

Regular Meeting – July 20, 2010

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Wayland Lennon, III, Wade Sealey, and Charles Townsend. Commissioner Perry Ashley was out of town and participated by telephone. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Town Attorney Robert Price. Others in attendance included John Charles Robbins and Patricia Sealey.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Town Manager Blake Proctor asked the board to add “Order to Collect Taxes” under Unfinished Business, Item C and to table “Resolution 10-6 – Disposition of Surplus Vehicles by Public Auction” under New Business, Item D. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Townsend, and seconded by Commissioner Sealey, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Budget Workshop, June 8, 2010, Budget Workshop, June 10, 2010, Regular Meeting, June 15, 2010, Budget Workshop, June 22, 2010 and Special Meeting, June 29, 2010.

Old Business

Ordinance 10-136 – FY 2010-2011 Budget, second reading required due to typographical error

The Local Government Commission caught a typo in the Budget Ordinance for FY 2010-2011 and requested the board vote to adopt the corrected budget. After a second reading to correct a typographical error, Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 10-136 - Fiscal Year Budget 2010-2011 in the amount of \$3,822,092.29. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the corrected 2010-2011 budget ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Update on sewer line project.

Town Manager Blake Proctor presented the following report from Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates on the sewer system rehabilitation project:

“System Deficiencies

The collection system serving the Town of Fairmont is made up of aging components that have multiple defects and failures. These defects and failures are illustrated by excessive inflow and infiltration (I/I) of precipitation and groundwater into the collection system and the regular need to repair pipe collapses and clear blockages from root intrusions into the system.

I/I in the Town of Fairmont collection system was calculated to be approximately 3,722 gallons per day per inch mile (GPDim). This amount of I/I is above the amount that is considered non-excessive. I/I increases operational costs and will limit the ability of the Town to accept flow from other municipalities at the Town's regional WWTP. Additionally, I/I presents a continual risk for sewer overflows that could have significant impacts to the environment and personal property.

Improvement Needs

The scope of the needed improvements was determined based upon system inspections, smoke testing, construction material, soil & groundwater characteristics, and input from Fairmont sewer system maintenance staff. Wastewater flow records show that I/I is highest between December and February somewhat independent of rainfall. This situation corresponds to seasonal high groundwater characteristics of soils throughout the collection system area. As such, the portions of the collection system that are installed in soils with high seasonal groundwater characteristics were considered for rehabilitation or replacement in the proposed project. Pipeline and manhole materials; as well as observed defects noted during manhole and inspections, also were used in the determination of the proposed project scope. The portions of the collection system given the highest priority for repairs were those with concrete or VCP piping, block or brick manholes and areas where I/I was observed to be entering the system. It was determined that a total of approximately 35,000 lf of gravity sewers with manholes are in need of repair and replacement.

The preferred project would include installation of new sewers in place of or parallel to existing mains as well as repair of existing sewers with cured in place pipe lining. Generally, replacement of failing sewers is the most effective way to reduce I/I. As such, the failing sewers will be replaced with new piping where possible and lined when excavation would be too disruptive or result in excessive cost. The estimated cost of the needed improvements totals approximately \$4,000,000.

Recommended Project

The needed improvements were divided into two phases in order to make construction costs more manageable. Phase 1 of the proposed sewer system rehabilitation project includes the repair or replacement of approximately 15,000 lf of the Town's gravity collection system. The project will also include the replacement of the aerial gravity line along Dogwood Drive and improvements to the storm water collection system to eliminate a small section of combined sewer. The estimated cost of the phase 1 project totals approximately \$2,000,000.

Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates, P.A. recommends that the Town of Fairmont submit the proposed project to USDA - Rural Development for loan and grant consideration. A Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and Environmental Assessment (EA) will need to be completed for the funding application. The PER has been completed and we are moving forward with the EA.”

Mr. Proctor predicts the town will be eligible for a 75% grant/25% loan from USDA Rural Development with annual debt service payment of \$23,102 over a 38 year term. The recent increase in sewer fees will cover the project costs as well as provide for a contingency fund balance in the sewer fund. The next step is preparing the grant request paperwork. Mayor Kemp was under the impression that the \$2.00 sewer fee increase was for savings only not operations and capital improvement. Commissioner McCree asked if we would have to go back to the citizens for more money if there is a worst case scenario and we do not get the 75% grant. Mr. Proctor replied affirmatively but stated that it could take 3 to 4 years before ground is broken on the sewer line replacement project and by that time the sewer fund should have a good fund balance. It was the consensus of the board for Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates to continue forward with the grant request for the sewer line rehabilitation project.

(The meeting was briefly suspended so Commissioner Ashley could switch phones due to a dead battery.)

Order to Collect Taxes.

Town Attorney Robert Price asked that the board specifically adopt the order to collect taxes for 2009 and 2010. The resolution adopted at the June meeting sets up the procedure to collect taxes that must be followed annually. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt the orders to collect taxes for 2009 and 2010. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the orders are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

New Business

Discussion of Flood Control.

Mr. Proctor gave the board an update on flood control and drainage issues at the request of Commissioner Lennon. Mr. Proctor stated that representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers visited the Old Field canal at the request of U.S. Representative Mike McIntyre back in February 2010. However, no report of their findings was ever given to the town. Mr. Proctor received an estimate of \$120,000 to clean out the canal starting at the bridge on NC Highway 130 Bypass and ending at the bridge on NC Highway 41 North. The town cannot afford to do this type of drainage work without federal funds. Mr. Proctor is keeping Mr. Tony Mackie at the Fairmont Golf Course apprised of the drainage situation since the Old Field Swamp runs through the golf course. There is a major beaver problem in the area and the town has spent over \$7,000 trying to bust dams and eradicate the beavers. Mr. Proctor plans to contact USDA and Congressman McIntyre’s office for assistance. Mayor Kemp requested that Mr. Proctor give a progress report to the board at the September meeting.

Statewide Interlocal Utility Mutual Aid Agreement.

Mr. Proctor presented a proposed statewide interlocal utility mutual aid agreement from the NCLM and NC Water WARN. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt the North Carolina Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement for Water and Wastewater Utilities. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the agreement is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 10-137 – Fairmont Code of Ethics.

Mr. Proctor read the title of Ordinance 10-137, Fairmont Code of Ethics. This ordinance is required by state law. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to adopt Ordinance 10-137, Fairmont Code of Ethics. Commissioner Lennon seconded the motion and passed unanimously. A signed copy of the ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Resolution 10-6 – Disposition of Surplus Vehicles by Public Auction.

This item was tabled because the new police cars have not arrived yet.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp is working with Town Attorney Rob Price to obtain the old Head Start building through the Robeson County Tax Office.

Mayor Kemp stated that four brown historic district gateway signs will be erected soon. He is still waiting for word on the I-95 signs.

Mayor Kemp announced that National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 3 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. D.A. Johnson Britt will be the guest speaker and Val Humphrey will perform.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner McCree suggested the town do a better job of removing decals from surplus vehicles before they are sold. The recently sold rollback still has town decals on it.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie asked about the old YO! building on Main Street. Mr. Proctor had talked to the owner, Archie Jarrell, about donating it to the town. However, the appraised value was \$70,000 and the tax value is \$139,000 and Mr. Jarrell would not give the building to the town for a \$70,000 tax write off. Mr. Proctor added that the building has been broken into and the air conditioner and copper stolen.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor announced that Town Clerk Jenny Larson will be in Asheville on August 12-14 for the North Carolina Association of Municipal Clerks Summer Academy. She will be sworn in for her second term as District 7 Director on the North Carolina Association of Municipal Clerks Board of Directors. District 7 includes Robeson, Cumberland, Hoke, Scotland, Moore, Lee and Harnett Counties.

Announcements

Mondays and Thursdays - Jazzercise classes taught by Resa Pittman, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Fire Hall, Cost \$15.00 a month.

Thursday, July 22 - Children's Movie - The Princess and the Frog, 11:00 a.m., Heritage Center, FREE. Sponsored by the Robeson County Public Library.

Friday, July 23 and Saturday, July 24 - "V Train" variety show hosted by Val Humphrey at the Carolina Civic Center, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 29 - Children's Story/Craft/Games, 11:00 a.m., Heritage Center, FREE. Sponsored by the Robeson County Public Library.

Tuesday, August 3 - National Night Out, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Heritage Center. Guest Speaker is Robeson County D.A. Johnson Britt.

Thursday, August 5 - Children's Movie - Surf's Up, 11:00 a.m., Heritage Center, FREE. Sponsored by the Robeson County Public Library.

Saturday, August 7 - Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, August 10 - NCDMV Mobile Driver's License Unit, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot.

Thursday, August 12 - Children's End of Summer Pirate Party, 11:00 a.m., Heritage Center, FREE. Sponsored by the Robeson County Public Library.

Tuesday, August 17 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Wednesday, August 25 - First Day of School.

Every Saturday – Flea Market, Museum Grounds starting at 7:00 a.m. (No Fee).

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – August 17, 2010

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, August 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Perry Ashley, Wade Sealey, and Charles Townsend. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was out of town on business and participated by telephone. Commissioner Carol Leak-McKenzie was out of town due to a personal, family matter and could not participate by telephone. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Finance Director Linda Vause, Major David Windom and Town Attorney Robert Price. Others in attendance included John Charles Robbins and Corey Barton.

Public Hearing – Water Shortage Management Ordinance

The public hearing opened at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing is to discuss the revised Water Shortage Management Ordinance. Town Manager Blake Proctor stated a drought ordinance was required by the state after the drought in 2007 as an effort to prevent water shortage problems. DENR reviewed the town's ordinance and said the penalties were not strong enough. Mr. Proctor and Town Attorney Rob Price revised the ordinance to include the stronger penalties recommended by the state for violations during a water shortage emergency. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed at 6:13 p.m.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:13p.m. and gave the invocation.

Mayor's Presentation

Mayor Kemp recognized Fairmont High graduate Corey Barton for receiving several scholarships including the prestigious DeMayo Law Firm scholarship. Mr. Barton will be attending George Washington University.

Fairmont High School Principal Jason Suggs talked about the upcoming school year. He announced that open house will be August 23 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and that the Booster Club Bonanza will be at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Townsend, and seconded by Commissioner Sealey, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, July 20, 2010.

Town Manager Blake Proctor asked the board to amend the minutes to change the word “canal” on page 3 to “Old Field Swamp.” Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt the July 20, 2010 minutes with the word “canal” changed to “Old Field Swamp” on page 3. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

Ordinance 10-138 – Water Shortage Management

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 10-138 – Water Shortage Management. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the signed ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Resolution 10-7 – Approving Water Shortage Response Plan

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 10-7 – Approving Water Shortage Response Plan. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of signed resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

New Business

Resolution 10-6 – Support of North Carolina’s Current Public Alcoholic Beverage Control System.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that the state wants to privatize the ABC stores. The resolution is for support of the current ABC system. Commissioner McCree asked if the town would still get revenue if the ABC system is private. Commissioner Sealey said the revenue would be less than what it is now. Commissioner Townsend asked if we could make up the difference in revenue through privilege license taxes. Town Attorney Rob Price said the state would establish a privilege license tax if the ABC system is privatized. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 10-6 – Support of North Carolina’s Current Public Alcoholic Beverage Control System. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of signed resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

ABC permit for Cielito Mexican Restaurant.

Mr. Blake Proctor informed the board that the Planning Board approved the ABC permit for Cielito Mexican Restaurant. Mr. Hilario Ramos is the new owner of the restaurant. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve the ABC permit for Cielito Mexican Restaurant. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bid for Callahan TV Building.

Mr. Proctor received a bid from Mr. Phillip R. Wall and Mrs. Helene T. Wall in the amount of \$500.00 for the property located at 311 South Main Street (previously known at the Callahan TV Building). The Walls plan to renovate the property and open a restaurant next door. Mr. Proctor asked the board to use the bid/upset bid process for this property. If the board approves the sale of the property to the Walls for \$500, it will then be advertised for 10 days and if there is no upset bid, it will come back to the board for final approval and sale. Commissioner McCree said a time limit needs to be imposed on when the building should be brought up to code. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to accept the \$500 bid from the Walls for the Old Callahan TV building with a 10% earnest bid, to start the bid/upset bid process, that upon final sale the funds for the property are paid with 15-30 days by certified check and that the property be renovated and brought up to code within 18 months. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Town Attorney Rob Price said if the Walls accept these terms, the town will advertise for upset bids with the terms stipulated.

Discussion/decision on closeout of the Bonaventure Project.

Mr. Proctor went over the long history of the failed Bonaventure Project.

“As you are aware, the Bonaventure Project – or Bon-misadventure, as it were – has been a thorn in the side of the Town almost since its inception in 2001. This project has been an albatross around the Town’s neck since it turned sour in 2003, after the developer defaulted on the loans.

BACKGROUND

Following the devastation caused by hurricane Floyd in 1999, the State granted the Town \$210,000 through the NC Redevelopment Center (NCRC) to provide the infrastructure for a development that was planned to be constructed as housing for victims of the hurricane; the Housing Assistance Council (HAC) out of Washington, DC lent \$261,816 to the developer, Durham Regional Finance Center (DRFC), to build twenty-one homes for these victims; this amount was later adjusted \$304,451 to account for accrued and unpaid interest.

It is unclear whether the Town approached DRFC to be the developer or if DRFC broached the idea with the Town. Be that as is may, DRFC became the project developer and in 2002, 11.8 acres were acquired on South Main Street, just north of the NC130 Bypass intersection with \$75,000 of the HAC money. The money provided by the State went to the Town to install water lines, fire hydrants, sewer and storm water mains, and streets; all but the streets were completed; the Town had spent \$127,434 of the funds provided by NCRC..

The housing development was to be completely built out by September, 2003; however, while the Town had done its part by building the infrastructure, there had been no progress towards building the houses by June 30, 2003, and shortly thereafter, DRFC went into default.

The developer, initially breached its contract with HAC in April, 2003, when, without permission of the lender, they entered into an agreement with Edmonds Community Development Group LLC (ECDG) of Durham and New York, whereby DRFC transferred title of the property to an entity called Bonaventure Development Collective, a partnership with a 99% interest by ECDG and a 1% interest by DRFC. This was illegal because HAC held an interest in the property as collateral for their loan. Finally, after getting no satisfaction for over a year, the HAC in late 2005, foreclosed on the property itself.

I came upon the scene in July, 2006 and soon thereafter met with representatives of the NCRC in an attempt to kick-start the project. At that time, as it is now, it was NCRC's stated view that unless the Town could find a developer for the property and have it quickly developed, we would be liable for the recapture of State funds. In the interim, I had had two prospects for development, but who both backed out due to the violent recession that has since ensued. NCRC, evidently still believing that a deal could be struck, continued to push the Town. There was, however, neither funds nor outside interest – from developers or hurricane Floyd "victims" – for continuation of this project.

The problem from the Town's perspective actually began when, evidently without approval from the Board of Commissioners, Ben Hill – the Town Manager at the time – waived the performance bond requirement with DRFC. With the performance bond, the Town was held harmless for any default by the developer, and monies owed the State would have been paid from the bond; however, once the Town waived the bond, it made itself the guarantor for performance. This is why we now owe the money to the NCRC.

FINANCIAL SOLUTION

By mid 2005, former Interim Town Manager Katrina Tatum had talked NCRC into cutting the State's recapture (the amount owed by and to be reimbursed by the Town) to 50% of the drawn down amount, from \$127,434 to \$63,717. In the four years I have dealt with this problem, I have gotten NCRC to lower the recapture amount to 15% of the adjusted total (14.3% of the unadjusted total), or \$18,204.

While lobbying to have the recapture percent lowered, I have concurrently been attempting to stave off the State's desire for recapture so that we might restart the project; however, at this point in time and in this economic climate, the Town has run out of alternatives. In addition, it has been eleven years since Hurricane Floyd, and the likelihood of finding Floyd flood victims needing housing as stipulated in the grant are nil.

Therefore, the Town must now pay the piper so to speak. It is much better to owe \$18,204 than the original \$127,434. The Town has those moneys available in the RBEG Economic Development Fund; and, inasmuch as the Bonaventure Project was designed to be an economic development project as well as a flood relief project, these funds are available to pay off the recapture amount.

The RBEG Fund has an annual income ranging from \$24,000 to \$28,000 from loan repayments, and has a current Fund Balance of \$84,942. My recommendation is that we initially take the \$18,204 out of the \$24,168 already budgeted for business loans. Should we need to make a loan beyond the \$5,964 that will be left over we can then amend the budget for the use of Fund Balance."

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to closeout the Bonaventure Project by repaying the State of North Carolina \$18,204, with the funds coming from the RBEG fund. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced the dedication for the Fairmont Development Corporation Pavilion in the Pines will be Thursday, September 23 at 5:00 p.m. There will be a free concert by Gold Rush.

Mayor Kemp announced Super Dollar Plus Hair Accessories has opened for business at 300 South Main Street.

Mayor Kemp stated that Town Clerk Jenny Larson was recently sworn in as District 7 Director on the North Carolina Association of Municipal Clerks board of directors.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Lennon asked that all publicity for the new pavilion include the words “Fairmont Development Corporation.”

Commissioner Lennon would like communication with Mr. Tony Mackey on the flood issues at the golf course to be more frequent.

Commissioner Lennon stated that his job will require him to be away on business with more frequency in the upcoming year. He requested Mr. Proctor to review the ordinance on participating by telephone to allow more than one commissioner to attend the same meeting by telephone and to increase the number of times allowed per year from three to four.

Commissioner Ashley commended the police department.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor also praised the police department stating the new, young officers are very motivated.

Announcements

Mondays and Thursdays - Jazzercise classes taught by Resa Pittman, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Fire Hall, Cost \$15.00 a month.

Friday, August 20 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Grays Creek (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 24 - Rosenwald Elementary School Open House, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 25 - First Day of School.

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Friday, August 27 - Fairmont High School Football vs. North Brunswick(AWAY), 7:30 p.m.

Friday, September 3 - Fairmont High School Football vs. West Bladen (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 4 - Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Monday, September 6 - Schools and Town Offices closed in observance of Labor Day.

Monday, September 6 - Old Timey Labor Day Sidewalk Sale, 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Main Street.

Friday, September 10 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Lake View (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 13 - Fairmont Chamber of Commerce, 6:00 p.m., Border Belt Museum and Welcome Center.

Tuesday, September 14 – NCDMV Driver’s License Mobile Unit, 10:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot.

Thursday, September 16 - Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Site TBA.

Friday, September 17 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Trask (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 21 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Friday, September 24 - Fairmont High School Football vs. East Bladen (AWAY), 7:30 p.m.

Every Saturday – Flea Market, Museum Grounds starting at 7:00 a.m. (No Fee).

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – September 21, 2010

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wayland Lennon, III, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Wade Sealey, and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Finance Director Linda Vause, Public Safety Director Danny Parker, Recreation Director Mickey Williamson and Town Attorney Robert Price. Others in attendance included John Charles Robbins, Rev. Rich Denning and Patricia Sealey.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order. Rev. Rich Denning, pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Leak-McKenzie, and seconded by Commissioner Sealey, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, August 17, 2010.

Old Business

Old Field Swamp update

Town Manager Blake Proctor updated the board on the Old Field Swamp drainage problems. He went over a letter from Mr. Sonny Moore on the beaver/drainage problem. The estimate to clean out one side of the swamp is \$120,000. Mr. Proctor plans to meet with Mr. Tony McEwen of Representative Mike McIntyre's office tomorrow to discuss the possibility of getting \$250,000 in stimulus grant money to clean both sides of the swamp.

Sale of 311 South Main Street – Old Callahan TV building.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that the property located at 311 South Main Street, formerly known as the Old Callahan TV building was advertised for upset bids on September 1, 2010. There were no upset bids and the Walls have accepted the terms for the property. Mr. Proctor stated he advertised the property before getting the Walls to

agree to the board's conditions. Town Attorney Rob Price stated he left the property conditions out of the advertisement in error. Mr. Price said the Walls need to be told that the property has to be up to code within 18 months. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to sell 311 South Main Street, formerly known as the Old Callahan TV building, to Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Wall for \$500 upon the condition that the funds for the property being paid within 15-30 days by certified check and that the property be renovated and brought up to code within 18 months. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Ordinance 10-139 – Amending Telephonic Meeting Attendance.

Commissioner Lennon requested the words “except that a personal emergency shall take precedence over a business trip” be removed from (D) in Section 30.05. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie felt that a personal emergency should take precedence over a planned trip. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 10-139 – Amending Telephonic Meeting Attendance with the deletion of the words “except that a personal emergency shall take precedence over a business trip” from (D) in Section 30.05. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed on first reading with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

For: Commissioners Lennon, Sealey, Ashley and Mayor Kemp
Against: Commissioners McCree, Townsend and Leak-McKenzie

The ordinance will be brought back to the board in October for a second and final reading.

Ordinance 10-140 – Establishing H-D Historic Downtown Business District.

Mr. Proctor read the long title of Ordinance 10-140 – Establishing H-D Historic Downtown Business District. He stated that there was no quorum at the Planning Board meeting last week but those present were in favor of the ordinance. Commissioner Sealey suggested adding “Agricultural supply” under the list of permitted uses. Town Attorney Rob Price said he had some suggested changes as well. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to table Ordinance 10-140 – Establishing H-D Historic Downtown Business District and return it to the Planning Board for further review with possible adoption at the October board meeting. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Language Access Plan

Mr. Proctor explained that a Language Access Plan is required under the new CDBG requirements. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to adopt the Language Access Plan. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp read a proclamation honoring all Fairmont town employees and volunteers. This proclamation was read to the employees at a luncheon in their honor held last Wednesday at the Heritage Center. A copy of this signed proclamation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Kemp read a proclamation honoring the Dean of Fairmont pastors, Dr. W.C. Marable, pastor of Start of Bethlehem Baptist Church, for his 26 years of service. A copy of this signed proclamation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Kemp announced that the RCMA meeting will be Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Pauls.

Mayor Kemp reminded the board that the dedication for the Fairmont Development Corporation Pavilion in the Pines will be Thursday, September 23 at 5:00 p.m. There will be a free concert by Gold Rush.

Mayor Kemp asked Mr. Proctor to add discussion of abandoned/unkempt residential areas to the October meeting.

Mayor Kemp announced that the U.S. Army Black Daggers parachute team will perform a H.A.L.O. jump into the Fairmont Community Park at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 16 just before the Farmers Festival parade at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Sealey announced that a farewell reception for Rev. and Mrs. Len Bergman will be held on Sunday, September 26 at 5:00 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church. The Bergmans are retiring and leaving town.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor announced that his birthday is October 20 and that he will be taking vacation days on October 20, 21 and 22. Finance Director Linda Vause will be the acting town manager in his absence.

Announcements

Saturday, September 18 - Saturday, October 2 - Fall Clean and Green, Littersweep weeks. Citizens can put big, bulky items on the curb for free pick-up by the Public Works Department. For more information, call Public Works at 628-0064.

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Wednesday, September 22 - Alamac American Knits Job Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Town Hall Courtroom.

Thursday, September 23 - Fairmont Development Corporation Pavilion in the Pines Dedication and Gold Rush Concert, 5:00 p.m. until dark, Fairmont Community Park. There will be a train, bounce houses and food.

Saturday, September 25 - Baltimore Baptist Church Women on Mission's annual Fall Festival, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A BBQ plate sale will be held from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., eat in or take out. Tickets are \$6.00 each.

Saturday, October 2 - Senior Citizens Fall Cookout and Bingo at Luther Britt Park in Lumberton, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 2 – South Robeson Rescue “Fun Day for Kids,” 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. featuring kids games, bounce houses and a concert by Gold Rush.

Saturday, October 9 - Fairmont Farmers Festival Scholarship Pageant, 3:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., E.R. Gause Auditorium at Rosenwald Elementary School.

Monday, October 11 - Chamber of Commerce meeting, 6:00 p.m., Border Belt Museum.

Friday, October 15 - Fairmont High School Football vs. West Columbus (HOME), 7:30 p.m. HOMECOMING PARADE at 4:00 p.m.

Friday, October 15 - 3rd Annual Fairmont Chamber of Commerce Farmers Festival Golf Tournament, 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start, Fairmont Golf Club. \$60.00 per player or \$240 per team. The Carolina Breakers will be giving a free concert after the tournament from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 16 - Fairmont Farmers Festival - parade at 10:00 a.m. and dance featuring the Pizazz Band at the Southeastern NC Agricultural Center begins at 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 16 and Sunday, October 17 - "Raid on Ashpole" Civil War battle re-enactment sponsored by Harrington Light Artillery, Fairmont Community Park, 2:00 p.m.

Every Saturday – Flea Market, Museum Grounds starting at 7:00 a.m. (No Fee).

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – October 19, 2010

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wayland Lennon, III, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Wade Sealey, and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Safety Director Danny Parker, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, and Town Attorney Robert Price. Others in attendance included the newly crowned Farmers Festival queens, their parents, Peggy Spencer, Cindy Stidwell, Stanley McNair, Mary Darby, John Charles Robbins and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Mayor's Presentation - Introduction of 2010-2011 Fairmont Farmers Festival Queens.

Mayor Kemp introduced the 2010-2011 Fairmont Farmers Festival Queens. They are Royal Ambassador Tristen Rich, Ambassador Madilyn Mayers, Mini Ambassador Natalee Britt, Miss Ashton Hunt, Teen Miss Katelon Floyd, Junior Miss Yasmon Carter, Tiny Miss Rachel Sealy, Little Miss Ruby Parker and Wee Miss Chloe Locklear.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Peggy Spencer – Animal ordinance enforcement

Ms. Peggy Spencer, of 600 East Gertrude Street, asked the board to enforce the animal ordinance for the safety of the citizens. She has been chased by a dog in her own yard and had to clean dog and cat poop off her shoes. She pointed out that the animal ordinance only allows a resident to own up to 3 animals but some of her neighbors have between 5 and 7. She asked the board to consider making changes to the current animal ordinance.

Cindy Stidwell – Office of Prevention in Raleigh, alcohol fatalities

Ms. Cindy Stidwell, with the Office of Prevention in Raleigh, is working with Palmer Prevention and the law enforcement agencies of Robeson County to decrease alcohol related fatalities. Robeson County has the highest alcohol fatality rate in the state. She invited the board to attend the first annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Banquet at UNC Pembroke on Friday, November 5 at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Stidwell also invited the board to the 13th Annual Red Ribbon Luncheon at the Southeastern NC Agricultural Center on Thursday, October 28 at 12:00 noon.

Stanley McNair – Library restrooms

Mr. Stanley McNair, of 205 Trinity Street, asked the board to look into opening the restrooms at the library for public use. The restrooms have been closed to the public because of vandalism in the past.

Consent Agenda

Town Attorney Rob Price asked that the words “passed on first reading” be added to the motion adopting Ordinance 10-139. Mr. Price also asked that the words “and with” be struck and changed to “upon the condition that” under the motion for selling the Old Callahan TV building. Upon motion by Commissioner Townsend, and seconded by Commissioner Sealey, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item as amended:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, September 21, 2010.

Old Business

Teleconference with Phillip Wall regarding purchase of 311 South Main Street.

A teleconference was held with Mr. Phillip Wall, regarding the purchase of 311 South Main Street. Mr. Wall plans to completely gut the Old Callahan TV building and leave the walls. The space will be used for outdoor dining. If his engineer approves, he plans to remove the glass in the front wall and replace it with wrought iron. Mr. Wall has no problems with the 18 month timeframe to clean out the property.

Ordinance 10-139 – Amending Telephonic Meeting Attendance.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 10-139 – Amending Telephonic Meeting Attendance as presented for second reading. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it was adopted with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

For: Commissioners Lennon, Sealey, Ashley and Mayor Kemp
Against: Commissioners McCree, Townsend and Leak-McKenzie

A signed copy of this ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 10-140 – Establishing H-D Historic Downtown Business District.

Town Manager Blake Proctor gave the board the corrected version of Ordinance 10-140. He mistakenly printed the wrong one for the agenda packets. Mr. Price said there were no changes of substance in the corrected version except for Item (E), which was rewritten to make it consistent with existing code. Mr. Proctor announced that the Planning Board unanimously approved the Historic Downtown Business District. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 10-140 – Establishing H-D Historic Downtown Business District. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of this ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

New Business

Resolution 10-8 – Authorizing the Advertisement for Sealed Bids for the Sale of Certain Property.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that Public Works wishes to declare a 1987 Dodge Ram and a 1995 Jeep Cherokee as surplus property. Both vehicles are in fair to poor condition. Commissioner McCree asked that all town decals be removed from the vehicles prior to sale. Mr. Proctor explained the difference between selling two vehicles under sealed bid and selling six under public auction. He stated that town employees wanted to bid on the two public works vehicles and it is easier for them to purchase under sealed bid. However, the town can get more money for the vehicles under public auction. Mr. Price asked that the line “the board reserves the right to reject all bids” be stricken from the resolution. Commissioner McCree suggested using only one form of disposing property in the future. Commissioner Sealey added using an auction company like Lloyd Meekins could increase the final bid price. Commissioner McCree asked Mr. Proctor to report back to the board on which process works best. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to adopt Resolution 10-8 – Authorizing the Advertisement for Sealed Bids for the Sale of Certain Property as amended. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of this resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Resolution 10-9 – Authorizing the Sale of Certain Personal Property at Public Auction.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that the Police Department wishes to declare six old police cars, ranging in model year from 1996 to 2004, as surplus property. The cars are in fair to poor condition. Mr. Price asked that the words “for each vehicle” be added after “The highest bid” under section 4 of the resolution. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to Resolution 10-9 – Authorizing the Sale of Certain Personal Property at Public Auction as amended. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of this resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Request for Taxi Permit – Professional Taxi & Shuttle Service, Lumberton, NC.

Ms. Mary Darby, of Professional Taxi & Shuttle Services, asked the board to approve her taxi cab permit. The company already operates in Lumberton, Pembroke and Red Springs. They plan to have a handicap accessible vehicle by 2011. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve a Request for Taxi Permit – Professional Taxi & Shuttle Service, Lumberton, NC. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Retail Beer/Wine Permit for Dollar General.

Mr. Proctor stated that the Planning Board recommended approval of the Retail Beer/Wine permit for Dollar General. Commissioner McCree made a motion to approve a Retail Beer/Wine Permit for Dollar General. Commissioner Lennon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Residential Neighborhood Appearance.

Mayor Kemp asked for discussion on addressing the neglected portions of our residential areas. His main concern is several dilapidated structures that are eyesores in the community. Mr. Proctor reported that 900 Iona Street is currently being demolished after being vacant following a fire five years ago. Mr. Proctor is using the town codes and foreclosure procedures on several properties. The problem is the town does not have the funds to remove the deteriorating properties. Commissioner McCree asked about using a “control burn” to remove the old properties. Mr. Proctor explained the County Fire Marshal would not approve of this method because of asbestos. Commissioner Sealey suggested contractors who would take down the property for the wood and brick. Mayor Kemp asked Mr. Proctor and Mr. Price to review the current ordinances on dilapidated structures and bring back any changes to the November meeting. Commissioner Lennon advised the Mayor to use a personal, diplomatic approach and contact the owners of the problem properties. Commissioner Ashley proposed identifying at risk properties and involving church and community groups to repair them before they fall apart.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp thanked Chief Danny Parker, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Town Clerk Jenny Larson and all the town employees for their help with the Fairmont Farmers Festival.

Mayor Kemp announced that Robeson County will host the RCMA meeting on Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Workforce Development building at Robeson Community College.

Mayor Kemp made the following statement on CDBG rental policies:

“Recently, I received a voice mail at home from a citizen regarding several matters of concern. One was regarding the sewer situation in the old field neighborhood during heavy rains and the other was the current CDBG project. I returned the call and we spoke for some time. I offered an explanation on the sewer problem and the remedy we are seeking for the future. As to the other inquiry that was made I did not have an answer but promised one. It was the question to me of why a person who owned a house in the grant area which was rental property could raise the rent after completion of the rehab work. I told the citizen, based upon my prior knowledge of CDBG grants that this could not happen. Our conversation ended on a pleasant note.

Fast forward a couple of days. Our manager received a telephone call from a citizen which I overheard who apparently lived in a rental house which was being rehabbed in the CDBG area and asked him why the rent was being raised. Upon further conversation the manager informed the renter that could not be done but he’d check with The Wooten Company to verify. I told him of my conversation with a separate caller and now we both wanted to know.

He called The Wooten Company and spoke with a specialist who said that an owner of rental property could raise rent under a schedule. After hearing this I called the caller back and stated that I have offered misleading info unknowingly. Then came the bombshell, I was asked why the rent could be raised. I still haven’t been able to arrive or determine an answer for this citizen which would make sense to them so at this date I haven’t called back.

Ladies and gentlemen of the board, I have served on this board since December of 1977 and have participated in every vote on CDBG projects until I was elected mayor in 2005 (28 years). I’ve voted for every one of them and accepted the briefings given by various managers and engineering firms just as you have but tonight I must speak out regarding an apparent provision in CDBG grants. I am opposed to the provision in CDBG grants which allow an owner who rents out their property receiving rehab work on such grants to raise rent to their renters. In the first place the owner has no expenses in the rehab and pockets all the rent let’s say several hundred dollars per month for a year or more.

Why should the money for that and other similar properties be earmarked for rental property and not for additional owner occupied dwellings? Let the owners use their rent money to rehab their own property. That’s the way the free enterprise system is supposed to work. If this provision did not exist other owner occupied houses could be rehabbed and the total number of houses rehabbed could be extended.

I have sent a very long email to congressman mike McIntyre which I’ll provide you now expressing my concern and stating my opposition. As of this date I have had no response from him but I’m sure he’s rather busy right now. I will speak to him at some point and will repeat what I have said in the email asking him to not support the CDBG provision relating to rental property rehab in future CDBG grants. I will follow and monitor each CDBG grant which we apply for in the future very carefully and you have my public promise to verbally not support such a provision. Should a CDBG grant with such a provision end in a tie vote while I hold the office of mayor I promise you all I will cast the tie breaking vote in opposition to it. I wish to also state that I will not sign any CDBG paperwork on any rental house set to be rehabbed in any future CDBG grant. I feel that strongly about this issue.

Right is right and fair is fair and in no way does this CDBG provision offer full fairness or equity to owner occupied dwellers in a potential rehab neighborhood.”

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Ashley thanked Vertical Church for helping the Public Works Department clean up after Farmers Festival.

Commissioner Ashley asked for a review of the animal ordinance since there are several sections in it that the town cannot and does not enforce.

Commissioner Ashley asked for an update to the sewer line rehab project to be presented at the November board meeting.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie thanked the board for their kind gestures and beautiful flowers during the recent loss of her sister.

Commissioner Sealey thanked the board for their concern during his recent hospitalization. He also thanked the town employees for their hard work on the Farmers Festival.

Commissioner Lennon reminded everyone of the LRCOG annual dinner on Thursday, October 21.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor asked the board to look at the new police cars after the board meeting.

Mr. Proctor is working with Steve Smith of USDA on the grant/loan for the sewer line rehab project and will give a detailed report at the November meeting.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that Mr. Paul Thompson wants to donate a piece of property at the corner of Morro and Red Cross Streets to the town. Mr. Proctor recommended that no action be taken and will tell Mr. Thompson the town is not interested.

Announcements

Thursday, October 21 – Fairmont Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

Saturday, October 23 - Free Kid's Movie, BOLT, 10:00 a.m., Heritage Center. Sponsored by the Robeson County Public Library and the Town of Fairmont.

Wednesday, October 27 - Saturday, October 30 - Haunted Forest, presented by South Robeson Rescue Unit and the Fire Department in the woods next to SRRU on Walnut St., 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., Admission \$5.00. For more information call 628-7710.

Friday, October 29 - No School, Teacher's Workday.

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Friday, October 29 - Fairmont High School Football vs. East Columbus (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 30 - Trick or Treat with Dr. Electrode, Front porch of Town Hall, 6:30 p.m. until candy is gone. This is also the day for trick or treating in the city limits since Halloween falls on Sunday.

Sunday, October 31 – Halloween in The Pines Concert, 3:00 P.M till dark with 3 bands performing: Missing Clues, Brothers Keepers, & Midlife Crisis plus 1st & 2nd place in the United Way Talent Show: The Stompers & Jessica Leonard. Cost: \$2.00 for adults and free for kids. Food and beverages will be available.

Monday, November 1 - Chamber of Commerce meeting, 6:00 p.m., Border Belt Museum.

Tuesday, November 2 – Election Day, 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 6 – Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Thursday, November 11 - Schools and Town Offices closed in observance of Veteran's Day. Veteran's Day ceremony at 12:00 noon in the Heritage Center.

Tuesday, November 16 – Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Wednesday, November 24 - No School, Teacher's Workday.

Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 - Schools and Town Offices closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – November 16, 2010

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wayland Lennon, III, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Wade Sealey, and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Town Attorney Robert Price was absent. Others in attendance included the Fairmont High School Women's Tennis Team, Travis Kemp, Zavery McDougal, Jason Suggs, John Charles Robbins and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Mayor's Presentation - Introduction of the 2010 Championship Fairmont High School Women's Tennis Team

Mayor Kemp introduced the 2010 Championship Fairmont High School Women's Tennis Team and their Coach Travis Kemp. The team members are Samantha Freeman, Kerri Floyd, Brittany Roberts, Staci Hollingsworth, Taylor Lovin, Hayleigh McCormick, Alicia Leonard, Heather Willoughby, Terrie Locklear, Hannah Ammons and Miranda Hill.

New Business

Zavery McDougal, parent liaison to FHS – school/community relations

Mr. Zavery McDougal, parent liaison to Fairmont High School, was hired as part of a school improvement grant to reduce the dropout rate. His main focus is improving school and community relations. He encouraged the board to become part of the "tornado village" because it takes a community effort to educate children. School principal Jason Suggs added the grant has provided for new computers and extra tutoring days at the school.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Sealey, and seconded by Commissioner McCree, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, October 19, 2010.

Old Business

Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation update.

Mr. Proctor gave the following update on the Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation:

“At the last Commission meeting, I was asked to determine the status of the Sewer Rehab project and report back to the Commission this month. I have again contacted both Bill Lester of Hobbs, Upchurch and Steve Smith at USDA Rural Development. Mr. Lester affirmed that this was a time-consuming review process, like the very lengthy process the Town went through when we obtained the funds to build the sewer plant.

Prior to last month’s meeting, I had met with Mr. Smith; and, as I stated at that meeting, our application for assistance was on his desk. He acknowledged that he was in the process of reviewing the document before he forwarded it to the next-higher level for further review out of the Raleigh office.

The documents are out for review of both the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and the Environmental Assessment (EA). The PER should be back before Thanksgiving, while the EA will take longer because there is only one person reviewing all EAs for USDA in the State. Comments and assessments will be forwarded directly to Hobbs, Upchurch.

In the meantime, while waiting, there is no reason other check-list items, such as public hearing advertisements, cannot be done to keep the process proceeding. I will coordinate this with Hobbs, Upchurch.

In addition, as I promised, I have been trying to find additional funding beyond the Rural Center’s (unlikely) assistance. I found out last Friday that the CDBG program, while cutting back on the funding for Community Rehabilitation programs (formerly called Concentrated Needs), they are increasing money for community infrastructure, such as our sewer rehab project.”

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp invited the board to come to the employee Thanksgiving cookout on Wednesday, November 24 at 12:00 noon in the Fire Hall.

Mayor Kemp announced that the Town of Red Springs will host the RCMA meeting on Thursday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. in their community building.

Mayor Kemp received two options from the NCDOT on putting up historic downtown signs on I-95. The first option is to pay \$2,000 to \$4,000 for two signs on exit 10. The second option is to wait one to two years until the state replaces the signs on I-95, where they would add the words “Historic Fairmont” to the signs for free. He informed the board the town would go with the free option and wait for the state to replace the current signs on I-95. Commissioner Sealey asked if signs would be placed on Exit 2 and Mayor Kemp replied no. Commissioner McCree asked about advertising Fairmont as the shortest route to Myrtle Beach, S.C. Mayor Kemp said the route will be included in the new Fairmont brochures.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner McCree asked why the water cutoff list was included as part of the monthly report. Mr. Proctor thought the board would be interested in the information. Commissioners Sealey and Lennon appreciated the report but Commissioner Lennon felt it was a waste of paper. Mr. Proctor said he would remove the cutoff list from future monthly reports.

Commissioner Townsend announced there would be a walk-a-thon on Thanksgiving morning at 8:00 a.m. in the Community Park. The funds raised will buy Christmas presents for needy children.

Commissioner Lennon announced that Cedric Rogers recently received his Eagle Scout badge. He earned it by building a child care room at Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor asked the board to consider moving the December board meeting up to Tuesday, December 14 since Commissioners Ashley and Leak-McKenzie will be out of town. Commissioner Lennon said he would not be able to be at the meeting or participate by telephone if the meeting is moved. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie made a motion to move the December regular board meeting from Tuesday, December 21 to Tuesday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 5 to 1 as follows:

For: Commissioners Ashley, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Sealey and Townsend
Against: Commissioner Lennon

Mr. Proctor met with Robeson County Public Library director Tina Stepp and they agreed to try a system in which the librarian unlocks the door when a library patron needs to use the bathroom and to lock it back when they are finished.

Mr. Proctor announced the town is being more proactive about animal control. He stated police gave a warning to the owner of excessively barking, howling dogs that recently got loose. If there is a further incident, the owner will receive a written citation.

Mr. Proctor gave a report on how much the surplus vehicles sold for. The two public works vehicles were sold by sealed bid. The stated value was \$850 but the vehicles were sold for \$275, a net reduction of \$575 from the stated value. The six police vehicles were sold at public auction. The value was \$4,500 and the cars were sold for \$6,350, a net gain of \$1,850.

Announcements

Wednesday, November 17 - Mountaire Job Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Courtroom.

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Thursday, November 18 - Fairmont Community Watch, Rosenwald Elementary School Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 20 - Lumberton Christmas Parade, 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 24 - No School, Teacher's Workday. (Weather make-up day)

Wednesday, November 24 - Town Employees Thanksgiving cookout, 12:00 noon.

Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 - Schools and Town Offices closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Friday, December 3 - Holiday on Main and Twilight Christmas Parade, 6:00 p.m., Downtown Fairmont. Tree lighting ceremony and entertainment in the Heritage Center.

Saturday, December 4 - Marietta Christmas Parade.

Sunday, December 5 - Christmas movie in the Heritage Center plus a visit from Santa Claus, 3:00 p.m.

Monday, December 6 - Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party, 6:00 p.m., Fairmont Golf Club.

Saturday, December 11 - Christmas Social at Greenbrier with the Mayor and Queens, 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 14 - NCDMV Mobile Driver's License Office, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot.

Saturday, December 18 - Senior Citizens Christmas Party, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, December 14 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Wednesday, December 22 - Town Employees Christmas luncheon, 12:00 noon, Heritage Center.

Friday, December 24 - Santa Visits the Kids, sponsored by the Fairmont City Fire Department, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

December 20 - December 31 - Schools closed for winter break and Christmas.

Friday, December 31 - Town offices closed in observance of New Year's Day.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – December 14, 2010

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. The meeting was held one week earlier than normal due to the holidays. Commissioners present were Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Wade Sealey, and Charles Townsend. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie called to say she would be late and arrived at 6:25 p.m. Commissioner J.J. McCree was absent due to illness and Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was out of town on business and unable to attend by telephone. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Finance Director Linda Vause, and Public Safety Director Danny Parker. Town Attorney Robert Price was absent. Others in attendance included Jimmy Flowers, Rudy Williams, John Charles Robbins and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with a quorum of four and gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Town Manager Blake Proctor asked the board to add Resolution 10-10, using the Debt Setoff program to collect past due property taxes. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Jimmy Flowers – public safety concern about broken storm drain on Main Street

Mr. Jimmy Flowers, of Jenkins Road, had a public safety concern about a broken storm drain located at the corner of Main and Iona Streets. He recently busted a tire when he was forced to drive over the curb while pulling a trailer. He suggested the storm drain be fixed for the safety for others.

Rudy Williams – Sweepstakes games ban

Mr. Rudy Williams, owner of Winner's Gifts on Main Street, stated his computers have been updated with new software that meet state legal requirements. He asked the board to continue letting him operate his business or refund his privilege license. If not, he would take legal action.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Townsend, and seconded by Commissioner Ashley, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, November 16, 2010.

Old Business

Sewer Rehabilitation funding update.

Mr. Proctor reported that the USDA Rural Development will only fund the sewer rehabilitation project with a maximum 25% grant based on our current sewer rates, which are not high enough. A 25% grant would mean a sewer fee increase of \$3.39 and if there is no grant, a \$5.24 increase. Mr. Proctor is trying to get funding from the Rural Center but things do not look good. Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates have contacted the Clean Water Management Trust Fund to explore the possibility of requesting 50% or more of the total project costs from their next funding cycle.

New Business

Resolution 10-10 – Using the Debt Setoff program to collect taxes

Mr. Proctor explained that the Debt Setoff program allows towns to collect property taxes from an individual's state income tax refund. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to adopt Resolution 10-10, using the Debt Setoff program to collect taxes. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the signed resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp met with Danny Williamson about his dilapidated house on Market Street. In order to find means to tear it down, Mayor Kemp asked him to deed the property to the town. Mr. Williamson willingly did so. This is the second property Mr. Williamson has deeded to the town, the first being the theater on Main Street. Mr. Proctor plans to contact a citizen who previously expressed interest in the property to see if he would be willingly to demolish it.

Mayor Kemp invited the board to the Employee Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 22 at 12:00 noon in the Heritage Center.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Townsend thanked the Public Safety Department for their assistance in the Thanksgiving walkathon in the park.

Commissioner Sealey thanked the town employees for their work during the Twilight Christmas Parade.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor let the board know that Water Collections Clerk Joyce Thompson is home and recovering from a gunshot wound. She is in great spirits and thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that the poverty rate for Robeson County is 31.1% and the poverty rate for those under the age of 18 is 43.8%. Robeson County also has one of the lowest median household incomes at \$27,421.

Mr. Proctor updated the board on the state sweepstakes/video poker ban that was supposed to take effect on December 1. Many sweepstakes businesses have updated their software to comply with state law and avoid closure.

Mr. Proctor announced that another beaver dam has been blown and there are plans to blow another dam past the high school.

Mr. Proctor told the board he was having an operation to fix his thumb next Monday and that his hand will be in a splint for a few weeks.

Announcements

Saturday, December 18 - Senior Citizens Christmas Party, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Monday, December 20 - Deadline to register for delivery of gift in "Santa Visits the Kids" program. For more information contact Mayor Kemp at 628-9766, ext. 15.

Wednesday, December 22 - Town Employees Christmas luncheon, 12:00 noon, Heritage Center.

December 23, 24, 27 - Town offices closed in observance of Christmas.

Friday, December 24 - Santa Visits the Kids, sponsored by the Fairmont City Fire Department, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

December 20 - December 31 - Schools closed for winter break and Christmas.

Friday, December 31 - Town offices closed in observance of New Year's Day.

Monday, January 3 - Fairmont Chamber of Commerce, 6:00 p.m., Border Belt Museum.

Saturday, January 8 - Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

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Tuesday, January 11 - NCDMV Mobile Driver's License Office, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot.

Monday, January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration, Time TBA, Heritage Center.

Tuesday, January 18 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Thursday, January 20 - Fairmont Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

Monday, January 24 and Tuesday, January 25 - No School, Teacher's Workday.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – January 18, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, and Charles Townsend. Commissioners Wade Sealey and Wayland Lennon, III were out of town on business and attended by telephone. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Town Attorney Robert Price, Finance Director Linda Vause, Public Safety Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker. Others in attendance included John Masters, John Charles Robbins, Anola Locklear, Inaya Davis, Brittany Roberts, James Thompson, Michael Roberts, Steve Williams, Vernell Freeman and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Mayor Presentations

New Town of Fairmont Brochures

Mayor Kemp announced the town recently printed new brochures with a \$1,000 grant from the Lumberton Visitors Bureau. These brochures will be distributed to all the interstate welcome centers in North Carolina as well as local hotels and real estate agents.

Recognition of three students from area schools who have displayed human rights and brotherhood qualities.

Mayor Kemp recognized three students who have displayed human and civil rights as well as brotherhood qualities at their schools. They are Anola Locklear of Rosenwald Elementary School, Inaya Davis of Fairmont Middle School and Brittany Roberts of Fairmont High School.

Recognition of firefighters involved with “Santa Visits the Kids.”

Mayor Kemp recognized the firefighters who volunteered to help with the “Santa Visits the Kids” program held on Christmas Eve.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Townsend, and seconded by Commissioner Sealey, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, December 14, 2010.

Unfinished Business

2009-2010 Audit Report – John Masters, S. Preston Douglas & Associates

Mr. John Masters went over the 2009-2010 Audit Report. The town's tax collection rate is up from last year at 88.77%. The undesignated portion of the town's fund balance is 13% which is higher than the state LGC mandate of 8%. He informed the board that the town's fund balance is in better shape than some other municipalities. Mr. Masters predicts deeper, prolonged decreases in state sales tax revenue in the coming years, which is already down from previous years. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to accept the audit report as presented. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution 11-1 – Applying to the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund for the Phase I Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project.

Town Manager Blake Proctor informed the board that he is still trying to obtain funding for the sewer line project by applying for a grant from the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund. A resolution of intent is required as part of the grant application. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-1 – Applying to the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund for the Phase I Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

New Business

Amendment #1 – Agreement for Professional Services with The Wooten Company, 2009 CDBG-R Housing Recovery Program.

Mr. Proctor explained the town is in the process of closing out the 2009 CDBG-R Housing Recovery Program grant. There are some funds left over from the project and he requested the board approve an amendment to the professional services agreement with The Wooten Company, which would give the company an additional \$20,600. The remainder of the funds will go to the town for administrative work. Mr. Proctor assured the board that the company deserved the funds due to all the extra, unforeseen work involved with administering an ARRA grant. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Amendment #1 – Agreement for Professional Services with The Wooten Company, 2009 CDBG-R Housing Recovery Program. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the amendment is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

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The phone connection with Commissioner Sealey was lost at 6:55 p.m. He called back at 7:00 p.m. but the connection was lost again at 7:01 p.m.

Electronics Waste Program – Amendment to the Robeson County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that the county is planning an electronics waste recycling program. They need support from the municipalities to amend their solid waste plan in order to be eligible for grants and revenue. Town Attorney Rob Price said the board did not need to vote on amending the solid waste management plan, just send a letter of support for the electronics waste program. Commissioner McCree made a motion to direct the town manager to send a letter of support to Robeson County for their proposed Electronics Waste Program. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp stated that Fairmont High School is collecting donations for Senior Skyler Brunson who was recently diagnosed with cancer.

Mayor Kemp announced the RCMA meeting will be Tuesday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m. in Rowland.

Mayor Kemp mentioned that the Staffing Alliance Job Fair will be held on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the courtroom.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Lennon asked when budget discussions for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 would begin. Mr. Proctor replied that a “druthers” meeting would be held in March.

Commissioner Lennon thanked the firefighters for sacrificing their time on Christmas Eve for the Santa Visits the Kids program.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor thanked the board for their concern following his hand surgery.

Announcements

Thursday, January 20 - Fairmont Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

Friday, January 21 - Fairmont High Basketball vs. East Columbus, HOME, 4:00 p.m.

Friday, January 28 - No School, Teacher’s Workday.

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Friday, January 28 - Fairmont High Basketball vs. South Robeson, HOME, 4:00 p.m.

Friday, February 4 - Fairmont High Basketball vs. Red Springs, HOME, 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 5 - Senior Citizens Bingo, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center

Monday, February 7 - Chamber Of Commerce, 6:00 p.m., Museum.

Tuesday, February 8 - Pride In Fairmont Ceremony, 7:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Friday, February 11 - Fairmont High Basketball vs. St. Pauls, HOME, 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 12 - Greenbriar Valentine Social, 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 15 – Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Tuesday, February 15 – Mobile Driver’s License Unit, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Town Hall Parking Lot.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – February 15, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, and Charles Townsend. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was out of town on business and attended by telephone briefly during closed session. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Town Attorney Robert Price, Finance Director Linda Vause, Public Safety Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker.

Others in attendance included John Charles Robbins and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. He announced that Commissioner Wayland Lennon was out of town on business and may be able to attend by telephone during the latter part of the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Townsend, and seconded by Commissioner Leak-McKenzie, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, January 18, 2011.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business this month.

New Business

Discussion of Planning Board attendance

Town Manager Blake Proctor discussed the lack of attendance by Planning Board members. He pointed out that there was no quorum at either the September 2010 or February 2011 planning board meetings. The board suggested Mr. Proctor check the terms of the planning board members and contact them by letter and phone to see if they are still willing to serve. Mr. Proctor said he would report back with his findings in March.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced the RCMA meeting will be Tuesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lumber Bridge Community Building.

Mayor Kemp announced that Prestage Farms will host a job fair on Wednesday, February 23 in the courtroom from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Mayor Kemp read an email from a former resident who praised the cleanliness of our town.

Mayor Kemp stated the budget process will begin with a workshop on Tuesday, March 8. He encouraged the board to work as a team, stay focused and attend every budget workshop.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Townsend said he was approached by a lady before the meeting who said she was turned away from signing up for public comment. Mayor Kemp explained the lady had met with Mr. Proctor for 45 minutes prior to the meeting. She wanted to replace the street signs in her neighborhood and Mr. Proctor explained to her how expensive it would be to do that. Mayor Kemp insisted the lady was not turned away from participating in the meeting. Mr. Proctor added that he is working on a Homeland Security grant to replace street signs throughout town.

Commissioner Sealey invited everyone to attend and support the Fairmont Chamber of Commerce low country boil on Monday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Civitan Hut. Tickets are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie asked Mr. Proctor if he had talked with Tabor City about hooking up the new prison unit to our sewer system. Mr. Proctor said Tabor City would likely hook up to the Grand Strand sewer system before ours. Commissioner Sealey suggested Mr. Proctor talk to Senator Michael Walters. Commissioner Sealey said he doesn't understand why the state would mandate the town to build a regional sewer system and then let a neighboring community send their sewer to a different state.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor went over the Budget Calendar for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. The first meeting will be Tuesday, March 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers. The proposed budget will be distributed to the board on May 23. He warned the board that it will be a tough budget year.

Mr. Proctor pointed out the town has 23.2 miles of sewer lines and 480 manholes that have to be maintained.

Closed Session - Personnel and Attorney Client Privilege GS 143-318.11(a)(3,6)

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into closed session at 6:25 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statute 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel and attorney client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6). Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Townsend and Ashley along with Rob Price, Blake Proctor, Danny Parker and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III participated for part of the closed session by telephone.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to come out of closed session at 8:15 p.m. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel and attorney client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6) and that no action was taken.

Announcements

Thursday, February 17 - Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

Saturday, February 19 - Baseball sign-up, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Fairmont Town Hall Courtroom.

Wednesday, February 23 - Prestage Foods Job Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Courtroom.

Saturday, February 26 - Baseball sign-up, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Fairmont Town Hall Courtroom.

Saturday, March 5 - Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Saturday, March 5 - Baseball sign-up, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Fairmont Town Hall Courtroom. ABSOLUTE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!

Saturday, March 5 -MWF Wrestling sponsored by South Robeson Rescue Unit, 6:30 to 11:00 p.m., Fairmont Middle School. Admission is \$10 (\$15 for ring side seats). Featuring John Cena, Sr. and the Iron Sheik.

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Monday, March 7 - Annual Chamber of Commerce low country boil. 6:00 p.m. Civitan Clubhouse. Tickets \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members.

Tuesday, March 8 – Initial Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Tuesday, March 15 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Special Meeting and Budget Workshop – March 8, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special meeting and budget workshop on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were Wayland Lennon, III J.J. McCree, Charles Townsend, Wade Sealey, Perry Ashley and Carol Leak-McKenzie. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews, Finance Director Linda Vause, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. Mayor Kemp announced that a press conference was held this afternoon on the arrest in the Willie Christie murder case. Mayor Kemp praised Chief Parker, the SBI, and Detectives Roy Grant and Darren Jones for their work on the case.

Resolution 11-2 – Designating official to sign papers and to otherwise represent the board in connections with mosquito control.

Town Manager Blake Proctor informed the board that Resolution 11-2 needs to be adopted because the application for mosquito control is due March 10. Mr. Proctor will be the representative for the town. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-2, designating official to sign papers and to otherwise represent the board in connections with mosquito control. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

FY 2011-2012 Budget Workshop.

Mayor Kemp stated this workshop was an opportunity for the board to ask questions and make suggestions for the upcoming year.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie asked if the town was pursuing new companies to provide jobs. Mr. Proctor replied that our current industries, Advanced Recovery and Harger are making plans to expand. Harger's expansion is on hold because of the economy. Advanced Recovery is looking for state assistance with grants or loans to expand their recycling process. Mr. Proctor is also looking for small businesses to move downtown.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie inquired about adding more towns to our sewer system. Mr. Proctor stated that Tabor City would not join our system but he is working with Rowland. It will probably be two to three years before Rowland can get funding to tie on.

Commissioner Ashley has not seen the town's capital improvement plan and asked if it needs to be updated. Mr. Proctor replied the town doesn't have the money for capital improvement projects and there is no long range operation plan.

Commissioner Ashley suggested gathering feedback from the town employees on ideas for revenue and cost reduction.

Commissioner Ashley asked if the state was proposing any cuts to municipal revenue. Finance Director Linda Vause replied that the current state proposed cuts would hurt counties rather than municipalities.

Commissioner Ashley asked if the \$2 sewer increase is building up the sewer fund. Mr. Proctor said the increase amounts to approximately \$2,300 a month.

Commissioner Sealey suggested we do more to promote our sewer system and its location close to I-74 and I-95 by talking to our state and federal representatives and the department of commerce.

Commissioner McCree asked about the old Williamson property at the corner of Market and McDaniel Streets. Mr. Proctor replied that the town now owns the property. A couple of people have expressed interest in purchasing the property and tearing it down. Commissioner McCree expressed concern about what would go there once the lot is vacant.

Commissioner Lennon emphasized the water fund should be self-funding and that the town shouldn't wait for the state to tell us to raise our rates when we should be doing it on our own accord.

Commissioner Townsend recently went to the LRCOG retreat where they discussed sustainability, like cutting every department by 5 to 8% and maintaining or even raising water rates. He added that tax foreclosures would have a negative effect on tax evaluations and revenue would go down.

Mr. Proctor went over the county's proposal to provide dispatch services for the town. The town currently spends \$160,000 a year for three full time dispatchers and several part-time dispatchers. The county will charge the town \$70,000 a year and the town will keep one full-time and a couple of part-time employees for \$50,000 a year for a net savings of \$40,000. The town is asking the county to hire our two full-time dispatchers so they will not be out of a job. The state is mandating that all secondary PSAPs merge with primary PSAPs like the county. Commissioner Ashley is concerned about jeopardizing safety. She talked to other towns that had nothing positive to say about the county system. The new 911 center will be online March 24. Mr. Proctor will meet again with Interim County Manager Ricky Harris on March 28 and will bring back a definitive answer for the board at the next budget workshop on March 29.

There being no further business, the special meeting ended at 7:50 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – March 15, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, and Charles Townsend. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was out of town on business and unable to attend by telephone. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Town Attorney Robert Price, Finance Director Linda Vause, Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews, Public Safety Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker. Others in attendance included John Charles Robbins, Hayleigh McCormick, Katelyn Bass, Patt Crissman, Michael Baker, FHS Men's Basketball Team and several citizens.

Public Hearing – Closeout of Canal Street CDBG-R

The public hearing opened at 6:02 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing is to discuss the closeout of the Old Field CDBG-R. Ms. Patt Crissman, with The Wooten Company, stated that several homes were rehabbed or replaced with the grant money. One of the residents, Mrs. Moody, thanked the board for fixing her home. Mayor Kemp was glad the town was able to secure the funds from the federal government. There was no other public comment and the hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:05p.m. and gave the invocation. He announced that Commissioner Wayland Lennon was out of town on business and unable to attend by telephone.

Mayor's Presentation

Recognition of FHS Men's Basketball Team.

Mayor Kemp introduced the 2011 Fairmont High School Championship Men's Basketball Team and their Coach Michael Baker.

Introduction of Miss Fairmont Farmers Festival Hayleigh McCormick.

Mayor Kemp introduced the 2010-2011 Fairmont Farmers Festival Miss Hayleigh McCormick who was crowned in February.

Recognition of Katelyn Bass for her recycling idea.

Mayor Kemp recognized Fairmont Middle School 7th grade student Katelyn Bass for her idea of providing a place for citizens to recycle. Thanks to her idea and cooperation with Waste Management, a recycling bin has been placed in the parking lot of Town Hall next to the Fire Hall. Miss Bass will start a Youth Recycling Committee called the "Green Team." The first of three "Cash for Trash" days will be held on Saturday, April 16. The student who brings the most items to recycle will win a cash prize.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Jennifer Moore, 304 Davis Street, Street signs need replacing

Ms. Moore complained that the street sign for Davis Street is faded and almost impossible to read. She noticed that several street signs in town are also in bad shape. She asked why the town has not replaced them.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Townsend, and seconded by Commissioner Leak-McKenzie, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, February 15, 2011.

Unfinished Business

Closeout of 2009 Canal Street CDBG-R 09-R-1961.

Ms. Patt Crissman, with The Wooten Company, presented before and after pictures of the work completed on 5 homes during the Canal Street CDBG-R project. Of the five homes, one was owner occupied and the other four were tenant/landlord. The CDBG-R funds were part of the federal stimulus money and required no match from the town. Mayor Kemp asked about future CDBG projects. Ms. Crissman said it would be late summer or early fall before the town could apply for another grant.

Appointments to the Planning Board.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that Buddy Taylor, Lacy Floyd, Phostenia McCrimmon and Dennis Hicks are all willing to continue serving on the Planning Board. Mr. Wallace Jones is resigning because of his job and Ms. Betty Love is resigning because of her health. Mr. Proctor asked Commissioners Townsend and McCree to name their replacements at the April meeting when those willing to serve will be reappointed.

New Business

FY 2011-2012 Budget.

Mr. Proctor reminded the board that another budget workshop will be held on March 29. Commissioner McCree asked if the town owned property at the corner of Market and McDaniel Streets could be turned into a police substation once the house is torn down. He suggested using Golden Leaf or Weed and Seed money. He also asked if the town needed to budget money for demolition or if someone will tear it down for the material.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp offered compliments to Chief Parker, Detective Grant and Detective Jones for their work in making an arrest in the Willie Christie murder case.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Townsend suggested attending Congressman Mike McIntyre's job creation summit and getting involved with BRAC at Fort Bragg.

Commissioners Sealey and Leak-McKenzie thanked the police for a job well done.

Commissioner Ashley also thanked the police and Katelyn Bass for her recycling idea.

Manager Input

Mr. Proctor referenced Ms. Moore's complaint about town street signs. He said it would cost between \$27,000 and \$30,000 to replace all the street signs and is looking into a Homeland Security grant.

Closed Session - Personnel and Attorney Client Privilege GS 143-318.11(a)(3,6)

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into closed session at 7:00 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statute 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel and attorney client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6). Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Townsend and Ashley along with Blake Proctor, Rob Price, Danny Parker and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was absent.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:21 p.m. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel and attorney client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6) and that no action was taken.

Announcements

Saturday, March 19 - FHS Athletic Department Golf Tournament, Fairmont Golf Course.

Saturday, March 19 – Recycling starts; use green container next to Fire Hall.

Saturday, March 19 – Free Flea Market starts at 7:00 a.m., grounds of Border Belt Museum.

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Thursday, March 24 - Community Leaders Breakfast, 9:00 a.m., Fairmont High School.

Friday, March 25 - Youth Fashion & Talent Show, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., E.R. Gause Auditorium, Rosenwald Elementary School.

Sunday, March 27 - 35th Annual Spring Concert of the B.B. Thompson Young People's Concert Choir, Inc., 4:00 p.m., Givens Performing Arts Center, UNC Pembroke.

Tuesday, March 29 – Budget Discussion Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Monday, April 4 - Fairmont Chamber of Commerce meeting, 8:00 a.m., at First Bank in Fairmont. Breakfast will be served and the 3rd Annual Beach Bash will be discussed.

Saturday, April 16 - Town of Fairmont Easter Egg Hunt. 10:00 a.m., Fairmont Community Park.

April 16 - April 30 - Spring Clean Up. Residents are encouraged to put unwanted items next to the curb for free pick-up during these two weeks. Residents who need assistance can call Public Works at 628-0064.

Saturday, April 30 - Kids Day at Floyd Strawberry Farm, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Robeson County Autism Society.

Saturday, April 30 - Fairmont Womanless Pageant, Spaghetti Meal, 6:00 p.m. and Pageant at 7:00 p.m., Heritage Center. Cost: \$10. Proceeds benefit Relay for Life.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop – March 29, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop on Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were Wayland Lennon, III J.J. McCree, Charles Townsend, Perry Ashley and Carol Leak-McKenzie. Commissioner Wade Sealey was out of town. Staff present included Town Manager Blake Proctor, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and gave the invocation.

FY 2011-2012 Budget Workshop.

Mayor Kemp announced that the next budget workshop will be on Tuesday, May 24. The administrative staff will work on the budget until then and the board will receive the initial budget figures on May 23.

Robeson County 911 center

Town Manager Blake Proctor and Public Safety Director Danny Parker met with Interim County Manager Ricky Harris on March 28 and toured the new 911 center. Mr. Harris increased the figure to \$85,000 and refused to hire our two dispatchers. Mr. Proctor told Mr. Harris that the town was not interested in joining the county system at this time. Mr. Proctor added the state may not require secondary PSAPs to merge with primary PSAPs until 2013 and that secondary PSAPs may be required to have two dispatchers per shift. Commissioner McCree suggested writing our state representatives and letting them know the town's dispatch runs effectively with one person per shift. Commissioner Lennon was surprised the county was not willing to negotiate since Fairmont would've been the first town to join the new system. Mr. Proctor replied that Mr. Harris said it would cost the town more if they hired our employees.

2010 Census results

Mr. Proctor reported that the town's census figure for 2010 is 2,663. That is an increase over the 2000 Census figure of 2,604 but a decrease of 100 people from the state certified figure of 2,763. Since state shared revenues are based on population, the town will see a slight decrease in state funds in 2012-2013. Mr. Proctor plans to appeal the census numbers.

Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Proctor distributed a six-year Capital Improvement Plan for the board to review and discuss. A copy of the plan is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes. Commissioner McCree asked if it would be more cost effective to contract out street sweeping rather than purchase a new sweeper. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals replied that no one in the area does street sweeping. Mr. Seals added that town uses equipment until it is worn out and expensive to repair. Commissioner Ashley suggested using linoleum or tiles to replace the carpet on the second floor rather than carpet because it is cheaper and better for people with allergies.

Fuel projection

Commissioner Lennon asked what the fuel projection was for the coming year. Mr. Proctor replied the new police cars had cut fuel use in the police department by one-third. Mr. Seals said gas prices would be hard to judge because they are constantly going up and down.

Mr. Proctor informed the board that he was giving budget directions to the department heads on Friday, encouraging them to be conservative and cut where possible. There being no further business, the special meeting ended at 6:55 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Special Meeting – April 12, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Charles Townsend, Wade Sealey, Perry Ashley and Carol Leak-McKenzie. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was late and arrived at 5:55 p.m. Staff present included Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Finance Director Linda Vause, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker. Several citizens were also in attendance.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and gave the invocation. He announced the purpose of the meeting was to go into closed session under personnel and attorney-client privilege.

Closed Session - Personnel and Attorney Client Privilege GS 143-318.11(a)(3,6)

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into closed session at 5:35 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statue 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel and attorney client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6). Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Lennon, Townsend and Ashley along with Rob Price and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session.

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to come out of closed session at 6:21 p.m. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel and attorney client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6) and that no action was taken.

Town Manager Blake Proctor dismissed and Linda Vause named as Acting Town Manager

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to dismiss Town Manage Blake Proctor from his duties effective immediately. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 5 to 1 as follows:

For: Commissioners Townsend, McCree, Sealey, Lennon and Leak-McKenzie
Against: Commissioner Ashley

Mayor Kemp announced that Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Governments has offered to assist the town in obtaining an interim town manager as well as the long term process of hiring a permanent manager. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to invite Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Governments, to the April board meeting to make a presentation on the town manager job search process. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Commissioner Lennon made a motion to appoint Finance Director Linda Vause as the Acting Town Manager until an interim manager is named. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Closed Session - Personnel and Attorney Client Privilege GS 143-318.11(a)(3,6)

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to go back into closed session at 6:30 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statute 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel and attorney client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6). Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Lennon, Townsend and Ashley along with Rob Price and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to come out of closed session at 6:40 p.m. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel and attorney client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6) and that no action was taken.

There being no further business, the special meeting ended at 6:41 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – April 19, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III and Charles Townsend. Commissioner Townsend was late and arrived at 6:17 p.m. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Town Attorney Robert Price, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included John Charles Robbins, Jim Perry and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. He expressed deep sympathy to those affected by the tornadoes this past Saturday.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Sealey, and seconded by Commissioner Lennon, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda items:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting and Budget Workshop, March 8, 2011, Regular Meeting, March 15, 2011 and Budget Workshop, March 29, 2011.
- b. Advertise 2010 delinquent taxes in the Robesonian the week of May 16, 2011.

Unfinished Business

Appointments to the Planning Board.

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that Buddy Taylor, Lacy Floyd, Phostenia McCrimmon and Dennis Hicks are all willing to continue serving on the Planning Board. Mayor Kemp stated that Commissioner Townsend nominated Rev. Chester Hopkins, Jr. to replace Wallace Jones and Commissioner McCree nominated Willie Earl Grissett to replace Betty Love. Commissioner McCree made a motion to appoint Isaiah “Buddy” Taylor, Lacey Floyd and Rev. Chester Hopkins, Jr. to the Fairmont Planning Board with a term expiring May 2013 and to appoint Phostenia McCrimmon, Dennis Hicks and Willie Earl Grissett with a term expiring May 2014. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Town Manager search process – Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director, Lumber River Council of Governments.

Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Governments went over the search process for a new town manager. Mr. Perry has assisted other communities including St. Pauls, Maxton, Red Springs and Raeford at no cost. He can also assist the town in finding an interim town manager. There is a list of managers who are looking for interim, temporary work since it will take at least three months to find a permanent manager. Commissioner McCree suggested finding a college intern to give them some on the job training. Commissioner Townsend suggested waiting until after the budget to start looking for a new manager. Mr. Perry replied that it is not necessary to wait and if you get a good interim manager you can take your time in the search process. Commissioner McCree mentioned that it is an election year and waiting until after the election would give any potential new board members a voice in the manager selection. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to formally engage Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Governments, as the facilitator for the town manager search process. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The board agreed by consensus not to search for an interim town manager but to find a college intern instead.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to accept the following ad for the town manager's position:

“Town Manager - Fairmont, pop. 2,763. Located 10 miles south of Lumberton in Robeson County, 8 miles from I-95, 70 minutes from Myrtle Beach. Council/Manager government. 29 FT and 9 PT employees (includes 12 FT sworn police officers including the Chief). VFD, \$94M tax levy, \$3.2M budget, regional wastewater treatment plant. Manager directs and supervises all departments, offices and agencies of the town through department heads. Manager will also serve as the codes and planning director. Qualifications: Prefer 4 year BA/BS degree with a minimum of 3 years experience as a manager or equivalent combination of education and experience. Special preference given for MPA or business degree in finance. Strongly prefer individual with grant writing experience. Experience in local government administration or considerable experience in financial administration desired. Salary and benefits package commensurate with qualifications and experience. Send cover letter, resume, 3 references, salary requirements and salary history to Jenny Larson, CMC, Town Clerk, Town of Fairmont, P.O. Box 248, Fairmont, NC 28340. Closing date is Friday, June 17, 2011 at 5 p.m. EDT. EOE.”

Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The ad will be placed in the NCLM and Southern City newsletters, The Robesonian and the Fayetteville Observer.

Town Attorney Rob Price suggested the board name Mayor Kemp as the in house facilitator to work with Mr. Perry. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to name Mayor Charles Kemp as the in house facilitator to work Mr. Jim Perry on the town manager search process and to report to the board. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Lennon suggested the possibility of appointing a committee to prescreen the manager applications. Mr. Perry will bring a timeline for the hiring process to the next board meeting.

Request to donate old Fairmont Wholesale Florist property located on Iona Street to the town.

Mrs. Vause informed the board that the Floyd family, approximately 72 heirs, is willing to donate the old Fairmont Wholesale Florist property located on Iona Street to the town with no restrictions. Ms. Vause added that a local business person is interested in obtaining the property as well. Commissioner Townsend mentioned the board voted in the past not to accept property. Commissioner McCree added the town would be in violation of its codes if we accept the property. Commissioner Sealey suggested having the interested business person deal directly with the Floyd family.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced that Fairmont will be hosting the RCMA meeting on Tuesday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Mrs. Mickey Gregory, Director of the Lumberton Visitors Bureau will be the guest speaker and the F.F. Palace Restaurant will provide the meal.

Mayor Kemp thanked Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and his staff for assisting the Town of Rowland with its clean-up needs following the recent tornado.

Mayor Kemp announced the Employee Easter Luncheon would be held at 12:00 noon in the Fire Hall.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie announced she would be out of town for two weeks starting April 21 but that she would be available by cell phone.

Commissioner Ashley was impressed with the recycling program and congratulated Katelyn Bass and the rest of the Green Team for bringing in 1,809 pounds of recyclable material on April 16. Mayor Kemp added the next “Trash for Cash” program will be held in July.

Closed Session - Personnel and Attorney Client Privilege GS 143-318.11(a)(3,6)

Commissioner McCree made a motion to go into closed session at 7:07 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statute 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel and attorney client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6). Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Lennon, Townsend and Ashley along with Linda Vause, Rob Price, and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session.

Page 4 – Regular Meeting, April 19, 2011

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to come out of closed session at 8:01 p.m. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel and attorney client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3,6). Action was taken involving a matter of litigation.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to pay Acting Town Manager Linda Vause the salary equivalent of \$23 an hour with no compensation time as long as she is acting manager. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Announcements

April 16 - April 30 - Spring Clean Up. Residents are encouraged to put unwanted items next to the curb for free pick-up during these two weeks. Residents who need assistance can call Public Works at 628-0064.

Saturday, April 30 - Kids Day at Floyd Strawberry Farm, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Robeson County Autism Society.

Saturday, April 30 - Fairmont Womanless Pageant, Spaghetti Meal, 6:00 p.m. and Pageant at 7:00 p.m., Heritage Center. Cost: \$10. Proceeds benefit Relay for Life.

Saturday, May 7 - Fit Family Fun Day in Fairmont, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Fairmont Community Park. 5-mile run/walk, Zumba, Yoga, health demonstrations, health advice, fun for entire family. Sponsored by Lumbee Guaranty Bank.

Saturday, May 7 - Roger's Screen Printing & Sporting Goods Golf Tournament benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 12:00 noon, Fairmont Golf Club.

Saturday, May 7 - Senior Bingo, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21 - Relay for Life, Lumberton High School.

Tuesday, May 24 – Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Thursday, May 26 - 3rd annual Chamber of Commerce Beach Blast. 5:30-9:30p.m. Fairmont Golf Course. Featuring The Tim Clark Band, CBMA 2010 Favorite New Artist of the Year. Free admission.

Monday, May 30 - Memorial Day Sidewalk Sale 7:00 a.m.-Noon. Memorial Day Ceremony 12:00 noon. Heritage Center.

Tuesday, May 31 – Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – May 17, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III and Charles Townsend. Town Attorney Robert Price was absent due to a prior commitment with another client. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Major David Windom and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included Rev. Gary Deese, Jim Perry, John Charles Robbins, Ariel Campbell, Regina Randolph, Sgt. Charles Rohr, Petty Officer Alvin Mitchell, Sgt. Renee Nolin and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and Rev. Gary Deese gave the invocation.

Mayor's Presentation – Armed Forces Day

Proclamation – Armed Forces Appreciation Day.

Mayor Kemp read a proclamation and poem on Armed Forces Appreciation Day, which is May 21. He introduced representatives from each branch of the Armed Forces: Regina Randolph from the Air Force, Sgt. Charles Rohr of the Marines, Petty Officer Alvin Mitchell of the Navy and Sgt. Renee Nolin of the Army Reserves. A copy of the signed proclamation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Certificate of Appreciation – Ariel Campbell

Mayor Kemp presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Miss Ariel Campbell for her work in collecting canned food for the recent tornado victims.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Leak-McKenzie, and seconded by Commissioner Townsend, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting April 12, 2011, and Regular Meeting April 19, 2011.

Unfinished Business

Town Manager search process – Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director, Lumber River Council of Governments.

Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Governments went over the timeline for the search process for a new town manager. Town Clerk Jenny Larson announced that 21 applications have been received so far. The application deadline is June 17. Mr. Perry suggested the board appoint a Review Committee to develop a list of qualified candidates for further consideration. This list will be given to the board on July 19 and the board will review the applications and rank their top 7 candidates prior to the August board meeting. On August 16, the board agrees on a list of candidates to interview and sets interview dates and times. The board will conduct one and a half hour initial interviews in September followed by second interviews with top candidates. The board will negotiate with selected candidate in October with employment to begin in late October or November.

Commissioner McCree asked about weeding out the candidates based on their background. Mr. Perry replied that you can do reference checks before you narrow down list to interview. Commissioner Ashley wanted to look at condensing the time frame and Mr. Perry said the board could expedite the process. Commissioner Townsend suggested each commissioner look at the applications and pick three to four candidates, then the board come together, discuss and make a list to interview. Mayor Kemp said he would make the applications available for the board to review starting Monday, June 20 at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room. Commissioner Townsend asked if he could come and look at them after 5:00 p.m. and Mayor Kemp said yes.

Commissioner Ashley asked about getting a college intern. Mr. Perry replied that he had hoped to get a free intern from UNC Chapel Hill but that program was eliminated. He said the town could still hire an intern but would have to offer a stipend. Acting Town Manager Linda Vause said the town had a college intern several years ago and they paid her minimum wage. Commissioner McCree suggested discussing a possible stipend and mileage reimbursement for an intern at the budget workshop. Mr. Perry said the town may not need an intern if they plan to fast track hiring a town manager. Commissioner Townsend had concerns that fast tracking the process could become hectic and complicated. Commissioner Ashley suggested narrowing down the list of candidates could be expedited but slowing down for the interviews and decision making.

New Business

There was no new business this month.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp informed the board the town is being managed in an excellent manner by the administrative staff, who are working hard as a team to keep things running smoothly.

Mayor Kemp met with Mr. Paul Rawls of DENR last Thursday to discuss a sewer infrastructure problem on Dogwood Drive. There is an above ground sewer line there that needs to be renovated and the board needs to come up with a plan to address the problem before the state starts issuing fines of \$10,000 a day.. Mayor Kemp asked that “Sewer Infrastructure – Dogwood Drive” be placed on the June meeting agenda for discussion and action. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals explained that around 26 years ago, the line was repaired using PVC pipe which is not state code. The town was written up by DENR 3 years ago for not addressing the problem. DENR is willing to give the town four years to correct the problem in stages by spending \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year. The total project cost is \$100,000. Mr. Seals said the town could start by cutting down the trees around the pipe. He added that Mr. Bill Lester, with Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates, has been working on the project and waiting on a grant that hasn’t come through. Mr. Seals said we have to take action now because DENR will want a response in 15 days.

Mayor Kemp announced the City of Lumberton will be hosting the RCMA meeting on Thursday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Station. This is the same night as the 3rd annual Fairmont Chamber of Commerce Beach Bash which will be held at the Fairmont Golf Course starting at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Kemp announced that the next budget workshop will be Tuesday, May 24 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Sealey announced that he would not be able to attend the budget workshop on May 31 because he will be out of town.

Commissioner Lennon announced that he would also be out of town and unable to attend the budget workshops on May 31 and June 7.

Closed Session - Personnel GS 143-318.11(a)(6)

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into closed session at 7:07 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statute 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Lennon, Townsend and Ashley along with Linda Vause, and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:30 p.m. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) and no action was taken.

Announcements

Thursday, May 19 - Fairmont Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21 - Relay for Life, Lumberton High School.

Tuesday, May 24 – Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Thursday, May 26 - 3rd annual Chamber of Commerce Beach Blast. 5:30-9:30p.m. Fairmont Golf Course. Featuring The Tim Clark Band, CBMA 2010 Favorite New Artist of the Year. Free admission.

Monday, May 30 - Memorial Day Sidewalk Sale 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony 12:00 noon. Heritage Center. Stackhouse Family parade, 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 31 – Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Saturday, June 4 - Senior Bingo, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, June 7 – Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Tuesday, June 14 - NCDMV Mobile Unit, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 14 – Budget Workshop, if necessary, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Wednesday, June 15 - Job Fair sponsored by the Town of Fairmont and the Employment Security Commission, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, June 21 – Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Budget Public Hearing, Council Chambers.

Thursday, June 23 – Budget Workshop, if necessary, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Sunday, June 26 - Fairmont's Fantastic Fourth celebration, 5:00 - 10:00 p.m., Fairmont Community Park featuring Gold Rush and a huge fireworks show!

Tuesday, June 28 – Budget Workshop, if necessary, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop Meeting – May 24, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Charles Townsend, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Wade Sealey, and Perry Ashley. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was absent due to a death in his wife's family. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals.

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and stated the purpose of the meeting was a budget workshop on the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause gave an overview of the proposed budget as follows:

"I have compiled the enclosed budget with conservative estimates of revenues and your department heads' desires/needs for their respective departments. The Public Safety Department is requesting a 2.5% to 3% cost of living raise, funding for a thirteenth police officer, replacing two old vehicles, purchasing 8 new portable radios, replacing 4 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and replacing 3 fire bay doors. The Public Works Department is requesting funding for landfill grinding, a new computer for the Water Department, a generator for the Morro Street pumping station, a well casing, sludge removal, sewer plant preventative maintenance, new lawn mover and a cost of living raise.

GENERAL FUND

I have estimated current year tax revenue based on a valuation of \$92,262,013.00. The current rate of .69 remains the same. I computed the revenue at 90% of collections. State revenues were computed by using the NC League of Municipalities' estimates and past history. These could still change since the legislature has not completed the State's budget.

The General Fund has a deficit of \$241,781.00. What follows are possible solutions to a portion of this deficit. Most of these items are linked to department requests.

Police Department: Continue to freeze the unfilled position. This would create a savings of \$39,315.00. However, this goes against our COPS Grant Agreement. Our normal staffing for police officers has been 12 for several years. The COPS Grant position is supposed to be in addition to Town budgeting for a total of 13 officers.

Street Department: Move one full time position to Powell Bill. This will eliminate \$42,250.00 of the deficit. I have computed the Powell Bill budget with this much surplus. We could not pave any streets, but we would continue with maintenance and drainage.

Sanitation Department: Reduce grinding of the landfill back to current year funding. This would save \$10,000.00.

These reductions and reallocations of expenses would decrease our deficit by \$91,565.00

There will be further savings with the vacancy of a Town Manager. I included Mr. Proctor's last rate along with benefits. The savings will depend, of course, on when the position is filled.

I propose disposing of some properties now owned by the Town. These properties are from the Mercer tax foreclosure and the tax value totals \$180,200.00. I would hope we could derive 1/3 of their value by selling them. This would increase revenues by approximately \$60,000.00. A decision will have to be made on how to sell these parcels. We have an option of sealed bids, public auction or listing with a real estate agency. There may be more options that I am unaware of. This item will be on our June agenda. Attorney Robert Price will discuss the legalities and pros and cons of which means of disposal would be best.

With the above reductions and reallocations of expenses along with the proposed additional revenue, the deficit would be \$90,216.00. For year ending June 30, 2010, appropriated fund balance was \$64,619.00 and the actual was \$54,992.00.

Reducing our expenses or increasing our income by approximately 5% would close this deficit. I am awaiting your instructions as how to proceed.

WATER/SEWER FUND

The Water/Sewer Fund has a deficit of \$14,133.00. I have conservatively based the revenues on the past 3 month's history. There was a problem earlier with the readings from the Columbus County towns. That appears to be corrected now. There are not any sewer capacity fees to be collected now.

I have included \$20,000.00 for the Dogwood Street Project. If you would prefer, I could eliminate this appropriation and move the surplus to contingencies.

I have eliminated the \$48,000.00 General Fund administrative charge to the Water/Sewer Fund. I do not feel there is sufficient revenue for the expense.

SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

I have tried to find a way to fund a 2 ½ % salary increase for the Town's employees. I have not been successful. Below is a calculation of the increase for the General Fund and the Water/Sewer Fund. This includes actual salaries plus FICA, retirement and 401(k) contributions.

GENERAL FUND

General Employees

Full-time	\$305,735.00
Part-time	\$ 82,600.00
FICA (7.65%)	\$ 29,708.00
RETIREMENT (7.04%)	\$ 21,524.00 (full time only)
401(k) (5%)	\$ 15,287.00 (full time only)
General Employees total	\$ 454,854.00

GENERAL FUND

Law Enforcement

Full-time	\$359,530.00
Part-time	\$ 4,470.00 (crossing guard)
FICA (7.65%)	\$ 27,846.00
RETIREMENT (7.02%)	\$ 25,239.00 (full time only)
401(k) (5%)	\$ 17,977.00 (full time only)
Law Enforcement total	\$435,062.00

Total for General Fund employees	\$889,916.00
2 ½% increase	22,248.00

Total for General Fund employees with a 2 ½ % increase is \$912,164.00.

The TOTAL payroll amounts used for the General Fund DO NOT take in consideration freezing the 13th police position or moving the street department position to the Powell Bill Fund.

WATER/SEWER FUND

All Employees	\$235,875.00	(all employees are full time)
FICA (7.65%)	\$ 18,045.00	
RETIREMENT (7.04%)	\$ 16,606.00	
401(k) (5%)	<u>\$ 11,794.00</u>	
Total for Water/Sewer fund	\$282,320.00	
2 ½% increase	\$ 7,058.00	

Total for Water/Sewer Fund employees with 2 ½% increase is \$289,378.00.

This 2 ½% increase would increase the General Fund deficit by \$22,248.00 and the Water/Sewer Fund deficit by \$7,058.00.”

Mrs. Vause explained that she was very conservative on revenue estimates and generous with expenditure estimates. Commissioner Lennon suggested selling all town properties that are not being used or needed for water and sewer easements. Commissioner Sealey asked if we could get more prisoner help. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals said the town already gets the maximum of five prisoners. Commissioner McCree asked about the gaming privilege license fees. Mrs. Vause responded that she reduced the projected revenue because some businesses closed due to the state ban that is now being challenged in court. Commissioner Ashley asked about the \$2 sewer increase passed last year that was supposed to be used to build a contingency fund. Mrs. Vause responded the money was spent on maintenance and repair of the sewer system. Mayor Kemp mentioned the low number budgeted for nuisance abatement. He plans to reach out on Facebook to see if anyone is interested in taking down the Williamson House for the materials. Commissioner McCree suggested any excess revenue from the sale of fixed assets could be used for nuisance abatement. Mrs. Vause asked the board for suggestions in plugging the deficit in the budget so it will be balanced. Commissioners Townsend and Ashley suggested cutting each department by 5% excluding salaries. Mrs. Vause said she could also increase the sale of fixed assets to \$60,000 and use fund balance. Mrs. Vause said the town is in the process of foreclosing on several properties but some lots have no clear deeds and might not be worth the legal fees. Commissioner Sealey suggested going to a superior court judge for lots where you can't find the owner, advertise for 180 days and then the court can deed the property over to the town.

Mayor Kemp asked Mrs. Vause if she wanted to hire a college intern. She replied that she doesn't have the time to teach an intern and that the last time the town had an intern there were more people working in administration. She stated the biggest problem she has had so far has been code enforcement. Commissioner Sealey asked if the police department could handle code enforcement and Mrs. Vause thinks they could.

Closed Session - Personnel GS 143-318.11(a)(6)

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into closed session at 7:25 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statute 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Page 4 – Budget Workshop, May 24, 2011

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, McCree, Townsend and Ashley along with Linda Vause, and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:40 p.m. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) and no action was taken.

The next budget workshop will be held Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop Meeting – May 31, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop meeting on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Wade Sealey, and Perry Ashley. Commissioners Wayland Lennon, III and Charles Townsend were absent. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals.

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order, gave the invocation and stated the purpose of the meeting was a budget workshop on the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause gave an overview of the proposed budget as follows:

“Enclosed is the 2011-2012 budget for fiscal year 2010/2011. I have been conservative in estimating revenues. I have had to be very conservative with the expenditures.

GENERAL FUND

I have estimated current year tax revenue based on a valuation of \$92,262,013.00. The current rate of .69 remains the same. I computed the revenue at 90% collection rate.

The General Fund Budget has a \$44,667.00 fund balanced appropriated. I have tried to reduce this deficit by reducing expenses, but I can't get it any lower without your assistance.

I have continued the freeze on the 13th position in the police department. The grinding request by public works for the landfill has been reduced from \$25,000.00 to \$15,000.00. The remaining position in the street department has been moved to the Powell Bill Budget.

The salary in the budget for a new manager has remained the same. I did eliminate the health insurance and travel allowance for the first four months of the new year. I felt reasonably certain that this position would not be filled until at least November. Let me know if you want to change the manager salary amount.

Travel and training budgets in all departments have been reduced. The departmental supply requests for all of the departments have been reduced.

I did include \$60,000.00 in sale of fixed assets. This might be higher if the Town decides to sell more property. Examples of this include the “fitness center” and the parcel of land at the intersection of Highway 130 and Highway 41.

WATER/SEWER FUND

The Water/Sewer Fund has a balanced budget without a deficit. I have included \$20,000.00 for the Dogwood Street Project. The requests by public works for the generator at the Morro

Street Pump Station and the \$10,000.00 well casing in the water treatment department remains in this budget.

The requests for the sewer maintenance department remain in this budget. These requests include removal of sludge from the waste water treatment plant, a new lawn mower and maintenance for the plant.

I eliminated the \$48,000.00 General Fund administrative charge to the Water/Sewer Fund. I do not feel there is sufficient revenue for the expense.

I have not included a cost of living raise or any merit raises for the employees. We may be able to look at the salaries mid-year for any possible adjustments.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is an extremely “tight” budget year. Governments are faced with the same thing individuals and businesses are; stagnant or declining revenues and quickly rising expenses.”

Commissioner McCree was concerned about the water/sewer deficit since we have added new towns and raised rates in the past couple of years. Mrs. Vause replied the main reason was because the town was behind on maintenance of the sewer plant. She added that both Cerro Gordo and Boardman had lightning strikes on their lift stations.

Commissioner McCree asked if the town could sell the employee fitness center located across from the park and Mrs. Vause said yes.

Commissioner Ashley asked about eliminating the water fund payment to the general fund for administrative costs. Mrs. Vause replied that it wasn't necessary since she splits most bills 1/3 water and sewer fund and 2/3 general fund.

Commissioner Sealey asked how much revenue a one cent increase in property taxes would generate. Mrs. Vause said around \$9,000. She reminded the board the tax rate must be set with the budget but that other fees could be adjusted throughout the year.

Commissioner McCree asked about the computer gaming privilege license fee. Mrs. Vause stated privilege licenses will be billed July 1. She has asked the police officers to look around for any hidden machines. They are currently 10-12 legal machines, which is down from last year because of the state ban that is now being challenged in court. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie asked about Winner's Gifts, located on Main Street. Mrs. Vause replied that the computer gaming portion of their business license will not be renewed unless they move to a different location outside the historic district.

Commissioner Ashley inquired about the fund balance. Mrs. Vause replied that it will be 13 to 14% which is higher than the state minimum of 8% but not as high as the LGC would like it to be.

Commissioner Ashley questioned if the town cut a good deal with the towns hooked on to our sewer system. She wanted to know if we could change the agreement where we can raise their rates but keep ours the same. Mrs. Vause responded the towns will pay the difference if maintenance costs are higher than what is paid under contract.

Commissioner Sealey suggested hiring a part-time town manager that we could share with another town. The manager of Tabor City also works part-time for Fair Bluff and Cerro Gordo. Commissioner Ashley said a part-time manager would have to be an equal advocate for both towns. She asked Mrs. Vause if a part-time manager could work for Fairmont and Mrs. Vause said yes because the police department might be able to handle code enforcement. Mayor Kemp was concerned about finding a town close enough to Fairmont to partner with.

Page 3 – Budget Workshop, May 31, 2011

Commissioner Sealey complimented Mrs. Vause on giving the board an honest, understandable budget for the first time in 8 years. Commissioner McCree liked the budget because he could follow the numbers and it was not blown out of proportion. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie thanked Mrs. Vause for her clear explanation of the budget.

Commissioner McCree said that he was satisfied with the budget unless any other changes come up. The board agreed to cancel the budget workshops scheduled for June 7 and June 14. The budget public hearing will be held during the regular town board meeting on June 21.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – June 21, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Wayland Lennon, III and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Robert Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews, Public Safety Director Danny Parker, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included Rev. Brent Edwards, Jim Perry, Rudy Williams and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and Rev. Brent Edwards, the new pastor at First Presbyterian Church, gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of “Discussion of 2010-2011 Budget” under unfinished business and “Discussion of 2011-2012 Budget” under new business. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into public hearing at 6:05 p.m. to discuss the budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. There were no comments by the public or the board. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Rudy Williams – Historic District Zoning

Mr. Rudy Williams, owner of Winner’s Gifts on Main Street, asked the board to consider grandfathering in his business so he can stay in operation. The business has been open for 8 ½ years and has had no public safety complaints. He is willing to pay the privilege license fee for the computing gaming machines in his establishment. Mr. Williams does not want to take legal action against the town but he needs direction and closure prior to July 1. Mayor Kemp called for a three minute recess to consult with Town Attorney Robert Price at 6:10 p.m. The meeting resumed at 6:13 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Commissioner Sealey, and seconded by Commissioner Townsend, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, May 17, 2011, Budget Workshops, May 24, 2011 and May 31, 2011.

Unfinished Business

Town Manager search process – Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director, Lumber River Council of Governments.

Mr. Jim Perry, Executive Director of the Lumber River Council of Governments, announced that 42 applications were received for the town manager position. Mr. Perry informed the board that sharing a manager with another jurisdiction seldom works out. The only successful example is Tabor City and Fair Bluff. He explained that sharing a manager causes jealousy between the town boards because one town may get more attention than the other. Mr. Perry asked the board how they want to trim the list of applicants. Commissioner Ashley thought it was the intent of the board for each board member to come up with a list of 6 or 7 applicants they would like to interview. Commissioner Lennon asked if reviewing the manager applicants could be added to the budget workshop on June 28. Mayor Kemp said yes and asked all the board members to come review the applications and bring their list of top candidates to the meeting. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to add closed session to the budget workshop on Tuesday, June 28 for the purpose of going into closed session to review and discuss the list of manager candidates to interview. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dogwood Street sewer line project

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that Mr. Paul E. Rawls, Environmental Program Consultant, with the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) conducted an inspection on May 12, 2011 of the aerial sewer line on Dogwood Drive. Mr. Rawls stated that this line is in need of immediate repair and asked the town to provide a final plan of action to address the problem by June 30, 2011.

Mrs. Vause and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals have spoken several times with Mr. Bill Lester of Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates since he is familiar with our system and the Dogwood Street line problems. Mr. Lester came up with two proposals for correcting this problem. The first solution would be to replace the line and remove all trees within the right of way at a cost of \$75,000. The second solution would be to install a small pump station with audible and visible alarms at a cost of \$72,000, which excludes annual operation costs.

Mrs. Vause recommended the \$75,000.00 gravity sewer line replacement proposal since our current pump stations average \$125.00 monthly for an alarm line and electric bill. The difference would pay for itself in two years. She also asked for authorization to pay the \$3,000.00 to Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates for design work. These funds would come from the \$20,000.00 allocated in the 2011-2012 proposed budget. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve the gravity sewer line replacement plan for Dogwood Street and to pay \$3,000 to Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates for the engineering design. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion of 2010-2011 Budget

Commissioner Lennon said the board did not vote for the use of any fund balance in the 2010-2011 budget. He asked Mrs. Vause what the projected fund balance used will be for the amended budget. Mrs. Vause stated that a lot of revenues were overstated for the current budget and that the use of fund balance should be below \$121,000. Commissioner McCree was concerned that if we use fund balance this year and budget it for next year that the town will be at or below the state minimum of 8%. Mrs. Vause explained that current tax revenue was budgeted for more than was billed. Commissioner Lennon felt the board let themselves down by not asking more questions. Commissioner McCree pointed out that every budget in the past had inflated revenues that didn't match expenses causing fund balance to be used in the amended budgets. He suggested freezing the \$60,000 manager position in the upcoming budget to alleviate use of fund balance.

New Business

Resolution 11-3 – Agreement to continue participation in the North Carolina Small Town Main Street Program 2011-2012.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-3, adopting an agreement to continue participation in the North Carolina Small Town Main Street Program for 2011-2012. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of this resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Disposal of foreclosed and other surplus town property.

Mrs. Vause informed the board that Town Attorney Rob Price has compiled options for disposal of surplus property and Town Clerk Jenny Larson has assembled a listing of town owned property that is not being used. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to dispose all eligible surplus property using the upset bid method according to G.S. 160A-269. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion of 2011-2012 Budget

Commissioner Lennon commended the staff for the work on the budget. He would like the town to honor the COPS grant obligation of hiring a 13th police officer even though that would only increase the amount of fund balance. Commissioner Lennon felt the elimination of the \$48,000 transfer from the water fund to the general fund was the right decision since the water fund is not completely self sufficient. He suggested that the 2% Christmas bonus be eliminated in exchange for a 2% raise. Commissioner Lennon asked how much revenue a one cent tax increase would generate. Mrs. Vause responded \$8,305 at a 90% collection rate. Commissioner Lennon asked Mrs. Vause to calculate what the savings would be if the employees' hours were cut back for the next budget workshop. He added that it was not his intention to cut employee hours but to look at all options.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp was very impressed with the enormous amount of work and dedication Mrs. Vause has shown over the last few weeks.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner McCree mentioned a house that is below code and unsalvageable that is so close to another house that if it were to catch on fire, both houses would burn down. Mrs. Vause explained the property has been in that condition for years and to do anything now would be selective code enforcement.

Commissioner Ashley reported that Fairmont's police department is paid less than other departments in the county.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause asked the board to consider raises for all departments, not just one.

Announcements

Thursday, June 23 – Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Sunday, June 26 - Fairmont's Fantastic Fourth celebration, 5:00 - 10:00 p.m., Fairmont Community Park featuring Gold Rush and a huge fireworks show!

Tuesday, June 28 – Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Thursday, June 30 – Special Meeting 6:00 p.m., Approval of amended FY 2009-2010 budget; adoption of FY 2010-2011 budget, Council Chambers.

Page 5 – Regular Meeting, June 21, 2011

Saturday, July 2 - Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Monday, July 4 – Town offices closed in observance of Independence Day.

Tuesday, July 12 - NCDMV Mobile Driver's License Unit, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot.

Friday, July 15 – Fairmont Family Movie Night featuring “The Princess and the Frog,” 8:30 p.m., FDC Pavilion in the Pines at Fairmont Community Park.

Saturday, July 16 - Celebrate Lumber River Day, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Lumber River State Park at Princess Ann in Orrum.

Tuesday, July 19 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Each Saturday - Focus On Fairmont Radio Show with Mayor Charles Kemp, 12:00 noon, WSTS 100.9 FM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop – June 23, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop on Thursday, June 23, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Wayland Lennon, III and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, and Public Safety Director Danny Parker.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and announced that Maxton had a possible tornado this afternoon and Public Works has gone to provide mutual aid in the cleanup.

Budget Workshop - Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that she has reduced the deficit to \$108,078 for 2010-2011. She gave the board a worksheet detailing what each employee makes and what the savings would be if all employees but police worked 72 hours a pay period. Mrs. Vause said the revenue for the 2010-2011 fiscal year was over budgeted by \$138,000. She pointed out that current taxes were over budget by \$50,000 because the town did not bill \$625,000. Prior year taxes were over budgeted by \$40,000. She stated that Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews was doing a fantastic job but it was not realistic for her to collect \$125,000. The remaining \$48,000 was the water fund transfer to the general fund which the water fund could not afford to do. She reduced the fund balance needed to balance the 2011-2012 budget to \$19,610 by cutting supplies, travel and training. Commissioner McCree asked if the town still has to sell \$60,000 in fixed assets to keep the fund balance usage at \$19,610 and Mrs. Vause replied yes. Commissioner Lennon feels the fund balance usage could be as high as \$100,000 since the town did not budget for the 13th police officer and the sale of property may not come through. He pointed out that \$19,610 equals a tax increase of 2.5 cents.

Commissioner Ashley asked if the budget can be amended during the year and Mrs. Vause replied yes. She suggested going over the monthly finance report at the regular board meetings and amending the budget on a quarterly basis. Commissioner Ashley pointed out the sale of fixed assets was a patch for the 2011-2012 budget and asked Mrs. Vause what solutions she saw for the future. Mrs. Vause said the only way to increase revenue would be to raise property taxes.

The board discussed foreclosures and Mrs. Vause stated only the properties with larger tax amounts were being processed. She informed the board that many owners have avoided foreclosure by signing agreements and making monthly payments.

Commissioner McCree asked about the sale of fixed assets and how to determine the minimum amount the town would accept for each property. Commissioner Lennon suggested taking no less than 30-35% of the tax value.

Public Safety Director Danny Parker spoke on behalf of the employees in his department. He informed the board the police department can function with 12 employees. He stated his employees would rather have the 2% Christmas bonus than a 2% raise. Chief Parker did ask the board to consider giving both the bonus and a raise since Fairmont is one of the lowest paid departments in the county. He is afraid of losing experienced officers to other departments and having to replace them with rookies straight out of school.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop – June 28, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Perry Ashley, Wayland Lennon, III and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Jim Perry.

Call to Order

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order. He asked the board to focus on budget specifics so a final budget can be prepared for adoption on Thursday night. He added that the board will go into closed session at the end of the meeting to pare down the list of manager applications for interviews.

Budget Workshop - Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget

Mayor Kemp gave Public Works Director Ronnie Seals a chance to address the board since Public Safety Director Danny Parker spoke at the last budget workshop. Mr. Seals thanked the board for what they do for Public Works. He said his employees appreciate the idea of a raise but they depend on their Christmas bonus.

Commissioner Lennon pointed out that the \$19,610 fund balance, \$60,000 sale of fixed assets and a 13th police officer at \$31,730 equals an exposure of \$111,340. He suggested sharing the burden between the employees and citizens by reducing salaries 2% but keeping the 2% Christmas bonus and raising taxes 11 cents. This proposal includes hiring the 13th police officer but eliminates the need to use fund balance or sale fixed assets. He added the amount received from the sale of fixed assets could be used to amend the budget later in the year. Mayor Kemp said cutting pay and increasing taxes would kill the morale of employees and citizens. Commissioner Townsend suggested a 3 cent tax increase would be a better, more progressive way to get things back in order. Commissioner McCree recommended prolonging hiring a town manager until we sell the surplus property. Commissioner Ashley stated Mrs. Vause does not want to be acting town manager for a long period of time plus the board would have to find someone to handle codes and zoning.

Commissioner Ashley made the following budget suggestions: eliminate the \$12,000 for two police cars, purchase a generator instead of a new door for the fire bay, cut the board's salary by 15%, allow officers with 5 years or more experience that live within a 10 mile radius to drive cars home, fund the 13th police officer and a two cent property tax increase. After some discussion, Mayor Kemp proposed the following budget solutions: a four cent tax increase, no salary decrease, keep the Christmas stipend, work on the cuts Commissioner Ashley proposed and aggressively pursue the \$60,000 sale of surplus property. Commissioner Townsend suggested finding a contractor for zoning and code enforcement and let Mrs. Vause continue to be acting town manager until the first of the year. Mr. Jim Perry with the LRCOG informed the board they could provide zoning and code enforcement assistance and offered to write up a proposal for their consideration.

Commissioner McCree asked about changing the ordinance to allow Winner's Gifts to remain in business in order to generate \$7,500 in revenue from computer gaming privilege license fees.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie's suggestions included: no manager, no tax increase, cut the \$12,000 for the two police cars, don't allow officers to drive cars home and reduce the board's salary. Mrs. Vause suggested having the employees pay \$20 a month on their health insurance.

Mayor Kemp informed Mr. Perry that the town would be holding off on hiring a town manager for the near future. Mr. Perry said he would draft a letter to send to the 42 applicants. Mrs. Vause informed the board she does not want to be the acting manager for the entire fiscal year. She said the town needs a qualified manager who can handle economic development.

After listening to input from the board, Mrs. Vause proposed the following changes to the budget: a four cent property tax increase, continue to freeze the 13th police officer, eliminate the \$12,000 for the two police cars, keep the 2% Christmas stipend, budget 6 months for a town manager, contract codes and zoning and reduce the sale of fixed assets to achieve a balanced budget. She told the board they could reconsider hiring the 13th officer and purchasing the two cars on a quarterly basis. Commissioner Sealey asked for a comparison between a four cent tax increase and a five cent tax increase.

Closed Session - Personnel

Commissioner Ashley made a motion to go into closed session at 8:15 p.m. to prevent the disclosure of information that is deemed privileged or confidential as determined under General Statue 143-318.10(e) and to discuss personnel as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Leak-McKenzie, Lennon, McCree, Townsend and Ashley along with Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to come out of closed session at 8:21 p.m. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that personnel had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) and no action was taken.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Special Meeting – June 30, 2011
Budget Adoption

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Thursday, June 30, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were Wade Sealey, J.J. McCree, Wayland Lennon, III, Charles Townsend, Carol Leak-McKenzie and Perry Ashley. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews and Recreation Director Mickey Williamson.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Administrative Matters

Write Off Uncollected Water Accounts for 2010-2011 in the amount of \$2,513.12

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to write off uncollected water accounts for 2010 - 2011 in the amount of \$2,513.12 and that debt-setoff and other means be used to try and collect. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the uncollected water accounts is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Write Off 2000 Property Taxes in the amount of \$1,401.41

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause commended Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews stating that this year's releases are \$596 less than last year. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to write off the 2000 property taxes in the amount of \$1,401.41 and that debt-setoff and other means be used to try and collect. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the 2000 property tax accounts are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 11-141 – Amending Section 115.06 (B)(2), Allowable Locations, of Chapter 115, Computer Gaming Establishments

Mrs. Vause informed the board this ordinance would allow Winner's Gifts to be grandfathered into the Historic Downtown District but would not allow any new computer gaming establishments. The ordinance reads as follows:

“Section 1. That Section 115.06 (B)(2), Allowable Locations, of Chapter 115, Computer Gaming Establishments, of Title XI, Business Regulations, of the Fairmont Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

“§ 115.06 Allowable Locations.

B. Exception for National Register Location:

2. Any such establishments in existence on April 7, 2010, shall be exempt from this requirement as long as the use of the property as a computer gaming establishment shall meet the requirements of Section 154.006 from the date of the adoption of this amendment.”

Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.”

Commissioner McCree made a motion to adopt Ordinance 11-141 – Amending Section 115.06 (B)(2), Allowable Locations, of Chapter 115, Computer Gaming Establishments. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 5 to 1 as follows:

For: Commissioners Leak-McKenzie, Lennon, McCree, Sealey, & Townsend
Against: Commissioner Ashley

A copy of the ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 11-142 - Amended Fiscal Year Budget 2010-2011

Mrs. Vause said the estimated fund balance usage is \$108,202. She hopes the figure will be smaller once all the bills for the fiscal year are paid. Commissioner McCree asked how much money is left in the overall undesignated fund balance and Mrs. Vause replied around \$200,000. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 11-142 - Amended Fiscal Year Budget 2010-2011 in the amount of \$3,781,861.21. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the 2010-2011 amended budget ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 11-143 - Fiscal Year Budget 2011-2012

Mrs. Vause presented the following information on the 2011-2012 budget to the board:

“GENERAL FUND

I have estimated current year tax revenue based on a valuation of \$92,262,013.00. The tax rate was increased by .04 cent to a rate of .73. I computed revenue of \$606,160.00 at a 90% collection rate. I was also asked to compute a .05 increase. This would equal \$614,465.00 for a difference of \$ 8,305.00. The budget ordinance was completed at the .73 tax rate.

The General Fund Budget does not appropriate any fund balance. I made the following changes to obtain the zero appropriation:

1. Deletion of \$12,000.00 in the Police Department for two vehicles;
2. The appropriation in the Public Buildings Department for fire bay doors was reduced from \$6,000.00 to \$1,000.00;
3. The manager’s salary and related expenses were reduced to a six month total;
4. The Acting Manager’s salary was increased to a six month total;
5. \$760.00 has been appropriated to the Planning, Codes and Zoning Department budget. The LRCOG will provide code enforcement and zoning services for five hours per month at no fee and will charge \$60 per hour plus mileage for any extra hours.
6. We were able to reduce sale of fixed asset revenue from \$60,000.00 to \$19,455.00.

I have continued the freeze on the 13th position in the police department. The Christmas Stipend of 2% remains in the budget.

WATER/SEWER FUND

The Water/Sewer Fund budget continues as presented earlier as a balanced budget without a deficit and includes \$20,000.00 for the Dogwood Street Project, the generator at the Morro Street Pump Station and the \$10,000.00 well casing.”

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to adopt Ordinance 11-143 - Fiscal Year Budget 2011-2012 in the amount of \$2,980,888.08. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it failed with a vote of 2 to 4 as follows:

For: Commissioners Sealey and Townsend
Against: Commissioners Ashley, Leak-McKenzie, Lennon and McCree

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Townsend again made a motion to adopt Ordinance 11-143 - Fiscal Year Budget 2011-2012 in the amount of \$2,980,888.08. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

For: Commissioners Lennon, Sealey, Townsend and Mayor Kemp
Against: Commissioners Ashley, Leak-McKenzie, and McCree

A copy of the 2011-2012 budget ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes. Commissioner McCree stated for the record that his negative vote had nothing to do with the upcoming election. He has been concerned about the dwindling fund balance for years.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk