

Mayor Jackie Warner called the regular meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Jackie Warner, Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Kenjuana McCray; Commissioners Jessie Bellflowers, Pat Edwards, Jerry Legge and Bryan Marley.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Manager Melissa Adams, Town Clerk Jane Starling, Finance Director Drew Holland, Parks & Recreation Director Lamarco Morrison, Public Works Director Don Sisko, Chief Building Inspector David Ray Reeves, Police Chief Joel Acciaro, Fire Chief Chuck Hodges, Deputy Fire Chief Steve Lopez, Planning & Economic Development Director Chancer McLaughlin and Stormwater Technician Tyler Riddle. Also present was Town Attorney Dan Hartzog, Jr.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The invocation was led by Deacon Pat Snyder of Good Shepherd Catholic Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Jackie Warner.

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS.**

*Motion made by Commissioner Legge, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray and carried unanimously, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of a presentation from the Red Cross as presentations item d.*

**2. PRESENTATIONS.**

- a. Presentation from NC Wildlife Resources Commission representative Kacy Cook, Land Conservation Biologist and Green Growth Toolbox Coordinator.

Ms. Kacy Cook gave a brief overview of the Green Growth Toolbox by aid of PowerPoint presentation. As a Land Conservation Biologist, Ms. Cook's main goal is to conserve the habitats and species that are declining in North Carolina. The Green Growth Toolbox helps bridge the gap between Wildlife Biologists and land use decision makers. Ms. Cook reviewed the benefits, case studies & outcomes, and what the Town can do with the information provided in the Green Growth Toolbox.

- b. National Wear Red Day Proclamation.

Mayor Warner read the proclamation for National Wear Red Day.

## **National Wear Red Day Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, National Wear Red Day is observed annually on the first Friday in February;  
and

**WHEREAS**, Heart disease and stroke kill one in three women; and

**WHEREAS**, Women can take action to protect their heart health and reduce heart disease by preventing and controlling risk factors for the disease, such as; smoking, high blood pressure, overweight/obesity, physical inactivity, age, and various others; and

**WHEREAS**, Women's health remains a priority for families, communities, and governments; and

**WHEREAS**, GoRedForWomen.org is building awareness of women's heart disease risk and empowering them to reduce and prevent heart disease; and

**WHEREAS**, **Women** need to make heart health a priority for themselves, their families, and take action to improve their heart health.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jackie Warner, Mayor of Hope Mills** do hereby proclaim Friday, **February 7, 2020** “Wear Red Day<sup>®</sup>” in the Town of Hope Mills and encourage all citizens to work together to promote and improve the health of women and increase understanding of heart disease.

---

Jackie Warner, Mayor

c. Love the Bus and Bus Driver Appreciation Week Proclamation.

Mayor Warner read the proclamation for Love the Bus and Bus Driver Appreciation Week.

## **Love the Bus and Bus Driver Appreciation Week Proclamation**

**February 10-14, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, every day in North Carolina, over 13,000 school buses carry more than 790,000 students to from school; and

**WHEREAS**, without school buses and school bus drivers, many public school students would not have safe, reliable transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the American School Bus Council’s “Love the Bus” week is celebrated in North Carolina during the week of Valentine’s Day; and

**WHEREAS**, the town of Hope Mills encourages its citizens to “Love the Bus” and to recognize the excellence of our school bus drivers and their good record of safety;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I Jackie Warner, Mayor of the Town of Hope Mills, do hereby proclaim **February 10-14, 2020** as “LOVE THE BUS and SCHOOL BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK” and commend its observance to all Town Citizens, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2020.

---

**JACKIE WARNER, MAYOR**

d. Presentation from Sandhills Chapter of the Red Cross.

Mr. Phil Harris, Executive Director for the Sandhills Chapter of Red Cross, provided information regarding the *Sound the Alarm* event provided by the Red Cross since 2014. This Spring the Red Cross will install 100,000 free smoke alarms nationwide. Mr. Harris expressed interest in working with the Hope Mills Fire Chief to identify high risk areas that may have challenges in purchasing smoke alarms as the Sandhills Chapter plans to install 400 in our area. Mr. Harris requested volunteers from the community and use of the Parks & Recreation building for a rally on Saturday, April 25, 2020.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Ms. Sally Bailey, 5857 Hunting Ridge Road, Hope Mills, NC. Ms. Bailey requested the Town install landscaping on the vacant land of the former Parish House, as well as other improvements, and expressed her concern for the junk cars and boats that have been in her neighborhood for years.

Mr. Ardi Abdolvand, 5443 Fountain Lane, Hope Mills, NC. Mr. Abdolvand gave an overview of his background coming from Iran and making Hope Mills home. Mr. Abdolvand expressed his concern for his family’s treatment and failed attempts to speak with Town officials. Mayor Warner requested Mr. Abdolvand make an appointment with the Town Manager to discuss his concerns.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Consideration of approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2020.
- b. Consideration of approval of Resolution No. 2020-01 Accepting the Report of Unpaid Taxes and Charging the Tax Collector to Advertise the Tax Liens. The delinquencies amount to \$310,619.85.

- c. Consideration of approval of the Purchase of New Pole Camera by the Stormwater Department. This item is currently budgeted the cost is \$17,500.
- d. Consideration of approval of the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.
- e. Consideration of Approval of Travel for Financial Software Conference by Kelli Wall. Cost for attending the conference is estimated to be \$2,274.33. The conference is April 26-29, 2020 in Orlando, Florida and is included in this year's budget.

**“END OF CONSENT AGENDA”**

*Motion made by Commissioner Marley seconded by Commissioner Edwards and carried unanimously, to approve the consent agenda as read.*

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Consideration and Acceptance of the Petition for Annexation of Caliber Collision and Resolution No. 2020-02 Directing the Clerk to Investigate the Sufficiency of the Annexation Petition. This will be annexation number 2020-01 and is a non-contiguous annexation.

*Motion made by Commissioner Legge, seconded by Commissioner Marley and carried unanimously, to approve the petition for annexation No. 2020-01 of Caliber Collision and Resolution No. 2020-02 Directing the Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the Annexation Petition.*

- b. Consideration of Approval to Send a Request for Initial Zoning to Cumberland County. This is related to annexation number 2020-01 Caliber Collision.

Planning & Economic Development Director Chancer McLaughlin commented staff is seeking approval to request the initial zoning of the subject property to the C(P) Planned Commercial district to reflect the zoning classification needed to facilitate the development. Once approved, the request will be forwarded to Cumberland County Planning and Inspections staff to process with the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board for consideration.

*Motion made by Commissioner Marley, seconded by Commissioner Edwards and carried unanimously, to approve sending a request for initial zoning to Cumberland County for annexation number 2020-01 Caliber Collision.*

- c. Discussion of setting a Town Hall Meeting with Trade Street Historic District Property Owners, and NC State Historic Preservation Office. To provide information related to historic preservation rehabilitation tax credits for both owner-occupied residential properties and income-producing properties.

The consensus of the Board was to schedule a Town Hall Meeting with Trade Street Historic District property owners on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. prior to the regular meeting.

## **6. REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS:**

### **a. MANAGER'S REPORT.**

Town Manager Adams provided the following update:

Rockfish Road Sidewalk Project: As previously reported, the estimated start date of the project will be when Rockfish Elementary School is closed for the summer.

Johnson Street Sidewalk Project: PWC has given preliminary approval, CSX has sent comments to McGill for review. Once those items are addressed, updated drawings will be sent to NCDOT.

The Fountain Lane property: Survey has been completed; still awaiting on the mapping to be finalized.

Paving Survey: Kercher presented the preliminary report on the paving conditions to Public Works Staff and myself on January 10<sup>th</sup>. We are in the process of scheduling a presentation by Kercher regarding the report to the Board of Commissioners sometime in March.

Golfview Greenway Driveway: Crawford Design has completed the requested changes by NCDOT. We have requested a copy of the preliminary design for review, along with an estimated cost for the project. We are planning to place this on a future agenda for Board consideration.

Repair to the end of the Bulkhead: In order to address the erosion control issue at the end of the bulkhead and keeping in line with NCDENR and our permit issued by the USACE, rip rap was ordered and is currently being installed by Public Works Staff while the lake level has been lowered for maintenance. The cost was approximately \$3000.00 for materials. The lake level is due to be raised back to normal pool beginning this weekend. This project is scheduled to be completed prior to the lake level returning to normal.

Public Works staff is planning to have an evaluation conducted to assist with the reseeding of the dam this spring.

Thomas Campbell Oakman Memorial Chapel: The new roof and steeple repair are scheduled to begin the week of February 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have had a request from a couple married in the church to use the Chapel for a vow renewal on February 15<sup>th</sup>. The event is expected to include a small number of people. We have given preliminary approval for the event, provided they have handicapped accessible port-a-johns available (State Inspections

requires they be available). They will use the vacant lot next to the Chapel for placement of the port-a-johns and parking.

The Stormwater Department has ordered metal plates for the inlets installed (2016) in the Thomas Campbell Oakman Memorial Chapel parking lot. Until the paving of this lot is completed, we will seal the inlets and cover the holes/remove fencing to make the area more aesthetically pleasing. The drains were installed to accommodate runoff from the planned parking lot in 2014-2015. Since staff had to replace piping in West Patterson Street and that system outfalls through the parking lot, we included the inlets as part of the project to eliminate any erosion issues down the steep embankment. This was a preemptive measure since the Chapel repair design didn't include stormwater features. The inlets and associated drainage are a new system that is completely functional, however the gravel/dirt lot creates a maintenance issue because it can pollute the stream. We have decided to close the system until work has been completed on the future parking lot.

Former Episcopal Parish House – vacant lot: Public Works staff has plans to grade and seed the lot during the spring planting season. I have asked Parks & Recreation Director Lamarco Morrison and Planning & Economic Development Director Chancer McLaughlin (due to their landscaping architecture experience) to work with the Appearance Committee to work on a minimal landscaping design / plan to implement on the vacant lot, until the inclusion of the vacant lot into the Heritage Park Master Plan has been completed and approved; and a PARTF Grant has been submitted.

Timeline on Trade Street Museum: The HVAC condenser has been moved to accommodate the changes to the site plan. Public Works Staff has had no time to work on any other items at this time.

Public Works staff is currently working on the inspections for Street acceptance for Blackbridge Subdivision Phase I.

Update on Temporary Police Station: Work is progressing at a good rate. The dry walls are up and prepped for painting. The ceiling tiles on the rooms that required them are in the process of being installed. The network infrastructure, security cameras and related hardware are pending installation. The electric company will be on site on February 5<sup>th</sup> to install the new meter. The addition of the new outer door and updates to the public restroom for ADA compliance are also pending. Provided that work continues at this pace, the project should be completed by the end of February – first of March.

I have been asked by some of the elected to research a Media Policy for BOC & Committee Members. I have had a discussion with Jane and Attorney Hartzog about coming up with something for the BOC to review and consider. Once we have a proposed policy we will place on a future agenda.

I have been asked by several of the elected about spending protocols for Board approval and Town Manager approval – I am having the Finance Department research this. When we have proposed changes, we will place on a future agenda for Board consideration.

Code Enforcement: Since January 17<sup>th</sup> 55 code violation notices for junk vehicles, public nuisance, weeded lot, zoning violations, abandoned structure, Building Code and minimum housing standards were given out in the following neighborhoods; South Hampton, Fairway Forest, Eaglewood Forest, Friendship, Johnson Street, Bonaire Place, Meadowbrook, Village Green, Oliver Place, behind Lowes, Golf Acres, Kingsmill, Crest Hill, Camelot, Rockfish Woods, Pinewood Lakes, and Fox Meadow. Sign sweeps are being conducted weekly by Code Enforcement.

Economic Development: The Hope Mills Gateway Plan team met on January 24, 2020. The agenda consisted of reviewing the draft of section 1 of the plan, setting a mission statement, and planning out the first public meetings.

#### Special Events and Programs:

Online Registration: Parks and Recreation will go live with the online registration through CivicRec on February 15, 2020. Initially, citizens will be able to register for programs, events and reserve park facilities online. In the Fall of 2020, athletics will be available for online registration.

In celebration of Black History Month, the Parks and Recreation Department is partnering with the Hope Mills Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta, Inc. sorority to host a Black History Month Oratorical Contest (spoken work), on February 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Hope Mills Recreation Center in the Large Activity Room. The contest is open to all high school students grades 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will be awarded \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner \$75 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner \$50. The application must be submitted to a school counselor from January 17 – February 14, 2020. The event is open to the public and free of charge. For more information contact Dr. Tremaine Canteen via email at [drtremainecantee@gmail.com](mailto:drtremainecantee@gmail.com). The flyer for the event has been posted to the Town Administration and P&R Facebook pages.

Athletics and Building Maintenance: The Athletics Division is currently registering for spring sports 2020 through Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>.

Sports offered includes:

Baseball ages 5-14

Softball ages 7-15

Indoor Soccer ages 5-12

Wrestling ages 6-12 (registration ends Thursday February 6 for wrestling as they begin matches in March)

Youth Baseball and Softball: Drafts will take place the first 2 weeks of March. Opening Day for baseball and softball will be Saturday April 4, 2020 at 9:00 am – Brower Park.

Hope Mills will be hosting the following District baseball and softball tournaments in 2020:  
District 6 Dixie Softball Tournament (ages 7-15 – 6 divisions) June 19-21, 2020.  
Dixie Youth Baseball District 11 10U and 12U tournament June 26-30, 2020.

Youth Baseball and Softball: We are currently approaching the halfway point of our 2019/2020 basketball season, having just completed of 3<sup>rd</sup> week of games.

We have the following:

6U instructional camp: 49 participants

8U – 6 teams

10U – 7 teams

12U – 6 teams

14U – 4 teams

17U – 4 teams

I have received notification from the Department of the Army, Special Warfare 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Command (Airborne), that they will be conducting a training exercise in our area from March 2 – March 27, 2020, June 1 – June 26, 2020, and August 10 – September 4, 2020. The Army personnel will wear civilian clothing and will display proper military ID. The training is meant to be nondescript so that they will not be noticed.

*Building Business Rally:* Planning and Economic Development staff along with Public Works staff participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Building Business Rally conducted on Thursday January 30, 2020 at the Ramada Plaza in Fayetteville NC. The event was geared towards providing local contractors and businesses with bidding and contracting opportunities with over 30 entities from the Town of Hope Mills to PWC, City of Fayetteville, FAST, NCDOT, NC Works, and various other agencies. Well over 200+ contractors and business owners attended and was considered a huge success.

I would like to congratulate Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray and Parks & Recreation Director Lamarco Morrison for their recent recognition in the Fayetteville Observer's 20 to watch in 2020. The recognition is well deserved.

Planning and Zoning:

Sign Ordinance: Staff has been in communication with Cumberland County staff regarding the proposed amendment to the Town of Hope Mills Sign Ordinance. The text amendment is set to be considered by the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board on February 18, 2020 and is scheduled to be heard by the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners on March 2, 2020.

Case#20-017: Plan review staff is currently reviewing the first pad tied to the recently approved industrial rezoning. The site was approved for industrial zoning along Corporation Drive by the Town of Hope Mills Board of Commissioners with the developers now moving forward with the first phase of development. The site plan approval application is set to be considered by the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners on February 17, 2020.



Case# P20-09: Conditional zoning request at 4107 S. Main Street from C1(P) to C2(P)/CZ for the development of a Dollar General. Staff has been in communication with the developer with plan review staff currently reviewing the request. This case is set to be considered by the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board on February 18, 2020 and is scheduled to be heard by the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners on March 16, 2020.

b. Reminders.

- February 7, 2020 at 7:30 AM Mayors Coalition @ Parks and Recreation Building.
- February 10, 2020 Chamber Luncheon at 12:30 PM @ Parks and Recreation Building.
- February 11, 2020 Citizens Academy from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM @ Luther Board Meeting Room.
- February 12, 2020 Historic Preservation Commission at 5:00 PM @ Parks and Recreation.
- February 17, 2020, 6:00 PM Mayor's Youth Leadership Council @ Front Conference Room in Town Hall.
- February 17, 2020, 7:00 PM Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting @ Luther Board Meeting Room.
- February 18, 2020 Citizens Academy from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM @ Luther Board Meeting Room.

c. Committee Liaisons update on Committee Activities.

- Commissioner Jessie Bellflowers- Historic Preservation Commission

Commissioner Bellflowers had nothing to report as the Historic Preservation Commission had not yet met.

- Commissioner Pat Edwards- Appearance Committee, Mid-Carolina Council of Government

Ms. Cathy Johnson reported on behalf of Commissioner Edwards. Ms. Johnson commented the Appearance Committee met to discuss a solution to hide the electrical box at the lake and plans for Community day in April.

- Commissioner Jerry Legge - RLUAC (Regional Land Use Appearance Committee)

Commissioner Legge had nothing to report as RLUAC has not yet met.

- Commissioner Bryan Marley-Veterans Affairs

Commissioner Marley commented the Veterans Affairs Committee voted to request the Board solicit bids for the repairs to the Veterans Memorial. Town Manager Adams responded the Public Works Department has been working on the issue. Commissioner Marley commented the Committee also discussed:

- 2019 Veterans Outreach and the 2020 event which will feature caregivers for disabled Veterans.
  - Identifying issues that occurred during the 2019 Veterans Day Ceremony and inspections that will take place prior to the event each year.
  - Helping Lone Survivor Foundation prepare for their grand opening.
  - Purchasing Name plates for Veterans monument.
  - Heroes Homecoming.
- Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray- Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission, Cumberland County Air Quality Stakeholders Committee

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray commented the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee did not formally meet due to lack of quorum but the members that were present discussed:

- \$20,000 in available funds from First Citizens Bank that was donated to the Town many years ago. Parks & Recreation Director Morrison is obtaining quotes to purchase two digital marquees; one for the lake and one in front of the Town Hall.
- Concept C of Heritage Park plan was the most favorable.
- Online registration and rentals for the Parks & Recreation Department.
- Improving Christmas activities and Christmas Parade.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray commented the Air Quality Stakeholders Committee discussed the *Protect the Earth Air Quality Art Contest* and a free public information session regarding electric vehicle charging scheduled for February 6, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the Cliffdale Regional Branch Library.

- Mayor Jackie Warner- Mayor's Youth Leadership Committee, FAMPO TPB (Transportation Policy Board), FCEDC Municipal Advisory Meeting Liaison

Mayor Warner commented the Mayors Youth Leadership Committee will meet in February.

Mayor Warner commented she was elected to serve as Chairman of the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (FAMPO) for the next two years. FAMPO discussed the early opening of the Highway 59 bridge and projects for 2022 that will move forward earlier than anticipated.

**7. STAFF COMMENTS.** None.

**8. OFFICIAL COMMENTS.**

Commissioner Legge congratulated Mayor Warner on her appointment as Chairman for the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (FAMPO).

**9. CLOSED SESSION:**

- a. Closed Session called pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) to discuss a personnel matter.

*Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray, seconded by Commissioner Marley and carried unanimously, to conduct a closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss a personnel matter.*

Mayor Warner instructed the Board to assemble in the Front Conference Room at 8:13 p.m.

At 9:59 p.m. Mayor Warner called the regular meeting back to order.

*Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. McCray, seconded by and carried unanimously, to seal the minutes of the closed session until such time as the release of the information would no longer frustrate the purpose of the closed session and further no action was taken.*

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

*Motion made by Commissioner Bellflowers, seconded by Commissioner Edwards and carried unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.*

Mayor Warner adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

---

Jackie Warner, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Jane G. Starling, CMC, NCCMC  
Town Clerk