

Regular Meeting – July 19, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, July 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, Wayland Lennon, III and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Town Attorney Robert Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Safety Director Danny Parker, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. He announced that Acting Town Manager Linda Vause was on vacation this week.

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

Commissioner McCree asked that his comments at the end of the June 30, 2011 minutes be added. Upon motion by Commissioner McCree, and seconded by Commissioner Sealey, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item as amended:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, June 21, 2011, Budget Workshop, June 23, 2011, Budget Workshop, June 28, 2011 and Special Meeting, June 30, 2011.

Unfinished Business

Disposal of foreclosed and other surplus town property.

Town Clerk Jenny Larson asked the board to set minimum prices on the available surplus property so it can be advertised for offers. Commissioner Lennon felt it would be better to just advertise the tax value. Commissioner McCree thought setting a minimum price would speed up the process. Commissioner Sealey felt it would be better not to advertise a minimum price because the offers would not be very high. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to advertise available surplus property with picture and tax value in all appropriate local media including The Robesonian, The Robeson Journal, The Fayetteville Observer, Fairmont Bugle, Fairmont's website and Facebook page. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The following properties will be advertised:

“The Town of Fairmont is accepting offers for the following properties:

- (1) Old Warehouse site on North Walnut Street, Parcel 300201007, Tax Value \$30,200
- (2) Three lots at Hwy 130 & Hwy 41 next to Hi-Dollar Warehouse – section 1, Parcel 301201014, Tax Value \$33,100, section 2, Parcel 301201016, Tax Value \$28,000, and section 3, Parcel 301201017, Tax Value \$13,300 for a total Tax Value for these 3 lots \$74,400.
- (3) Employee Fitness Center (next to Ideal Florist), Parcel 300803013, Tax Value \$48,000
- (4) Williamson house on Market Street, Parcel 30060101801, Tax Value \$35,400. *
- (5) Mercer house – 501 Iona Street, Parcel 300503006, Tax Value \$93,100.
- (6) Mercer house – 606 North Main Street, Parcel 300303003, Tax Value \$21,400. *
- (7) Mercer House – 505 Gertrude Street, Parcel 300503006, Tax Value \$13,100. *
- (8) Rising Stars Studio, 309 Main Street, Parcel 300801008, Tax Value \$27,300. *
- (9) Studio Fashions (burnt out), 319 Main Street, Parcel 300801011, Tax Value \$25,300. *

* For each of 4 and 6-9, the structure on this property requires repair or removal, and any offer should address that need.

All offers require a deposit of 5% of the offer amount while upset offer procedure takes place. Once an offer is received the town may, if the offer is considered sufficient, adopt a resolution authorizing the upset offer procedure. Pictures of the properties are shown at <http://www.fairmontnc.com/property.html>.”

New Business

Bridge Inspection Agreement with the NCDOT

Mrs. Larson asked the board to approve a ten year agreement with the NCDOT for the inspection of the town’s three bridges. Commissioner Ashley made a motion to adopt the Bridge Inspection Agreement with the NCDOT. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of this agreement is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced there will be a 10th Anniversary 9/11 Tribute Parade on Saturday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m. followed by a refreshment social, tribute program and entertainment at the FDC Pavilion in the Pines at Fairmont Community Park.

Mayor Kemp announced the NCDOT will be adding the words “Historic Fairmont” to the I-95 Exit 2 and Exit 10 signs this week.

Mayor Kemp informed the board that the town staff would like to close Town Hall for lunch from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. every day starting in August.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Ashley announced that Trinity UMC was hosting a meeting with Dave Ramsey on Thursday at 8:00 p.m. and the topic is helping people with financial issues.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie had a phone call about tombstones being knocked over in the cemetery when the grass is mowed.

Closed Session - Personnel

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go 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 McCree 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 Sealey made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:15 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). Commissioner McCree made a motion to pay Acting Town Manager and Finance Officer Linda Vause the salary equivalent of \$25 an hour as long as she is acting town manager. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Announcements

Thursday, July 21 - Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

Tuesday, August 2 - National Night Out, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Thursday, August 4 - Back to School Celebration, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Southeastern NC Agricultural Center in Lumberton.

Saturday, August 6 - Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Saturday, August 6 - MWF Pro Wrestling Match, 5:30 p.m., Fairmont Middle School. Sponsored by South Robeson Rescue.

Tuesday, August 9 - NCDMV Mobile Driver's License Unit, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot.

Tuesday, August 16 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

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Thursday, August 25 - First Day of School.

Monday, September 5 - Town offices and schools closed in observance of Labor 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 7:16 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – August 16, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 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, Public Safety Director Danny Parker, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included Charlie Ray Hunt and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

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

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Lennon requested that the monthly financial statement report be discussed under unfinished business. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve the amended agenda with the addition of “Monthly Financial Statement Report” under unfinished business. 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 Leak-McKenzie, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, July 19, 2011.

Unfinished Business

Possible Resolution on Mercer bid for property at 501 Iona Street.

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that an offer was received for 501 Iona Street from Mrs. Norma Mercer. She explained that the board may adopt Resolution 11-4, authorizing the advertisement of an offer to purchase certain property, so the town can accept counter offers on the property. The resolution reads as follows:

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT OF AN OFFER TO PURCHASE CERTAIN PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the Town, described below;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has received an offer to purchase the property described below from Norma Mercer for the sum of \$16,700; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 160A-269 permits the Town to sell property by upset bid, after receipt of an offer for the property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that:

1. The following described property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the Town: 501 Iona Street (the Mercer house), Parcel 300503006, Tax Value \$93,100.
2. The Board of Commissioners intends to accept the offer unless a qualifying upset bid shall be made.
3. The Town Clerk shall cause a notice of the proposed sale to be published in accordance with G.S. 160A-269.
4. Persons wishing to upset the offer must submit a written offer to the Town Clerk within ten (10) days after publication of the notice. A person making an upset bid must deposit with the Town Clerk a sum equal to five percent (5%) of his or her offer by cash or money order. Once a qualifying upset bid has been received, that offer will become the new offer.
5. If a qualifying upset bid is received, the Town Clerk is directed to re-advertise the offer at the increased offer amount and to continue with this process until a ten (10) day period has passed without receipt of a qualifying upset bid.
6. The terms of a final sale are that
 - a. the Town Board must approve the final high offer before a sale is closed, which it will consider within 30 days after the final upset bid period has passed,
 - b. the Town will pay the cost of deed preparation, the property tax for years prior to the year in which the sale closes, and any tax stamps due. The Buyer must pay current year taxes and all other costs of closing,
 - c. the Town will use a quitclaim deed to transfer the property, and
 - d. the buyer must pay with cash at the time of closing.
7. The Town reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale at any time before the final high bid is accepted and the right to reject all bids at any time.”

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to not adopt Resolution 11-4 authorizing the advertisement of an offer to purchase certain property in The Robesonian and Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion. After discussion and a call for vote, the board voted unanimously against the motion. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-4 authorizing the advertisement of an offer to purchase certain property in The Robesonian. Commissioner McCree 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.

Monthly Financial Statement Report

Commissioner Lennon wondered if the financial report could show the budget amount for July vs. the expenditures for July. Mrs. Vause explained the budget is on an annual basis not monthly because many expenses are unplanned. Commissioner Lennon indicated that the monthly financial statement doesn't give a clear picture of where we are and whether the town's finances are in good or bad shape. Mrs. Vause invited Commissioner Lennon to come by the office and help her with a formula and spreadsheet because she was confused by what he wanted. Commissioner Lennon changed his mind and said he wouldn't bring it up again. Commissioner McCree asked why the gaming revenue was only 80% and Mrs. Vause explained that one of the gaming businesses closed. Commissioner Ashley suggested having a financial update every meeting to continue dialogue about the budget year round. Mrs. Vause informed the board the town is aggressively going after meter tampering water customers and currently has three cases who have been charged a \$50 fine.

New Business

Fairmont Rural Fire Department request for lot.

Charlie Ray Hunt, President of the Fairmont Rural Fire Department, came before the board with a request for the town owned lot next to their fire station. Mrs. Vause informed the board that the town owns the property and mows the grass. Years ago, the town exchanged lots with the Rural Fire Department when they were building their station. Mr. Hunt explained the department is planning to expand and add an ambulance service. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to donate the lot located at the corner of Red Cross and Morro Streets to the Fairmont Rural Fire Department with the understanding that the Rural Fire Department will pay all legal fees for the deed transfer. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp reminded the board about the 10th Anniversary 9/11 Tribute Parade on Saturday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m. followed by a tribute program and entertainment at the FDC Pavilion in the Pines at Fairmont Community Park. The guest speaker will be Rev. Bob Johnson, a chaplain called to the World Trade Center after the collapse of the twin towers.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Sealey thanked Chief Parker and his officers for their swift response in capturing the suspects that broke into his business.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie is thankful to be alive and back home after her family was in a wreck last week on the New Jersey turnpike. Their car was totaled but no one got hurt, just banged up.

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Commissioner Ashley thanked Chief Parker for his alerts and updates on Facebook.

Commissioner Townsend encouraged everyone to get involved with Robeson Health Care Corporation's Prevention Program to help youth.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause explained that the town office has no afternoon receptionist now due to budget cuts at the LRCOG.

Mrs. Vause announced she has jury duty the week of the September board meeting but it should not prevent her from being at the meeting.

Announcements

Thursday, August 18 - Fairmont Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

Friday, August 19 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Union (AWAY), 7:30 p.m.

Monday, August 22 - Fairmont Chamber of Commerce social, 5:30 p.m., Fairmont Golf Course.

Tuesday, August 23 - Rosenwald Elementary School Open House, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Fairmont Middle School Open House, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Fairmont High School Open House, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 25 - First Day of School.

Friday, August 26 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Hobbton (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

Friday, September 2 - Fairmont High School Football vs. West Bladen (AWAY), 7:30 p.m.

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

Monday, September 5 - Schools and Town Offices closed in observance of Labor Day.

Monday, September 5 - Labor Day Sidewalk Sale, 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Main Street.

Friday, September 9 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Lake View (AWAY), 7:30 p.m.

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Saturday, September 10 - 9/11 Tribute Parade & Memorial Program. Parade, 10:00 a.m. on Main Street, Program, 11:00 a.m. and Concert, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., FDC Pavilion in the Pines.

Tuesday, September 13 - NCDMV Driver's License Mobile Unit, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Town Hall Parking Lot.

Friday, September 16 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Ashley (AWAY), 7:30 p.m.

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 6:55 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – September 20, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Perry Ashley, and Charles Townsend. Commissioners Wayland Lennon, III and Carol Leak-McKenzie were out of town and Commissioner Lennon participated by telephone. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Robert Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Major David Windom. Others in attendance included Mr. and Mrs. E.R. Gause, Herb Dallas, Huel Faulk, Jerome Sebesta and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. He announced that Commissioner Lennon was participating by telephone and that Commissioner Leak-McKenzie was out of town picking up her husband up from the hospital.

Approval of Agenda

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

Mayor Presentations

Special Honor to Outstanding Citizen – E. R. Gause

Mayor Kemp presented a plaque in special honor to outstanding citizen, E.R. Gause. Mayor Kemp and Mr. Herb Dallas made some remarks about Mr. Gause being a first class citizen, great educator and role model to others.

Proclamations honoring Robeson County First Responders and Andrew McKenzie

Mayor Kemp read the following proclamation honoring Robeson County First Responders that was presented during 10th anniversary service of September 11:

TO HONOR ALL FIRST RESPONDERS IN ROBESON COUNTY

WHEREAS, the lives and property of all citizens of Robeson County are of great importance; and

WHEREAS, on many occasions in our county incidents occur which require the assistance of trained professionals whose skills are needed; and

WHEREAS, these trained professionals respond willingly to all incidents within their jurisdiction regardless of time of day, weather conditions, or their own personal needs; and

WHEREAS, as a result of their able assistance and valuable service many lives and property have been saved;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charles Kemp, Mayor of the Town of Fairmont, do hereby offer this proclamation to pay tribute to all first responders in Robeson County and offer appreciation, on behalf of the citizens of Fairmont, for their dedication, unselfishness, devotion, and professional skill. We truly appreciate what you do and value your service to us all.

This the 10th day of September, 2011.

Mayor Kemp also read a proclamation honoring Andrew McKenzie:

PAYING TRIBUTE TO A LOCAL FIREFIGHTER

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001 terrorists attacked the World Trade Center in New York City inflicting the loss of many lives and destroying both structures; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of firefighters in New York City and surrounding areas were called into service to fight the fires in the buildings, rescue those not killed, and provide comfort to the survivors; and

WHEREAS, one of those firefighters was Andrew McKenzie assigned to a Fire Department of a neighboring city and who is now a resident of Fairmont N. C.;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charles Kemp, Mayor of the Town of Fairmont, do hereby offer this proclamation to pay tribute to Andrew McKenzie's loyal service to his fellow citizens on September 11, 2001 and to the skills he offered as a fire fighter to rescue and save his fellow citizens. His professional skills and unselfishness no doubt resulted in a positive outcome for many of the survivors of that day. We are very proud of his contributions to his fellow citizens and are proud to have him as a resident of our community.

This the 20th day of September, 2011.

A copy of the signed proclamations are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Huel Faulk – Concerns about properties located at 308 Jackson St. and 700 Stafford St.

Mr. Huel Faulk spoke on behalf of the elderly residents living near 308 Jackson Street and 700 Stafford Street. Both properties are dilapidated and have been broken into and trashed. He asked the board to consider cleaning up the properties.

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, August 16, 2011.

Unfinished Business

Accept offer for property at 501 Iona Street.

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that only one bid was received for the property at 501 Iona Street and suggested they adopt Resolution 11-5, which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 11-5 ACCEPTING BID AND AUTHORIZING SALE OF
REAL PROPERTY – TAX PARCEL 3005-03-006

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2011, Board of Commissioners approved Resolution 11-04 declaring tax parcel 3005-03-006 as surplus and authorizing the sale of that property through the upset bid procedure of North Carolina General Statute 160A-269; and,

WHEREAS, Norma Mercer made the initial bid for the property in the amount of \$16,700.00; and,

WHEREAS, notice of the offer and the upset bid process was properly advertised; and,

WHEREAS, no upset bid has been received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont that it does hereby accept the offer bid of Norma Mercer in the amount of \$16,700.00 and authorize the sale of the real property lying and being in the Town of Fairmont, Lumberton Township, Robeson County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stake, the southwest corner of Iona and Pitman Streets, and running South 28.5 West with said street 209 feet; thence North 61 West 209 feet; thence North 28.5 East 209 feet to Iona Street; thence with said street South 61 East 209 feet to the BEGINNING, and being a part of the Molly C. Floyd lands. Being the same tract described in Book 5-B at page 593, Book 464 at page 302, Book 602 at page 551, and Book 646 at page 129, Robeson County Registry. Edith Floyd Fisher died intestate on May 31, 1984 in Robeson County, survived by her husband and children, whose identities are reflected in the deed recorded in Book 602 at page 551, Robeson County Registry. This property is identified in the Robeson County Tax Office as 3005-03-006.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont that it does hereby authorize the Mayor and Town Clerk to execute a deed to Norma Mercer for the above-described property for and on behalf of the Town of Fairmont.

Adopted this 20th day of September, 2011.

Commissioner McCree made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-5 accepting bid and authorizing sale of real property – Tax Parcel 3005-03-006. Commissioner Townsend 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

Presentation – NC Senior Care Council

Mr. Jerome Sebesta, Executive Director of the North Carolina Senior Care Council gave a presentation on the “No Veteran Benefits Left Behind Program.” Mr. Sebesta is a VA Accredited Claims Agent. The purpose of the program is to educate citizens and assist all veterans, veteran spouses and widows receive the VA benefits they are eligible for.

NC International Terminal at Southport

Mrs. Vause presented a resolution of support for the feasibility study for the proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport, which reads as follows:

Resolution 11-6

Resolution in Support of the Recommended Feasibility Study for the Proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport

WHEREAS, the facts regarding the ECONOMIC IMPACTS of the proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport have not been determined; and

WHEREAS, the facts regarding the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS of the proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport have not been determined; and

WHEREAS, the facts regarding the INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS related to the proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport have not been determined; and

WHEREAS, the movement of many Asian freight carriers to the “New Panamax” or “Post Panamax” class of container vessel is logical, reasonable, economical, and inevitable; and

WHEREAS, the “New Panamax” container vessels can only dock in deepwater ports and that the current port at Wilmington cannot handle vessels of the size; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Fairmont Board of Commissioners, wish for it to be known and clearly understood that we feel that the proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport project merits a full and complete Feasibility Study as recommended by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. We feel that any project of this size and scope has the potential to dramatically affect the economic well-being of our County, the Southeast Region, and our entire State. As such, we give our full and unwavering support of the completion of the recommended Feasibility Study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Fairmont fully supports the completion of the recommended Feasibility Study for the Proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport.

Approved and Adopted this the 20th day of September, 2011.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-6, Support of the Recommended Feasibility Study for the Proposed North Carolina International Terminal at Southport. 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.

Request by Public Safety Department to trade weapons

Public Safety Director Danny Parker requested permission to trade two Smith and Wesson submachine guns purchased in June 1969 for new modern guns. The gun company Sig Sauer has offered \$9,000 for both weapons in trade for five new guns at a cost of \$1,500 each. The Public Safety Department would use the new weapons as part of a Special Operations Team. The new five man team would handle high risk situations such as school shootings, hostage situations, gang violence and suicidal subjects without having to wait for assistance from the county. Chief Parker assured the board that the team would not be activated until the officers were fully trained. Commissioner McCree suggested Chief Parker seek more appraisals on the old guns to get the best price. Mayor Kemp asked Chief Parker to come back in October with additional information.

Set FDC Pavilion in the Pines rental rate

Mrs. Vause asked the board to establish a rental rate for the Fairmont Development Corporation Pavilion in the Pines. The picnic shelters are currently rented for \$25 for two hours. Commissioner Ashley made a motion to set the rent of the FDC Pavilion in the Pines at \$25 with no power and \$50 with power for two hours with a \$25 refundable deposit. Commissioner Lennon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced that the Town of Proctorville will host the RCMA meeting on September 29.

Mayor Kemp announced that the Sidney Lanier Book Club will dedicate the historic marker honoring Joseph Mitchell on Tuesday, September 27 at 11:00 a.m. on the museum grounds.

Commissioners Input

There was no commissioner input this month.

Manager Input

Monthly Financial Report

Mrs. Vause presented the following financial summary to the board:

Tax collections for the month of August gave our checking account a much needed boost. Our checking account at the close of business July 31st was \$37,972.16. The balance at the end of August was \$220,358.61. This is the first year since FYE 2004 that I did not have to transfer funds from savings to checking for operations.

Your department managers are striving to keep our expenses down. Our Budget vs Actual Statement shows that the Fire Department is at 37%. This is because we have met our obligation for the match for our Department of Insurance Grant. Chief Parker has filed for the reimbursement of \$9,300.

The Street Department is an area of concern. Maintenance and repair in Streets has been over budget for the past two months. There have been problems with the lawn mowers and the street sweeper. Hopefully with the return of cooler weather these problems will lessen. If not, we will need to cut back in other areas to compensate.

Non-departmental is at 59% vs the theoretical 16.66%. This is to be expected with the payment of over thirty thousand for insurance premiums. The lot at 107 McDaniel Street (the former Williamson house) should be cleaned up shortly. This expense of \$3,000.00 will come from our Planning and Code Enforcement Department. This department will also require close monitoring.

Revenues have exceeded expenditures \$84,555.69 through the month of August. We may need to look at other ways to dispose of our surplus real estate; such as the use of a realtor. The sale of the Mercer house on Iona Street will put us close to our budgeted \$19,455.00 for sale of fixed assets. I hope that we will exceed that amount before too much longer.

Revenues in the Water/Sewer Fund have exceeded expenditures by \$18,127.51 for the current year. All of the departments in this fund are close to the 16.66% target.

The Water Maintenance Department may require adjustments in the future. There have been several water line breaks this summer. These breaks are usually more prevalent in the winter. This week we had our third lightning strike of the year at the waste water treatment plant. These strikes cause an additional expense of \$1,000.00 each time.

It continues to be a tight budget year. We were aware of this going into this year. It is going to take conservation by everyone, department managers and staff, to get through these tough financial times.

Closed Session – Attorney-Client Privilege G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into closed session at 7:20 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 attorney-client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Kemp, Commissioners Sealey, Ashley, McCree, Townsend and Lennon (by telephone) along with Linda Vause, Rob Price and Jenny Larson were in attendance during closed session.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:35 p.m. Commissioner Townsend 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) and no action was taken.

Announcements

Friday, September 23 - Fairmont High School Football vs. Jones Senior (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

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Saturday, September 24 - Baltimore Baptist Fall Festival & Plate Sale, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., BBQ plate sale, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., \$6.00.

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

Saturday, October 1 - Senior Citizens Annual Cookout, 12:30 to 3:00 p.m., Luther Britt Park.

Friday, October 7 - Fairmont High School Football vs. West Columbus (AWAY), 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 8 - Fairmont Farmers Festival Pageant, 3:00 and 6:30 p.m., E.R. Gause Auditorium, Rosenwald Elementary School.

Friday, October 14 - Fairmont Chamber of Commerce 4th annual Farmers Festival Golf Tournament, 1:00 p.m., Fairmont Golf Club.

Friday, October 14 - Fairmont High School Homecoming Parade, 4:00 p.m., and Football Game vs. Red Springs (HOME), 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 15 - 25th annual Fairmont Farmers Festival, Parade 10:00 a.m. followed by FREE evening concert by Summer Daze at the FDC Pavilion in the Pines starting at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 18 - 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 7:36 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – October 18, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 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, and Charles Townsend. Commissioners Wayland Lennon, III and Perry Ashley were out of town and Commissioner Lennon participated by telephone. Commissioner Charles Townsend was late and arrived at 6:35 p.m. Town Attorney Rob Price was out of town. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Major David Windom. Others in attendance included Daren Bastidas, Joann Anderson, the 2011-2012 Fairmont Farmers Festival Queens, their families and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

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

Mayor Presentations

Joann Anderson- SRMC

Mrs. Joann Anderson, President and CEO of Southeastern Regional Medical Center spoke to the board about the hospital's Strategic Plan Focus. SRMC's mission is to provide quality regional healthcare in a safe, compassionate and efficient environment. Mrs. Anderson asked the board to think about how SRMC can benefit Fairmont and be a partner in the community. The hospital was just named #1 in NC for cardiology and #2 overall for cardiac services. Commissioner Sealey mentioned that an exercise facility would be nice.

Introduction of 2011-2012 Fairmont Farmers Festival Queens

Mayor Kemp introduced the 2011-2012 Fairmont Farmers Festival Queens. They are Wee Miss Lizzie Sealy, Little Briana Deal, Tiny Miss Madison Strickland, Junior Miss Margo Hunt, Teen Miss Brittany Deese, Miss Brianna Hunt, Mini-Ambassador Chloe Locklear, and Ambassador Yasmon Carter. Royal Ambassador Hayleigh McCormick was not able to attend.

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

Daren Bastidas, 606 Market Street, comment about recent break-ins

Mr. Daren Bastidas, of 606 Market Street, commented about the recent break-ins in his neighborhood. He was disturbed by some racial comments made by citizens about the accused thief.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, September 20, 2011.

Unfinished Business

501 Iona Street bid – request for time extension on payment.

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that Mrs. Norma Mercer asked Town Attorney Rob Price if she could have until November 1st to pay for the balance of her bid of \$16,700 on 501 Iona Street. Commissioner McCree made a motion to give Mrs. Mercer an extension until November 1st to pay for her bid on 501 Iona Street. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 1 as follows:

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

Commissioner Lennon was very disappointed and felt Mrs. Mercer was not dealing with the town in a forthright, truthful manner.

Weapons trade update – Public Safety Director Danny Parker

Public Safety Director Danny Parker received several additional quotes for trading or selling the two old Smith & Wesson submachine guns. The best quote was from 21st Century Firearms trading the two guns for five Colt rifles and accessories for \$10,914.20. Chief Parker said the officers could start training on how to use the new rifles next spring or summer. He added that Bladenboro and Chadbourn have SWAT teams and they are similar in size to Fairmont. Commissioner McCree suggested selling the two old guns instead of trading them for new weapons and using the money for more pressing needs in the police department. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to proceed with Public Safety Director Danny Parker's recommendation to trade the two old submachine guns for \$10,914.20 worth of guns and equipment from 21st Century Firearms and to start the Special Operations Team. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion but it failed with a vote of 3 to 2 as follows:

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

Commissioner Townsend suggested selling the weapons and using the money for other needs and contacting Homeland Security for grant money to start a SWAT team. Commissioner McCree was concerned that training officers for a SWAT team would only lead to a higher turnover rate due to the town's low officer salaries.

New Business

There was no new business this month.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced the next RCMA meeting will be Tuesday, October 25 in St. Pauls at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Kemp announced the creation of the JOBS (Job Opportunity and Business Support) Team, which will have its first meeting on Wednesday, October 19.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie thanked the board for the proclamation honoring her husband for his efforts following 9-11. She said it brought tears to her eyes and that it boosted his morale following his recent surgery. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie said she hoped the board didn't mind that she would rather participate in the Farmers Festival parade rather than sit and watch it.

Commissioner Sealey thanked everyone for the hard work that went into this year's festival. He said it was an outstanding festival and hoped everyone enjoyed it.

Commissioner Lennon felt the festival committee did a great job. He said it was a fantastic day. He enjoyed the evening concert and fireworks and thought the park was a great venue.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause thanked Jenny Larson, Mickey Williamson, Danny Parker, Ronnie Seals, Louise Grier and Nina Johnson for their great job on the Farmers Festival.

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

All of the town's departments have been pretty much within budget this month.

The Fire Department is at 43% of budget versus the theoretical 25% as of September 30th. The majority of the overage is due to the NC Department of Insurance fire grant. The expenditures exceeded the estimate by \$2,319.00. This will cause other line items in the department to be reduced. The annual fire truck payment will be made in October. The other major expense is the annual stipend given to the volunteer firefighters each November.

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The Street Department's expenses were less in September. Adjustments to the budget will be required if there are any more equipment failures.

\$670.00 of the appropriation for the Border Belt Museum was spent for the new museum signs. There is \$330.00 remaining of their appropriation.

White House Packing has once again closed their doors. This will adversely affect the sewer revenue miscellaneous line item. On the bright side, reconnect revenue is up. We are more diligent in applying the fee of \$25.00 to accounts cut-off due to non-payment.

The Water Maintenance Department is slightly over budget at a theoretical 33%. The annual maintenance contract in the amount of \$19,555.62 has been paid for the year.

The majority of the bills have been paid for the lightning strikes at the waste water treatment plant. I anticipate at least \$8,000.00 reimbursement from our insurance company.

Announcements

Saturday, October 22 - "Cash for Trash" Student Recycling Contest, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Town Hall parking lot.

Tuesday, October 25 – RCMA meeting, 7:00 p.m., St. Pauls Community Center.
October 24 - October 31 - South Robeson Rescue Haunted Forest, 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Admission \$5

Friday, October 28 - Fairmont High School Football vs. St. Pauls (HOME Senior Night), 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 28 - Teacher workday, no school.

Friday, October 28 - Sunday, October 30 - Lumberton Air Show.

Saturday, October 29 - Greenbriar Social with Mayor Kemp and the Festival Queens, 2:00 p.m.

Monday, October 31 - Trick or Treat with Dr. Electrode, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Town Hall front porch.

Friday, November 4 - State Football playoffs.

Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5 - Fairmont Rural Fire Department Fried Chicken plate sale, 10:00 a.m. until. Plates \$6.

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

Tuesday, November 8 - Election Day, Voting for Precincts 1 and 2 will be in the Fairmont Fire Hall.

Friday, November 11 - Veteran's Day ceremony, 11:00 a.m., Heritage Center. Town offices and schools closed.

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Sunday, November 13 – US Army Brass Brigade Band Concert, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m., Heritage Center.

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

Thursday, November 17 – Community Watch, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom

Saturday, November 19 - Lumberton Christmas Parade, 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 23 - Friday, November 25 - Schools closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 25 - 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 7:15 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – November 15, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, November 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, Wayland Lennon, III, Perry Ashley and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Major David Windom. Others in attendance included Carol King, Bill Lester, Shea Ann Dejarnette, Tanya Underwood and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Mayor Presentations

Junior Master Gardeners

Mayor Kemp presented certificates of appreciation to Shea Ann Dejarnette, Tanya Underwood, and Kerri Roach for working with the Dirty Rascals 4-H Junior Master Gardeners club on landscaping the town welcome signs.

New Fairmont Farmers Festival Chairman – Carey Pittman

Mayor Kemp announced that Jan Tedder-Rogers has stepped down as chairman of the Fairmont Farmers Festival. He introduced Carey Pittman as the new chairman.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

There was no public comment this month.

Consent Agenda

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

- b. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, October 18, 2011.

Unfinished Business

501 Iona Street bid update

Town Attorney Robert Price informed the board that Mrs. Norma Mercer was in default on the bid for the 501 Iona Street Property. Mr. Price suggested proceeding with further attempts to sell the property with the stipulation that she not be allowed to bid for one year. He added that it was equally appropriate to take no action. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to take no further action on the 501 Iona Street bid. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution 11-7 Authorizing the disposition of surplus weapons

Mayor Kemp stated that Commissioner Lennon requested the disposition of surplus weapons be placed on the agenda since no alternative motion was presented at last month's meeting. Acting Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that the weapons have to be declared surplus before they can be sold and that the board can designate the proceeds for public safety use.

**RESOLUTION 11-7 AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN PERSONAL
PROPERTY BY PRIVATE SALE**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the Town;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners that:

- (1) The following described property is hereby determined to have a total value of less than \$30,000 and is declared to be surplus to the needs of the Town:

Two (2) Smith and Wesson M-76 9mm submachine guns and four (4) magazines.
- (2) The Town Manager is authorized to dispose of the described property by private sale at a negotiated price.
- (3) The Town Clerk shall publish notice summarizing this Resolution in accordance with G.S. 160A-267.
- (4) The sale may be consummated not earlier than 10 days from the date of publication.

Adopted this 15th day of November, 2011.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-7 authorizing the disposition of surplus weapons with the proceeds designated for public safety use. 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.

Town Manager search

Mrs. Vause reminded the board that the current year budget includes a new manager for six months. The advertising, interviewing and selection process could take sixty to ninety days. Mrs. Vause told the board that she has enjoyed most of her duties as Acting Manager and that it has definitely been a learning experience. She would like to have a town manager in place before beginning the budget process for 2012-2013. Commissioner McCree asked about the possibility of a part time manager due to the town's tight budget. Mayor Kemp suggested the possibility of an interim manager. Commissioner Sealey agreed the best short term solution would be to find an interim manager with experience in economic development. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to contact Mr. Jim Perry with the LRCOG and ask him to look for an interim town manager that can assist the town until we are in a better situation financially. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Recycling Report – Carol King

Mrs. Carol King gave a report on recycling efforts in the community. The town has held three "Cash for Trash" contests and collected 12,776 pounds. Educational recycling coloring books were delivered to Rosenwald Elementary School. Composting bins, water cans and Waste Management flower seeds have been provided to the elementary and middle schools. Waste Management plans to provide a promotional container to the middle school for can and bottle recycling. Mrs. King is planning an "Earth Day in the Park" celebration in April 2012 to showcase what the schools have done. Rosenwald Elementary will be challenging Fairmont residents to fill a dump truck with aluminum cans as a fundraiser for the school.

USDA Rural Development – sewer line project update by Bill Lester, approval of engineering contract with Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates, approval of Resolution 11-8 ratifying legal services contract with Robert Price and Resolution 11-9 Providing for application to the Local Government Commission for approval of Water and Sewer System Revenue Bonds.

Mr. Bill Lester, with Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates gave the board an update on the sewer line project and funding from USDA Rural Development. Mr. Lester informed the board that the Clean Water Management Trust Fund graded the town's application for "Sewer System Rehabilitation" very high and our project is next in priority for funding. Their official award will occur in the near future predicated on the availability of matching funds. Mr. Lester and Mrs. Vause have been meeting with USDA Rural Development and their approval of our loan request of \$400,000 should occur before the end of the calendar year. The town's Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Review are basically approved pending the submittal of a few minor revisions. The project will rehabilitate and upgrade approximately 5,500 LF of deteriorated sewer lines within the system that have been designated as a major source of inflow and infiltration.

The total estimated project cost is \$1,000,000. The project will be funded with a \$600,000 grant from Clean Water Management Trust Fund and a \$400,000 loan from USDA Rural Development. The annual payment for the loan is estimated at \$16,000. Concurrent with the application process, USDA Rural Development requires the town to provide an executed engineering agreement. The town will need to provide interim financing for the engineering services as the design must be completed prior to final USDA approval. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve the engineering contract with Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates for the sewer system rehabilitation project. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Vause asked the board to adopt Resolution 11-8, ratifying legal services agreement with Town Attorney Rob Price as part of the USDA Rural Development loan application. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 11-8 RATIFYING LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairmont is striving to improve its sewer lines; and,

WHEREAS, a legal services agreement is needed to perform all customary legal services necessary to the organizing, financing (other than the services of bond counsel), construction, and initial operation of a sewer line improvement project; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service, requires a legal services agreement to be in place before funding can be released; and,

WHEREAS, Robert E. Price, attorney at law, has agreed to provide legal services for the Town of Fairmont for this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont that the legal services agreement between Robert E. Price, attorney at law, and the Town of Fairmont executed on November 7, 2011, is hereby approved and ratified.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-8 ratifying legal services agreement with Robert Price. Commissioner McCree 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.

Mrs. Vause asked the board to adopt Resolution 11-9 providing for application to the Local Government Commission for approval of Water and Sewer System Revenue Bonds and hiring Hunton & Williams LLP as bond counsel as part of the USDA Rural Development loan application. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 11-9 PROVIDING FOR APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL OF WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS; REQUESTING LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION APPROVAL OF SUCH WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS; AND CERTAIN RELATED MATTERS AND FINDINGS

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairmont, North Carolina (the “Town”) acting by and through its Board of Commissioners (the “Board”), is authorized by The State and Local Government Revenue Act of North Carolina, N.C.G.S. § 159-80 to issue revenue bonds and notes; and

WHEREAS the Board has determined that it is necessary to acquire, install and replace sewer lines in the Town (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Board is considering the issuance of not to exceed \$400,000 in the aggregate principal amount of the Town’s Water and Sewer System Revenue Bonds (the “Bonds”) to finance the Project, and, in connection therewith, to issue its Water and Sewer System Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes (the “Notes”) to be repaid with the proceeds of the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes the Town Manager to file with the Local Government Commission of North Carolina (the “LGC”) an application for its approval of the Bonds and the Notes, on a form provided by the LGC and to make certain findings therefor; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to retain Hunton & Williams LLP, Raleigh, North Carolina, as bond counsel for the issuance and sale of the Notes and the Bonds;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Bonds will be purchased by the United States of America, acting through Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (hereinafter “USDA”);

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Fairmont, in a regularly scheduled meeting on November 15, 2011, does hereby resolve as follows:

1. The Bonds are to be issued by the Town for the purpose of providing funds to finance the costs of the Project and to pay the costs of issuing the Bonds as set out in the Town’s application to the LGC;
2. Hunton & Williams LLP shall hereby be retained to serve as bond counsel;
3. The Town Manager is hereby authorized, directed and designated to file an application with the North Carolina Local Government Commission for its approval of the issuance of the Bonds;
4. The Mayor and the Town Manager are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions in furtherance of the issuance of the Bonds;
5. In connection with the application to the LGC, the Board hereby makes the following findings:
 - a. The Board hereby finds that the Bonds and the Notes are both necessary and expedient to finance the cost of the Project.
 - b. The Board hereby finds that the Project is feasible.
 - c. The Board hereby finds that the amount of debt to be incurred in connection with the Project and the fees to be paid in connection therewith are sufficient but not excessive for the purpose of acquiring, constructing and installing the Project.
 - d. The Town has not defaulted on any debt obligation.
 - e. The Town follows the debt management guidelines of the North Carolina Local Government Commission.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 11-9 Providing for application to the Local Government Commission for approval of Water and Sewer System Revenue Bonds. Commissioner McCree 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.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp informed the board there were no problems last week during the filming of “Arthur Newman, Golf Pro” or with the election. He complimented the Public Works and Public Safety Departments on handling traffic control and security.

Mayor Kemp announced the December board meeting would be held in the Heritage Center in order to recognize several high school sports teams for their outstanding seasons.

Mayor Kemp congratulated Commissioners McCree, Sealey and Leak-McKenzie on being re-elected to the board.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Lennon commended the Public Works and Public Safety Departments for working together during the recent water main break.

Commissioner Sealey commended the Public Works and Public Safety Departments for handling traffic control and security during the movie filming on election day. He said the film crew was very appreciative of how things were handled.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

The month of October has been a rather uneventful month, which is a good thing! For the most part, revenues have come in as anticipated. We finally met 100% of budget for gaming privilege licenses. We have collected \$2,000.00 in lot cutting revenue. This was from the Housing Finance Agency for the now defunct Bonaventure Project. The Fire Department and the Street Department still require close observation.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation, Powell Bill Section, made the decision to split the Powell Bill Allocation into two separate payments. The allocation received in October was for \$44,233.29. We will receive the balance in the spring.

I created a line item in the Water/Sewer Fund for miscellaneous revenue. The Town of Rowland reimbursed us \$3,572.24 for salaries and salary related expenses from the tornado that hit their town this past spring. These were Water/Sewer Fund employees. The Water Treatment Department is still slightly over budget. The Water Maintenance Department could have similar problems after the major line break last week. Those bills have not been received yet.

Announcements

Saturday, November 19 - Lumberton Christmas Parade, 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, November 22 - Fairmont Rotary Club Auction, 6:00 p.m., Fairmont High School.

Wednesday, November 23 - Friday, November 25 - Schools closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 25 - Town offices closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Thursday, December 1 - Fairmont Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party, 6:00 p.m., Fairmont Golf Club.

Friday, December 2 - Holiday on Main and Twilight Christmas Parade, 6:00 p.m., Historic Downtown Fairmont.

Friday, December 2 - Fairmont High School Basketball vs. West Bladen, 4:00 p.m., HOME.

Saturday, December 3 - Marietta Christmas Parade, 11:00 a.m. and Lake View Christmas Parade, 3:00 p.m.

Friday, December 9 - Fairmont High School Basketball vs. South Robeson, 4:00 p.m., HOME.

Wednesday, December 21 - Monday, January 2 - Schools closed for Christmas break.

Friday, December 23 – Tuesday, December 27 – Town Offices closed in observance of Christmas.

Saturday, December 24 - Santa Visits the Kids, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

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 – December 20, 2011

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Wayland Lennon, III, Perry Ashley and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Acting Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included John Masters, Jim Perry, Michael Baker, Travis Kemp, the FHS Volleyball Team, the FHS Tennis Team and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. He wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Kemp asked the board to add “Item B – Possible Resolution 11-10, Pickett bid for property at 501 Iona Street” under New Business. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Presentations

Recognition of FHS Women’s Volleyball Team

Mayor Kemp recognized Coach Michael Baker and the Fairmont High School Women’s Volleyball Team on their championship season. The team’s record was 17-3 and they were undefeated in the conference.

Recognition of FHS Women’s Tennis Team

Mayor Kemp recognized Coach Travis Kemp the Fairmont High School Women’s Tennis Team on their championship season. The team’s record was 15-1 and they have won seven conference titles in a row.

Proclamation – Human and Civil Rights Month

Mayor Kemp read a proclamation declaring January 2012 as Human and Civil Rights Month. A signed copy of the proclamation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

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, November 15, 2011.

New Business

2010-2011 Audit Report – John Masters, S. Preston Douglas & Associates

Mr. John Masters, with S. Preston Douglas & Associates, presented the LGC approved 2010-2011 Audit Report. The town's tax collection rate is slightly down from last year at 87.5%. The undesignated portion of the town's fund balance is 6.18% which is lower than the state LGC mandate of 8%. Mr. Masters stated the general fund balance has steadily eroded since a high in 2007 and that the undesignated portion of the fund balance is back at 2004 levels. He added that Fairmont is not unique and that other towns are facing the same situation. The audit report is for the year ending June 30, 2011 and does not reflect the tax increase for 2011-2012. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to accept the audit report as presented. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Resolution 11-10 – Pickett bid for property at 501 Iona Street

Acting Town Manager Linda Vause presented the board a bid from Mrs. Theresa Pickett for the property at 501 Iona Street. The bid is for \$20,000 and Mrs. Pickett would like the house along with its contents. Ms. Pickett plans to use the property for a daycare facility. Town Attorney Rob Price had concerns that the bid was not a realistic figure since the tax value on the property is \$93,100. Commissioner McCree agreed that he would like to see a better offer on the property. Mr. Price stated the board could start the upset bid process but they would not have to accept Ms. Pickett's offer if no one upset her initial bid. Commissioner Sealey suggested having a realtor give their opinion on what the house is worth. Commissioner McCree proposed contacting an auction company like Iron House Auctions to see what their fee would be to auction off all the foreclosed properties.

There was a 10 minute recess called at 6:45 p.m. so Commissioner Ashley could handle a family emergency. The meeting resumed at 6:55 p.m.

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to reject the \$20,000 bid from Mrs. Theresa Pickett for the property at 501 Iona Street and to get the property in presentable shape to show other people. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Interim Town Manager search – Mr. Jim Perry, Lumber River Council of Governments

Mr. Jim Perry informed the board that the NCCCMA had a list of six potential candidates for the position of interim town manager. The town could also use the consulting firm All American Associates to assist in finding an interim manager. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to offer Mrs. Linda Vause the position of Town Manager/Finance Director without the responsibility of code enforcement effective January 1st with the first stipulation that if she no longer wants to be town manager she can return to being finance director as long as she gives the board a two month notice and the second stipulation that if the board no longer wants her to be town manager she can return to being finance director as long as there was no fireable cause where the board wouldn't want her in either position. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner McCree wanted to make sure that Mrs. Vause got someone to help with code enforcement and assist with any work backlog. Commissioner Lennon asked Mrs. Vause to present a plan on how to address code enforcement at the January board meeting. Mrs. Vause thanked the board and mentioned that Town Clerk Jenny Larson understands the codes and has a college degree. Mrs. Vause would like to compensate Mrs. Larson and utilize her more by increasing her responsibilities. Commissioner Lennon asked Mrs. Vause to include that in her proposal next month.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp invited everyone to the Martin Luther King Jr. Day program in the Heritage Center on Monday, January 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Kemp announced that the January board meeting will be held in the Heritage Center in order to recognize the FHS Football team.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Sealey thanked Mrs. Vause for taking on the responsibility of the Town Manager position and congratulated her on doing an outstanding job.

Commissioner McCree asked the board to look at dates for a workshop to meet with the department heads and discuss the budget and other problems. Mayor Kemp said the board could discuss possible dates at the January board meeting.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

In the General Fund, with the exception of the Fire and Street Department, most of the departments are on budget. There may be a one or two percent variances in some departments. The Street Department continues to be a concern. Ronnie Seals and I are keeping a close eye on it. The Fire Department is at 89% this month. This is not a great concern, as most of the larger expenses have been paid for the year. The firemen received their annual stipend in November and the fire truck payment has been made as well.

The Water Maintenance and the Water Treatment Department are still slightly over budget. We have had several pieces of equipment and some vehicles that have required repairing. Frankly, some of this equipment is almost “being held together by a string.” I hope we can plan to replace some of these machines in a future budget year.

All of the department managers and employees are trying hard to control expenses. We are only purchasing “must have” supplies and materials. All of the Town employees should be commended for their efforts in serving the citizens of our Town.

Closed Session – Attorney-Client Privilege G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

Commissioner McCree 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 attorney-client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Commissioner McCree made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:55 p.m. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that attorney-client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) and no action was taken.

Announcements

Wednesday, December 21 - Monday, January 2 - Schools closed for Christmas break.

Friday, December 23 – Tuesday, December 27 – Town Offices closed in observance of Christmas.

Saturday, December 24 - Santa Visits the Kids, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 21 - Monday, January 2 - Schools closed for Christmas break.

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Thursday, December 22 - Town Employees Christmas Luncheon, 12:00 noon, Heritage Center. Town Offices will close at noon.

Friday, December 23 – Tuesday, December 27 – Town Offices closed in observance of Christmas.

Saturday, December 24 - Santa Visits the Kids, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Town of Fairmont and the Fairmont Fire Department.

Monday, January 2 – Town Offices closed in observance of New Year’s Day.

Tuesday, January 3 - Fairmont High School Basketball vs. Flora McDonald, 4:30 p.m., HOME.

Thursday, January 5 - Fairmont High School Basketball vs. Dillon, 6:00 p.m., HOME.

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

Friday, January 13 - Fairmont High School Basketball vs. Red Springs, 4:00 p.m., HOME.

Monday, January 16 - Town offices and schools closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Monday, January 16 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, 1:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, January 17 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center. Recognition of FHS Football Team.

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 7:56 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – January 17, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Wayland Lennon, III, Perry Ashley and Charles Townsend. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included Alandis Bass, Shyane Deal, Bryan Lewis, Tony Bridgett, Keith Wood, members of the FHS Football Team, and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

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

Mayor Presentations

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 Alandis Bass of Rosenwald Elementary School, Shyane Deal of Fairmont Middle School and Bryan Lewis of Fairmont High School.

Recognition of FHS Football Team

Mayor Kemp recognized Coach Keith Wood and the Fairmont High School Football Team on their championship season. The team's record was 12-1 overall and they were undefeated in the conference with a record of 11-0.

Recognition of firefighters involved with "Santa Visits the Kids."

Mayor Kemp recognized the firefighters and police officers who volunteered to help with the "Santa Visits the Kids" program held on Christmas Eve.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Tony Bridgett, 127 Liberia St.–Youth Programs, Good Friday event and Easter Egg Hunt

Mr. Tony Bridgett came before the board with plans for future youth programs including a Good Friday event, an Easter Egg Hunt and a basketball tournament, all to be sponsored by The Dream Academy. His plans include a Youth4Christ Explosion on Friday, April 6 at Rosenwald Elementary, an Easter Egg Hunt in the Fairmont Community Park on Saturday, April 7 and a Hoop Dreams Basketball Tournament on Sunday April 8 at the Fairmont Middle School Gym. He asked the board for their approval and waiver of the facility fees. Mayor Kemp informed Mr. Bridgett that the board could not respond to his request tonight and asked him to come by his office tomorrow.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, December 20, 2011.

Unfinished Business

USDA Letter of Conditions for sewer rehab loan.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-04 and approve the USDA Letter of Conditions for the sewer rehab loan of \$385,000 and authorized Mayor Charles Kemp and Town Clerk Jenny Larson to sign all related documents. 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.

Disposal of additional surplus property.

Town Manager Linda Vause asked the board to remove the Evenson property at 802 S. Main Street because an upset bid has been made and the Worley property at Stafford and Powell Streets because the town has a sewer easement on the landlocked property. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to declare surplus and dispose of the properties located at 205 Liberia St., Iona Street and the intersection of Happy Hill and Industrial Drive using the upset bid method according to G.S. 160A-269. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Resolution 12-01 – Pickett bid for property at 501 Iona Street

Mrs. Vause presented the board a bid from Mrs. Theresa Pickett for the property at 501 Iona Street. The bid is for \$35,000 and Mrs. Pickett would like the house along with its contents. Ms. Pickett plans to use the property for a daycare facility. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to accept Mrs. Pickett's bid and to adopt Resolution 12-01 authorizing the advertisement of an offer to purchase certain property in The Robesonian. Commissioner Ashley 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

A copy of the signed resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes. Commissioner Lennon was concerned there would be safety and traffic issues with the home being used as a daycare facility. Mrs. Vause explained that it would be a home daycare, open 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with no more than two staff members and twelve children, which is allowed under our current zoning.

Code Enforcement plan.

Mrs. Vause presented the following proposal to the board for Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement:

I have been in contact with several town managers in our area concerning code enforcement. This service is provided in various ways.

The Town Manager in Pembroke handles zoning issues. Their Public Works Director and his secretary take care of most code enforcement duties. The Town Clerk assists with owners' names and addresses. Dilapidated housing code enforcement is handled by an outside firm in Southern Pines for \$25.00 to \$30.00 per hour.

Red Springs has a code enforcement officer two days per week. The rate of pay for that codes' officer is \$20.00 per hour for a minimum of sixteen hours per week.

The Town Manager of St. Pauls has hired a part-time code enforcement officer. The rate of pay for this person is \$15.00 per hour with at least twenty hours per week. Their budget for code enforcement is \$35,000.00.

I have worked with our current staff to develop a means of handling code enforcement in house. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals has agreed to handle the "field work" in this area. He already has had two on-going issues taken care of this week. Town Clerk Jennifer Larson has agreed to work in this area as well as taking on additional finance department duties. Jenny would handle planning and zoning as well as research and correspondence required to enforce the town's codes and ordinances. Jenny may try to attend a class offered by the Institute of Government to get a better handle on the rules and regulations.

We have put together a plan to first do a "windshield" survey of the town. Property owners and/or residents would be contacted concerning any violation noted.

Jenny and Ronnie would work closely together to get a handle on the town's "grass cutting" business. Letters would be sent to owners of property that the town now cuts the grass for. We will highly recommend that they contract with a private firm or individual for this service. If they do not, we will bill them per cutting season. These statements would include the town's ability to apply these fees to their property tax bills. Very little has been done in this area in the past. We want to reduce the amount of lots we maintain, along with increasing revenue for the same.

Both of these employees have shown their willingness to assist in any area needed.

If this plan is acceptable, I would like to give each of them a \$5.00 increase per hour in pay for a total of \$10.00. The benefit percentage for general employees is 19.67%. This would push the combined rate to \$11.96 per hour. \$11.96 per hour per year would cost the town \$11,481.60 for the balance of this fiscal year. This amount is based on 960 working hours remaining for the year.

Payroll related expenses remaining in the finance department for the balance of this year are \$25,202.00. Travel for the manager was budgeted at \$400.00 per month for six months. I am asking for an allowance of \$200.00 per month. This is an additional \$1,200.00 remaining for the year. I have disconnected the manager's cell phone for an additional \$40.00 per month savings. I have no problem using my personal cell phone for town business. I have a very liberal family plan with Verizon. My family of four has never exceeded our allowed minutes.

Should this code enforcement plan be acceptable, I would like to take a close look at possible employee bonuses at the end of this fiscal year. This would of course be contingent on our year end numbers.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve Mrs. Vause's code enforcement plan. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion. Commissioner Ashley asked how many hours each week Mr. Seals and Mrs. Larson would spend on code enforcement and zoning. Mrs. Vause replied that it would vary and added that Mrs. Larson would also be picking up the slack in the Finance Department. Mrs. Vause pointed out that hiring an outside person to handle code enforcement would not include zoning. Commissioner Townsend suggested discussing this issue further at a board retreat rather than making a decision tonight. Commissioner McCree agreed and withdrew his second. The motion died for lack of a second.

New Business

Consider Resolution 12-02 – Sullivan offer for 319 S. Main St. and Resolution 12-03 – Sullivan offer for 309 S. Main St.

Mrs. Vause presented two offers from Mr. Emmett Sullivan for the properties at 319 S. Main Street and 309 S. Main Street. Mr. Sullivan likes buying old buildings and fixing them up. Commissioner Lennon asked Town Attorney Rob Price how much the town has in these properties. Mr. Price replied that he didn't have an exact figure but stated he would have bid at least \$3,000 each. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to reject the \$500 offers from Mr. Emmett Sullivan for the properties at 309 S. Main Street and 319 S. Main Street. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Vause asked the board for the authority to get the surplus properties appraised in order to help the Town staff in replying to inquiries about pricing. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to authorize a bundled appraisal on all the surplus property available for sale. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Take home policy for police cars – requested by Commissioner McCree.

Commissioner McCree stated the town stopped the take home car policy 9 years ago when the town's undesignated fund balance dropped below the state minimum of 8% but was later reinstated as the town's finances improved. Commissioner McCree pointed out the most recent audit shows the town's undesignated fund balance is currently at 6%. In order to save money on fuel consumption costs, Commissioner McCree made a motion to park all police cars effective Friday, January 20, 2012 at 12:00 noon for all officers that do not live within the city limits. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion. Mrs. Vause explained that a few years ago officers were given the choice of driving their car home or getting a 2½% raise and most officers chose to keep their cars. Commissioner Ashley suggested waiting and discussing this issue at a budget workshop. Public Safety Director Danny Parker informed the board that taking away the cars would affect the department by reducing morale, especially among the experienced officers. He stated the \$5,800 cost to drive the cars home annually is less than the \$9,000 it would cost to give the officers a 2½% raise. Chief Parker added that even though Fairmont's officers are the lowest paid in Robeson County they want to work here. He indicated it would cost more than \$5,800 to replace the equipment for just one office if we lost someone to another department. The motion failed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Agenda amendment – Tony Bridgett and The Dream Academy's Easter plans.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to amend the agenda to add Tony Bridgett and The Dream Academy's Easter plans under new business. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Lennon suggested supporting Mr. Bridgett's plans for Easter because it would be good for the children. Commissioner Lennon made a motion for the Town to endorse The Dream Academy's Easter projects and to write a letter of endorsement on behalf of Mr. Tony Bridgett to Rosenwald Elementary and Fairmont Middle Schools. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp set a planning retreat for Tuesday, January 24 at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Gaston Sealey Company, Inc. warehouse. He also suggested the following dates for budget workshops: March 6, 13, and 27. The department heads will be at the planning retreat and some of the topics to be discussed are the crime rate, codes and zoning, and available funds.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner McCree asked Mrs. Vause to research the possibility of getting natural gas lines to Fairmont.

Commissioner Lennon said it was an unbelievable blessing to see kids light up when the fire truck comes around the corner with Santa Claus on Christmas Eve and thanked the firefighters and officers who participated.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

December was an uneventful month for the finances for the Town. Tax collection was very brisk the last week of the month. This also continued into the first week of January; prior to interest being assessed January 6th. I am pleased to report we received the budgeted amount of \$10,000.00 from the South Robeson Medical Scholarship Committee for recreation.

Legal expenses were up due to the election protest. This department is currently at 64% of budget. The Street Department seems to have leveled off in December. It is at 56% of budget, which is more stable than in prior months.

Town employees are now required to pass a certification exam in order to apply Round-Up and fire ant control chemicals. This is a new DENR requirement. A neighboring town recently had a \$2,000.00 fine imposed on their recreation department for not being in compliance with this law.

As reported earlier, the Fire Department continues to require close observation. The majority of expenses, such as payroll and loan payments, have been made for the year. Our volunteer firemen will soon be required to have the flagging training that is now required of our Public Works Department.

Water/Sewer Fund revenues are right on budget at 50%. Expenses are 43% of budget. Mr. Ronnie Seals and his staff are watching these closely. They are diligent in making sure we obtain the best pricing for materials and services.

It has been a long, unwritten policy that the Town does not cut water services for non-payment in December. This is reflected in the December revenue. Even at this, Reconnect Revenue is at 51%. Other than the month of December, the staff is more diligent in collection of fees earned. Meter tampering is an on-going issue. We have had one case to go as far as civil court. The Town prevailed in that case. All disconnected meters are re-checked within a few days of disconnection. If they have been tampered with or reconnected by the customer, a letter is sent explaining the penalties involved as well as the legal aspect. The customer is given ten days to pay all penalties and past due fees. If payment is not received, the case is referred to the Police Department for enforcement of our ordinance.

The past few weeks have been very rewarding for me. I continued to be amazed at the outpouring of offers to assist in any way possible. These offers are not only from the staff, but the residents as well. I am honored by the trust placed in me. I will do my absolute best to continue to earn and maintain that trust.

Closed Session – Attorney-Client Privilege G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

Commissioner Ashley made a motion to go into closed session at 7:50 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 attorney-client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to come out of closed session at 8:05 p.m. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that attorney-client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) and no action was taken.

Announcements

Monday, January 23 - Teacher workday, no school.

Tuesday, January 24 - Fairmont High School Basketball vs. St. Pauls, 4:00 p.m., HOME.

Tuesday, January 31 - Fairmont High School Basketball vs. West Columbus, 4:00 p.m., HOME.

Tuesday, January 31 - Jobs and Business Summit, 7:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Saturday, February 4 – Senior Bingo, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Tuesday, February 7- Fairmont High School Basketball vs. East Columbus, 4:00 p.m., HOME.

Tuesday, February 7 – Pride in Fairmont Recognition Ceremony, 7:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Saturday, February 18 – Greenbrier Valentine Social with Mayor Kemp and the queens, 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 21 – Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Friday, February 24 - Teacher workday, no school.

Saturday, February 25 - Book ‘Em North Carolina, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., A.D. Lewis Auditorium, RCC.

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

Planning Retreat – January 24, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special planning retreat on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Gaston Sealey, Inc. warehouse 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 absent. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Major David Windom.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and gave the invocation. He asked the board to keep the meeting to two hours. Mayor Kemp also set budget workshops to be held on March 6, 13 and 27, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

Town Manager Linda Vause reported that bringing natural gas lines to Fairmont would cost \$1.5 million per mile to run pipes.

Mrs. Vause reported that election costs this year were \$1,100 over budget due to the election protest hearing.

Mrs. Vause stated the general fund's unappropriated fund balance has increased by \$69,000 over last year for a total of \$198,000. The town's current cash balance is \$291,000.

Mrs. Vause presented the board a salary comparison sheet prepared by Town Clerk Jenny Larson showing current salaries, a 2% raise and the NCLM average salaries for towns our size. Even with a 2% raise, town employees would still make below the NCLM average salaries.

Mrs. Vause informed the board that the lady who handles code enforcement for Red Springs could work for Fairmont two to three days a week at a cost of \$15 an hour and that her fee will increase to \$30 an hour once she completes her certification. Mayor Kemp didn't understand why the board would consider hiring an outside person when Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Town Clerk Jenny Larson and Mrs. Vause work well together as a team to save the town money. Commissioner Ashley thought it was a good idea to split the job between Mr. Seals and Mrs. Larson but thought giving them such a big raise would not be fiscally responsible. She added that she would like to be able to give all the employees a 2% raise. Mr. Seals pointed out that hiring an outside person for \$20 an hour for 20 hours a week is equal to Mrs. Vause's proposed \$10 an hour for 40 hours a week that would be split between himself and Mrs. Larson (\$5 an hour raise each).

Commissioner Sealey asked about the possibility of adding Marietta and Rowland to our sewer system. Mr. Seals responded the state probably wouldn't provide funds to run lines to a small town like Marietta and it would be cheaper for Rowland to connect with Dillon, South Carolina's sewer system.

Major David Windom presented a crime statistics report to the board on behalf of Public Safety Danny Parker who was out of town at the Chiefs Conference. There were 4,475 calls in 2011, which is down over 1,000 calls from 2010. There were 730 crimes in 2011 down from 804 in 2010. There were 433 arrests in 2011, an increase over the 327 arrests made in 2010. There were 14 armed robberies reported and 13 arrests made. There were 88 breaking and entering reports and 21 arrests. Commissioner McCree has received complaints from citizens that many breaking and entering cases have not been solved. Major Windom explained that the police can charge someone for possession of stolen property but if that person didn't commit the actual crime, then the B&E would still be unsolved. Commissioner Townsend pointed out that a person's home insurance can be cancelled if they have two reported break-ins. The board wants the public safety department to work on remedies for solving B&Es and reducing the overall crime rate.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – February 21, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center 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 Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Others in attendance included Superior Court Judge Frank Floyd, Joan Oxendine, Andrew McKenzie, Patricia Sealey, David Windom, Roy Grant, Darren Jones, Novella Worley, Teddy Kulmala and Yvonne Rowell.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave the invocation. He thanked Novella Worley and Yvonne Rowell for providing the refreshments prior to the meeting. He announced that Commissioner Lennon was out of town on business and unable to attend by telephone.

Approval of Agenda

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

Organizational Meeting

Swearing in of Mayor and Commissioners by Superior Court Judge Frank Floyd.

Superior Court Judge Frank Floyd swore in Commissioners J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey and Carol Leak-McKenzie. A copy of their sworn oaths is hereby incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Comments by newly elected officials.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie stated she is here for everyone in the Town of Fairmont. She said her first four years was a learning experience and that she plans to work even harder in the next four years.

Commissioner Sealey was thankful for the opportunity to serve another term and let the citizens know that he is available 24-7 to hear their concerns.

Commissioner McCree thanked everyone for their love and support in giving him another chance to serve and help make Fairmont a better town.

Set Meeting Schedule.

Commissioner McCree made a motion to keep the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. as the regular meeting date. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Select Mayor Pro Tempore.

Commissioner Ashley made a motion to keep Commissioner Wade Sealey as Mayor Pro Tempore. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – CDBG Application

Commissioner McCree made a motion to go into public hearing at 6:10 p.m. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The purpose of the public hearing is to discuss a potential NC Catalyst Housing Program CDBG application. Town Manager Linda Vause has been working with Pat Crissman with the Wooten Company on an application for a \$500,000.00 catalyst grant to assist low income homeowners with housing rehabilitation needs with no match required by the town. The application must be submitted to the NC Department of Commerce by April 30, 2012. Mrs. Vause asked the board to help get the word out to the citizens. She will be taking applications for the grant until March 2. This is a scattered site grant and applicants must own their home with taxes paid and have only a first mortgage. If the town gets approved for the grant, eligible applicants will receive up to \$40,000 to rehabilitate their property. Mrs. Vause stated this public hearing is the first of two required hearings. After no board or citizen comments, Commissioner Ashley made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. 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 Ashley, and seconded by Commissioner Leak-McKenzie, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda item:

- c. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, January 17, 2012 and Council Planning Retreat, January 24, 2012.

Unfinished Business

Consider Resolution 12-05 – Pickett bid for property at 501 Iona St.

Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that no upset offer was received for the property at 501 Iona Street and suggested they accept Mrs. Pickett’s offer of \$35,000 and adopt Resolution 12-05, which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 12-05 ACCEPTING BID AND AUTHORIZING SALE OF
REAL PROPERTY – TAX PARCEL 3005-03-006

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2012, the Board of Commissioners approved Resolution 12-01 declaring tax parcel 3005-03-006 as surplus and authorizing the sale of that property through the upset bid procedure of North Carolina General Statute 160A-269; and,

WHEREAS, Theresa P. Pickett made the initial bid for the property in the amount of \$35,000.00; and,

WHEREAS, notice of the offer and the upset bid process was properly advertised; and,

WHEREAS, no upset bid has been received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont that it does hereby accept the offer bid of Theresa P. Pickett in the amount of \$35,000.00 and authorize the sale of the real property lying and being in the Town of Fairmont, Lumberton Township, Robeson County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stake, the southwest corner of Iona and Pitman Streets, and running South 28.5 West with said street 209 feet; thence North 61 West 209 feet; thence North 28.5 East 209 feet to Iona Street; thence with said street South 61 East 209 feet to the BEGINNING, and being a part of the Molly C. Floyd lands. Being the same tract described in Book 5-B at page 593, Book 464 at page 302, Book 602 at page 551, and Book 646 at page 129, Robeson County Registry. Edith Floyd Fisher died intestate on May 31, 1984 in Robeson County, survived by her husband and children, whose identities are reflected in the deed recorded in Book 602 at page 551, Robeson County Registry. This property is identified in the Robeson County Tax Office as 3005-03-006.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont that it does hereby authorize the Mayor and Town Clerk to execute a deed to Theresa P. Pickett for the above-described property for and on behalf of the Town of Fairmont.

Commissioner McCree made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-05 accepting bid and authorizing sale of real property – Tax Parcel 3005-03-006. Commissioner Ashley 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.

Surplus properties appraisal report

Mrs. Vause presented the appraisal results on the surplus properties in town:

606 North Main Street, \$3,000
319 South Main Street, \$800
309 South Main Street, \$800
Market Street cleared lot, \$1,500
205 Liberia Street, \$800
505 Gertrude Street, \$4,000
Employee Wellness Center, Main Street, \$45,000
Iona Street vacant lot, \$5,000
South Main Street, 3 vacant lots, \$14,000
Happy Hill Road, house and lot, \$1,000
Walnut Street, old warehouse lot, \$10,000

Ms. Vause asked the board for direction on how to respond to future inquiries on these properties. Commissioner Townsend suggested not accepting any bid lower than the appraised value. Town Attorney Rob Price recommended adding a reverter clause to any property that needs to be demolished if it is not cleared within a year after purchase.

Code Enforcement and Zoning plan

Mrs. Vause presented the following proposal to the board for Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement:

Our town needs knowledgeable, as well as personable, individuals to handle our planning, zoning and code enforcement responsibilities. The manager handles zoning and planning issues in several municipalities of our size in North Carolina. Code enforcement is treated as a separate issue. I do not feel that I can take on any more duties. My plate is full with my duties as manager as well as finance director. I do not feel I can give the citizens of Fairmont what they deserve in this area.

Therefore, I continue to stand by my previous request for our public works director and town clerk to take care of these responsibilities. These individuals can give our residents the service they need and deserve. They have already shown their willingness to help.

Our clerk would also take on extra duties in finance. I find it difficult to meet deadlines and due dates for the finance responsibilities. I currently do a lot of this work after hours and at home. It is frequently a juggling act to accomplish what I need to do. I do not have enough hours in a day to look at the big picture. I am too tied down with the day to day finance responsibilities. Mrs. Larson has already been a big help to me. However, I do not feel I can or should add extra finance and planning, zoning & code enforcement to her duties without adequate compensation.

Our public works director has worked for the town for over 17 years. He is not only responsible for streets and sanitation, but also our water and sewer facilities. Mr. Seals is my “go to man” in many ways. He assists me in several areas with state issues in environmental and health areas. I prefer the original \$5.00 per hour increase in salary for each of them. With benefits, this would cost the town around \$24,891.36 per year. Each \$1.00 hour for each (\$2.00/hr) with benefits will cost the town \$4,978.27 per year. Mrs. Larson's current salary is \$30,899.00 per year and Mr. Seals' is \$38,588.00 per year. The decision of a pay increase is yours to make.

It is difficult to ask for increases for two employees when the rest of the staff also deserve and need an increase. However, I am not increasing the duties of anyone else in this manner. There will still be a savings to the town because we are not paying a finance officer's salary. My salary prior to being appointed acting town manager was \$39,553.00.

Commissioner Ashley made a motion to accept the proposal for planning, zoning and code enforcement giving Town Clerk Jenny Larson and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals a raise of \$3.00 an hour retroactive to January 1, 2012. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The board will consider increasing the raise to \$5.00 an hour during budget preparation.

Public Safety issues – Public Safety Director Danny Parker

Public Safety Director Danny Parker presented a report comparing crime statistics in Fairmont with other communities in Robeson County. Fairmont's call volume has dropped over the past few years with 4,475 calls in 2011. There were 730 reported crimes in 2011 and 433 arrests for an arrest rate of 59%. There has been a slight increase of breaking and entering and larceny in 2011 with 88 incidents reported and 21 arrests made with a solvability rate of 24%. Officers have increased patrols to deter crime. There were 14 robberies reported in 2011 and 13 arrests have been made. Chief Parker stated copper theft is an increasing problem with 15 reported copper thefts in 2011 and only 5 arrests. Fairmont's percentage rate of solving crimes is higher than other communities in our county. Commissioner McCree was concerned that some citizens have been robbed more than once without arrests being made.

New Business

Consider Resolution 12-06 – Rabon offer for 309 S. Main St.

Mrs. Vause presented an offer of \$525 from Mr. Brian Rabon and Nobar, Inc. for the property at 309 S. Main Street. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie made a motion to reject the \$525 offer from Mr. Brian Rabon and Nobar, Inc. for the property at 309 S. Main Street. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Elder Care presentation – Joan Oxendine

Ms. Joan Oxendine gave a brief presentation on Elder Care services. The Eldercare Resource Center is located in Lumberton and was founded by attorney Diane Surgeon. Some of the services they provide include Elite Adult Day Health Care Center, Elder Law Center, ComForcare Senior Services, Lumber River Community Resource Connections, Advanced Lab, veterans assistance, home health care and transportation.

Audit contract – S. Preston Douglas & Associates

Mrs. Vause asked the board to approve the audit contract with S. Preston Douglas & Associates for fiscal year 2011-2012 in the amount of \$12,900. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to approve the audit contract for fiscal year 2011-2012 with S. Preston Douglas & Associates in the amount of \$12,900. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Manager Travel allowance

Commissioner Townsend made a motion to approve a travel allowance of \$250.00 per month for Town Manager Linda Vause retroactive to January 2012. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp congratulated Commissioners McCree, Sealey and Leak-McKenzie on their reelection.

Mayor Kemp announced that the March town board meeting will be back in the council chambers of Town Hall.

Mayor Kemp announced that 5 new businesses have opened in Fairmont in the past month and a half.

Commissioners Input

There was no commissioner input this month.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

On the budget vs. actual report for the general fund you will notice an increase in the budget for non-departmental in the amount of \$10,700.00 and a decrease of the same amount for the public buildings department. I caught an error I had made during the 2011-2012 budget process in retiree insurance. I truthfully cannot explain how I made this error last June.

I corrected the error according to 2011-2012 Budget Ordinance rules; specifically,

SECTION XII SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION - BUDGET OFFICER

- A. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to reallocate departmental appropriations among the various OBJECTS of expenditures as he believes necessary.
- B. **The Budget Officer shall be authorized to execute interdepartmental transfers, in the same fund, not to exceed 10% of the appropriated monies for the department whose allocation is reduced. Notation of all such transfers shall be made to the Board on the next succeeding financial report.**

- C. He may make interfund loans for a period of not more than 60 days.
- D. Interfund transfers, established in the budget document, may be accomplished without recourse to the board.

Public Buildings Department is at a theoretical percentage of 44% and Non-Departmental theoretical percentage is 83%.

I am concerned with the sanitation department. Year to date revenue for sanitation is \$129,241.41 while expenditures are at \$137,891.60. In July 2010 our sanitation rate was increased by fifty-cent to \$15.23 per month. We need to revisit this during the budget process.

The Water/Sewer Fund in total is within budgeted amounts. Water maintenance continues to be an area of concern. Hopefully, we won't have very many more line breaks.

Department Head Input

Public Works Director Ronnie Seals suggested the board might want to visit the surplus properties before rejecting a potential offer.

Public Safety Director Danny Parker recommended the board view the MapNimbus website for updated information and location of reported calls in town.

Closed Session – Attorney-Client Privilege G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into closed session at 7:28 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 attorney-client privilege as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Commissioner McCree made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:42 p.m. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mayor Kemp announced that attorney-client privilege had been discussed as permitted under General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) and no action was taken.

Announcements

Friday, February 24 - Teacher workday, no school.

Saturday, February 25 - Last day of Dixie Youth Baseball signups, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Courtroom.

Saturday, February 25 - Book 'Em North Carolina Writers Conference and Book Fair, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., A.D. Lewis Auditorium, Robeson Community College. Event is FREE and open to the public.

Page 8 – Regular Meeting, February 21, 2012

Saturday, March 3 - Senior Bingo, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., Heritage Center.

Saturday, March 3 - MWF Wrestling at Fairmont Middle School gym, sponsored by South Robeson Rescue Unit. Meet 'N Greet Wrestlers, 5:30 p.m. Match begins at 6:30 p.m. All proceeds go to support SRRU activities.

Tuesday, March 6 - Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers.

Tuesday, March 13 - Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers.

Tuesday, March 20 - Regular Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Friday, March 23 - Teacher workday, no school.

Tuesday, March 27 - Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers.

Friday, April 6 - Friday, April 13 - Schools closed for Spring break.

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

Budget Workshop – March 6, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were Charles Townsend, Wade Sealey, Perry Ashley and Carol Leak-McKenzie. Commissioners Wayland Lennon, III and J.J. McCree were absent. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and gave the invocation.

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

Town Manager Linda Vause received an email from the LGC wanting a more detailed response on how the town plans to improve the tax collection rate. She responded that the county's tax collection rate is only 2.83% better than ours and if the county were to collect our taxes they would charge us 3%. Tax Collector Rebecca Andrews is finding that most of our delinquent tax customers also owe county taxes.

Mrs. Vause informed the board that it was going to be another tight budget year. An employee in Public Works is going out on disability and is going to be replaced by a part-time person to save benefit costs. Public Works has lost two LRCOG senior citizen workers, which will cause a problem during grass cutting season. The Public Works Department is also going over budget in the water/sewer division due to line breaks and overtime costs.

Mrs. Vause stated sanitation rates need to be increased in order to cover expenses. The town's contract with Waste Management expires June 30, 2013. An RFP for sanitation collection will be sent out in December 2012. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals suggested the board consider a flat rate for collecting brown goods such as furniture since it is difficult to charge individual residents for items left next to a vacant lot.

Mrs. Vause said the Public Works Department will need new equipment in coming years including a street sweeper (\$150,000), a backhoe (\$80,000) and a tractor with bush hog (\$70,000). She hopes the current equipment will last until the flusher truck is paid off in 3 years.

After discussion, the board decided to cancel the budget workshop scheduled for March 13 but keep the workshop scheduled for March 27.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – March 20, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 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 Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Major David Windom. Others in attendance included Chalmus Hood, Landa Gaddy and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Town Manager Linda Vause asked the board to add Ordinance 12-144, Capital Project Ordinance for the Sewer Rehabilitation Project” as “B” under Unfinished Business.. Commissioner Ashley asked the board to add “Resignation of Commissioner Ashley” as “C” under New Business and “Replacement of Commissioner Ashley” as “D” under New Business. Commissioner McCree made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Lennon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Chalmus Hood – poor lighting in Town Hall parking lot

Mr. Chalmus Hood stated his daughter recently had to fill out an accident report at night in the Town Hall parking lot after the police officer had to leave to answer another call. He said she felt unprotected in the poorly lit parking lot. He suggested that citizens having to fill out reports should be allowed to use the courtroom instead in the future.

Landa Gaddy- Youth Self Improvement, Inc.

Ms. Landa Gaddy presented solutions to repair youth issues with parent management. Youth issues include junk food, obesity, poor habits and no goals. Solutions to these issues with parent management include: teach youth to love and respect themselves, respect everybody who is helping you get where you are going for the future, plan and set goals for what the youth want for their future and practice it daily until it happens, stay focused and be successful and finally, eat healthy healing foods and supplements will clear the mind and body from poor health in the future.

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, February 21, 2012 and Budget Workshop, March 6, 2012.

Unfinished Business

Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant Contract

Town Manager Linda Vause asked the board to approve the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant Contract for the sewer rehabilitation project. The town applied for the \$600,000 CWMTF grant two years ago and the grant contract must be signed before funds are released. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to approve the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant Contract for the sewer rehabilitation project. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ordinance 12-144 – Capital Project Ordinance for Sewer Rehabilitation Project

Mrs. Vause requested the board to adopt Ordinance 12-144, a Capital Project Ordinance for the Town of Fairmont Sewer Rehabilitation Project, Phase 1A, which reads as follows:

**ORDINANCE 12-144
A CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE FOR THE TOWN OF FAIRMONT
SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT
PHASE 1A**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Fairmont, North Carolina, that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is for rehabilitation of sewer lines to be funded by revenue bonds, a state grant and local water and sewer funds.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the project within the terms of the financing documents.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Construction	\$ 737,500
Professional Services	188,750
Contingency	<u>73,750</u>
Total appropriations	\$1,000,000

Section 4. The following revenue is anticipated to be available for this project:

CWMTF State Grant	\$ 600,000
USDA Revenue Bonds	385,000
Local Water/Sewer Funds	<u>15,000</u>
Total estimated revenues	\$1,000,000

Section 5. The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the financing agreements.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund or from the Water/Sewer Fund for the purpose of making payments that are due. Reimbursement requests should be made to the loan agency in an orderly and timely manner.

Section 7. The Finance Director is directed to report, on a monthly basis, the financial status of each project element in Section 3 and on the total revenues received or claimed.

Section 8. Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Town Clerk, Budget Officer, and Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this the 20th day of March 20, 2012.

Mrs. Vause said the project will be bid out in June with construction starting in August. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 12-144, a Capital Project Ordinance for the Town of Fairmont Sewer Rehabilitation Project, Phase 1A. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

New Business

Consider Resolution 12-07 – Opposing Tolls on I-95

Mrs. Vause asked the board to consider Resolution 12-07, opposing tolls on Interstate 95, which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 12-07 OPPOSING THE TOLLING OF INTERSTATE 95 IN NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, in January of 2012 the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) released the I-95 Corridor Planning & Finance Study identifying tolling as the most feasible means for funding future improvements of Interstate 95 in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, prior to the release of the I-95 Study, NCDOT submitted an application to the Federal Highway Administration requesting approval to implement tolling on the Interstate 95 Corridor under the Interstate System Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, Interstate 95 is the primary transportation artery in North Carolina and a major catalyst for tourism and economic development; and

WHEREAS, I-95 Corridor Planning & Finance Study reveals that 30% of the travelers on the Interstate 95 Corridor will divert to other roads to avoid tolls; and

WHEREAS, the 30% diversion rate represents the loss of 12,000 cars a day, which will have a significant negative impact for communities and businesses that depend on Interstate 95 travelers for their livelihood; and

WHEREAS, the Fairmont Board of Commissioners believes that the I-95 Corridor Planning & Finance Study does not provide the sufficient information on alternative funding sources for future improvements to Interstate 95; and

WHEREAS, the Board further believes that the \$6.4 million I-95 Corridor Planning & Finance Study completed by NCDOT does not provide sufficient information on the economic impact of tolling to the citizens, businesses, and communities along the Interstate 95 Corridor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairmont Board of Commissioners hereby opposes the tolling of Interstate 95; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fairmont Board of Commissioners requests the NCDOT to fully investigate alternative sources of revenue to finance future improvements of Interstate 95; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fairmont Board of Commissioners requests the NCDOT to undertake a comprehensive study of the economic impacts of tolling for the citizens, businesses, and communities along the Interstate 95 Corridor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the State and Federal representatives and the Federal Highway Administration.

Adopted this 20th day of March, 2012.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-07, opposing tolls on Interstate 95. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie 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.

LRCOG Representative

Commissioner Lennon is stepping down as the town's representative on the LRCOG board effective June 30, 2012 due to work constraints. He nominated Commissioner Charles Townsend to replace him. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to appoint Commissioner Charles Townsend to the LRCOG board effective July 1, 2012. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resignation of Commissioner Perry Ashley

Commissioner Perry Ashley tendered her resignation as a member of the Fairmont Board of Commissioners effective at the close of April 17, 2012 board meeting due to personal reasons. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to accept the resignation of Commissioner Perry Ashley effective at the close of April 17, 2012 board meeting. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Replacement of Commissioner Perry Ashley

Commissioner Ashley nominated Kim Ammons as her replacement on the board, effective April 17, 2012. Commissioner Sealey seconded the nomination. Commissioners McCree, Townsend and Leak-McKenzie were surprised by the short notice and did not like how it was handled. They would have liked more courtesy and time to consider the situation and possibly nominate another person. Commissioner Ashley contacted the School of Government and they said an outgoing commissioner can nominate and vote for their replacement. Town Attorney Rob Price also spoke with the SOG and confirmed the procedure is appropriate. He advised the board they could postpone the nomination until next month. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to close

the nominations. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to appoint Kim Ammons to the Fairmont Board of Commissioners effective at the close of the April 17, 2012 board meeting. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion. Mayor Kemp called for a brief recess at 6:58 p.m. to consult with Town Attorney Rob Price and Commissioner Ashley. The meeting resumed at 7:01 p.m. Mr. Price suggested the board accept other nominations in addition to Mrs. Ammons at the April board meeting. Mayor asked the board to table the selection process until the April 17 meeting and place it as the first item under unfinished business. Commissioner Lennon rescinded his motion to appoint Kim Ammons to the board. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to table the appointment of Commissioner Ashley's replacement until the April 17, 2012 board meeting. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp asked the board to reconsider the offer of \$525 from Mr. Brian Rabon and Nobar, Inc. for the property at 309 S. Main Street. They need a building for their Space Walk Inflatables franchise. Commissioner Townsend said the board would have to give a timeframe for getting the building up to code. Commissioner McCree suggested notifying the other person who previously bid \$500 on the property to give him another chance as well. Mrs. Vause said she would contact both bidders and give them 18 months to bring the building up to code and remind them of the historic district guidelines.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Lennon inquired about the property sold to Phillip Wall and how much time he had left to clean it up before it reverted back to the town.

Commissioner McCree asked for an update on the Pickett bid on the Mercer property located on Iona Street. Mrs. Vause stated that Mrs. Pickett was given a 30 day extension due to financing issues.

Commissioner Sealey asked if the town had any rules on using golf carts on town streets. Mrs. Vause said no. Major David Windom said if the town adopted an ordinance on golf carts, requiring owners to have permits, then the police could enforce it.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

February's Budget Vs Actual Report is much the same as has been reported to you earlier. The same departments require close monitoring; i.e. streets, sanitation, and water maintenance. The fire department is at 92%, which is expected at this time of the year. We will require a budget amendment for elections and possibly legal. I plan to work on an amended budget for your review at the March 27th budget workshop. This amended budget is unlikely to be the final budget for 2011-2012.

The Sewer Line Rehabilitation Project is moving ahead nicely. All required documents, as of this date, have been submitted. It should be time for a meeting with the Local Government Commission for approval of the sale of revenue bonds. I will keep you updated on this matter.

Mrs. Vause informed the board that the county has approved the Fire Hall as a one stop, early voting site for the May 8th primary. Early voting will be held from 8:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., Monday to Friday, starting Thursday, April 19. The last day will be Saturday, May 5.

Department Head Input

There was no department head input this month.

Announcements

Friday, March 23 - Teacher workday, no school.

Sunday, March 25 - B.B. Thompson Youth Choir Spring Concert, 4:00 p.m, E.R. Gause Auditorium, Rosenwald Elementary School. FREE!

Tuesday, March 27 - Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers.

Saturday, March 31 - Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 a.m., Fairmont Community Park. Sponsored by the Fairmont Recreation Department.

Saturday, March 31 - Presbyterian Church "Springfest", 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 1 - Fairmont Women's Club annual dinner, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Fire Hall.

Thursday, April 5 - Town employee cookout, 12:00 noon, Fire Hall.

Friday, April 6 - Town offices closed in observance of Good Friday and Easter.

Friday, April 6 - Friday, April 13 - Schools closed for Spring break.

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

April 14 - April 28 - Spring Litter Sweep.

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

Saturday, April 21 - Student Recycling Contest, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Recycling Center in 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 7:23 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop – March 27, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were Wayland Lennon, III, Wade Sealey, and Perry Ashley. Commissioners Charles Townsend, Carol Leak-McKenzie and J.J. McCree were absent. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order and announced that O2 Energies will be holding a press conference at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 27 to announce the solar farm that will be located on Al Lewis' farm next to Fairmont High School.

Town Manager Linda Vause just received NCLM state revenue estimates this morning. She is working on a draft letter to all department heads on instructions for preparing budget documents. The department heads have until April 27 to turn in their budget requests.

Mrs. Vause informed the board that Public Works employee Laverne Hunt is retiring effective May 1, 2012. He will be replaced by two LRCOG workers on a part-time basis, eliminating benefit costs.

Commissioner Lennon suggested budgeting fuel costs at \$4.50 or \$4.65 a gallon.

Commissioner Ashley asked what debt would be paid off in 2015. Mrs. Vause replied the Volvo fire truck, the sewer flusher truck and the Old Field drainage pipes. She added the police cars would be paid for in 2016.

Mrs. Vause announced that two police officers are leaving to take higher paying jobs. The police department is applying for a grant that would provide the salary, car and equipment for one officer.

Mrs. Vause stated that Fairmont has the lowest sanitation rate in the county at \$15.23 a month and that it will have to be increased this year to cover costs. She pointed out that Pembroke's rate is \$22 a month and Rowland's is \$23 a month. Commissioner Sealey asked why some residents get back door trash pickup and others do not. Mrs. Vause explained that any senior citizen or disabled resident can receive back door pickup with a signed doctor's note. Commissioner Lennon suggested that citizens should be reminded of this service with a note on the next water bill.

Commissioner Lennon asked about the possibility of a pay increase for the employees. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals stated this would be the 4th year without a cost of living raise. Everyone in his department is dedicated and has been with the town five years or more and several have over 240 hours of compensation time. He added that compared to other towns, our salary range is way off.

Commissioner Ashley suggested the possibility of temporarily increasing the Christmas bonus for one year. Mr. Seals proposed splitting it into two bonuses, one at Christmas and the other during the spring.

Mayor Kemp suggested discussing dates for future budget workshops at the April 17 board meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – April 17, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 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 Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker. Others in attendance included Patt Crissman, Chalmus Hood, Huel Faulk, the Fairmont Middle School Cheerleaders, the Fairmont High School Cheerleaders and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Town Manager Linda Vause asked the board to add “Whitehouse Packing Sewer Agreement” as item “B” under New Business and to add “Vote to accept and submit CDBG Catalyst Housing application” after the public hearing. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Presentations

Recognition of Fairmont Middle School Cheerleaders.

Mayor Kemp recognized the Fairmont Middle School Cheerleaders and Coach Elizabeth Epps for winning the 2012 CANAM Junior/Middle School National Championship.

Recognition of Fairmont High School Cheerleaders.

Mayor Kemp recognized the Fairmont High School Cheerleaders and Coach Shameicha Wade for winning the 2012 Spirit Sports Co-Ed Varsity National Championship.

Proclamation – Spring Clean weeks, April 14 - 28, 2012.

Mayor Kemp read a proclamation naming April 14 -28, 2012 as Spring Clean weeks in Fairmont. A signed copy of the proclamation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Municipal Clerk Week.

Mayor Kemp read an IIMC proclamation in honor of Municipal Clerks Week, April 29 – May 5, 2012 and recognized Town Clerk Jenny Larson with a framed certificate of appreciation. A signed copy of the proclamation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Public Hearing Vote to accept and submit CDBG Catalyst Housing application

Commissioner McCree made a motion to go into Public Hearing at 6:26 p.m. for the second public hearing on the CDBG Catalyst Housing application. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Patt Crissman with The Wooten Company, was present to discuss the CDBG Catalyst Housing application. The grant is for \$500,000, requires no match by the town and is similar to the scattered site program used by counties. The town received 43 applications and they were ranked on several criteria. All applicants had to be homeowners with paid property taxes and only one mortgage. Applicants were ranked on a points system based on age, income, disability, single parent and minor children in the home. Ten applicants were chosen and inspected with six primary beneficiaries and four alternates. If the town is awarded the grant, the top six will be further inspected and if any are disqualified then the four alternates would be moved up. Two of the homes are eligible for rehab with estimated repair costs of \$40,000 to \$65,000. Three homes are eligible for reconstruction with replacement costs of \$85,000 to \$90,000. The last home, owned by Allen Vause, is eligible for minor rehab to retrofit for handicap access. Ms. Crissman noted that Allen Vause is the father-in-law of Town Manager Linda Vause. Commissioner McCree asked Ms. Crissman about the previous CDBG grants that focused on particular neighborhoods like the one recently completed in Old Field. Ms. Crissman informed the board that type of CDBG grant was discontinued.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to come out of the public hearing at 6:42 p.m. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to submit the application for the CDBG Catalyst Housing grant. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Chalmus Hood – Public should vote for vacant commissioner seat

Mr. Chalmus Hood, of 1006-A East White Pond Road, suggested the board wait until the next election to replace Commissioner Perry Ashley so her replacement would be chosen by the general public and not the board. He was concerned that the entire board could resign and be replaced without a vote by the public.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner McCree asked that the March 20th minutes be amended under Citizens Appearance to note the police officer left Chalmus Hood's daughter alone in the parking lot. Upon motion by Commissioner Leak-McKenzie and seconded by Commissioner Lennon it was unanimously voted to adopt the following consent agenda items as amended:

- d. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, March 20, 2012 and Budget Workshop, March 27, 2012.
- e. Advertisement of 2011 Delinquent Taxes in the Robesonian the week of May 21, 2012.
- f. Reappointment to the Fairmont ABC Board of Annie Durant for a two year term, expiring September 2014 and Larry Floyd, Jr. for a one year term, expiring September 2013.

Unfinished Business

Resignation of Commissioner Perry Ashley – date change request

Commissioner Ashley informed the board that her situation has changed and she can remain on the board until her replacement is sworn in. She asked the board to rescind her previous resignation date of April 17, 2012. Commissioner Sealey made the motion to rescind Commissioner Perry Ashley's previous resignation date of April 17, 2012. Commissioner Lennon seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to accept the resignation of Commissioner Perry Ashley effective on the date and time of the installation of her replacement. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Nominations and vote on replacement of Commissioner Perry Ashley

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to remove from the table the nomination process under consideration at the last meeting. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to rescind the closing of nominations from the last meeting so they will be reopened. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Mayor Kemp opened the floor for nominations to replace Commissioner Ashley. There were no additional nominations by the board, so Commissioner Sealey made a motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Lennon seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to appoint Kim Ammons to replace Commissioner Perry Ashley at the next regularly scheduled board meeting, May 15, 2012. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 3 as follows:

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

Consider Resolution 12-06 – Rabon offer for 309 S. Main Street

Town Manager Linda Vause contacted previous bidders Emmett Sullivan and Brian Rabon asking them to reconsider submitting bids for 309 S. Main Street. Mrs. Vause did not get a response from Mr. Sullivan. Mr. Rabon submitted a bid of \$525 on behalf of Nobar, Inc., asking for 24 months to bring the building up to code starting when his other property at 213 S. Main Street is finished. She asked the board to consider adopting Resolution 12-06 which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 12-06

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT OF AN OFFER TO PURCHASE CERTAIN PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the Town, described below;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has received an offer to purchase the property described below from Nobar, Inc. (Brian Rabon) for the sum of \$525; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 160A-269 permits the Town to sell property by an upset bid process, after receipt of an offer for the property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that:

1. The following described property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the Town: 309 S. Main St. (Mercer - Rising Stars Studio), Parcel 300801008, Tax Value \$27,300.
2. The Board of Commissioners intends to accept the offer unless a qualifying upset bid shall be made.
3. The Town Clerk shall cause a notice of the proposed sale to be published in accordance with G.S. 160A-269.

4. Persons wishing to upset the offer must submit a written offer to the Town Clerk within ten (10) days after publication of the notice. A person making an upset bid must deposit with the Town Clerk a sum equal to five percent (5%) of his or her offer by cash or money order. Once a qualifying upset bid has been received, that offer will become the new offer.

5. If a qualifying upset bid is received, the Town Clerk is directed to re-advertise the offer at the increased offer amount and to continue with this process until a ten (10) day period has passed without receipt of a qualifying upset bid.

6. The terms of a final sale are that
- a. the Town Board must approve the final high offer before a sale is closed, which it will consider within 30 days after the final upset bid period has passed,
 - b. the Town will pay the cost of deed preparation, the property taxes for years prior to the year in which the sale closes, and any tax stamps due. The Buyer must pay current year taxes and all other costs of closing,
 - c. the Town will use a quitclaim deed to transfer the property, and
 - d. the buyer must pay with cash at the time of closing.
 - e. *the property must be brought up to building codes within 24 months of the date of closing.*

7. The Town reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale at any time before the final high bid is accepted and the right to reject all bids at any time.

Commissioner Lennon did not like the idea of Mr. Rabon connecting the completion of his current property to the renovation of 309 S. Main Street. Town Attorney Rob Price advised they could reject the bid or modify the terms in the resolution to make it acceptable to the board and then it would be up to Mr. Rabon to accept or not. Commissioner McCree made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-06, Rabon offer for 309 South Main Street with the addition under #6 of item “e. The property must be brought up to building codes within 24 months of the date of closing.” Commissioner Lennon 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.

Review of budget schedule

Mrs. Vause plans to submit the draft fiscal year 2012-2013 budget to the board on Wednesday, May 23 and have a budget workshop on Tuesday, May 29 at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers. The board agreed that having a budget workshop before then was not necessary.

New Business

Potential grant writer

Mayor Kemp asked the board to consider hiring Myra McLees as a grant writer for the town. She would earn the administrative fee for every grant awarded as payment. She is currently working on a grant for billboard signs on I-95 to promote Fairmont. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to proceed with the I-95 sign grant with Myra McLees as grant writer. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Whitehouse Packing agreement

Mrs. Vause informed the board that White House Packing Company has a new owner, Hubert Norman Kissam. Mr. Kissam would like the town to accept wastewater from the meat packing company. He proposes dumping one load of approximately 6,800 gallons of waste each month. Mr. Kissam will pay for the lab tests required before dumping, as well as paying the town \$102 per load. Mrs. Vause said the wastewater would be dumped at the old plant on Brown Street and there could be some foul odor associated with it. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals pointed out that state required tests must be administered before the town would take the first load and if it failed, it would not be accepted into our sewer system. He suggested the board allow no more than three loads per week due to the potential smell. Commissioner Lennon suggested establishing a policy with steps and parameters for any companies that may want to dump their wastewater into our system. It was the consensus of the board for the town staff to do further research on the town's codes and establish testing parameters before agreeing to let White House Packing Company dump their wastewater into the town's sewer system.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced that five businesses have opened in town since January and three more are working with town officials and hope to open in the coming months. He added that work on the solar farm next to the high school should begin soon

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Ashley thanked the cheerleading coaches for the time spent volunteering and mentoring our youth.

Commissioner Sealey asked for an update on a golf cart ordinance and Mrs. Vause responded that Town Clerk Jenny Larson is currently researching ordinances from other towns.

Commissioner Lennon asked for an update on the Callahan Building. Mrs. Vause said Mr. Phillip Wall's time will be up in June. She has tried to contact him but has gotten no response.

Commissioner McCree asked about the 30 day extension given to Terri Pickett for the purchase of the Mercer house at 501 Iona Street. Mrs. Vause replied that Mrs. Pickett was unable to obtain financing for the property and her bid is now default and the town can put the house back up for bid.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

The March financial statement remains much the same as prior months. I am, however, concerned with our zoning revenue and fines/parking fee revenue. I am asking Jenny Larson to contact the Robeson County Zoning and Building Department. We need to make sure they are requiring zoning permits for our town and ETJ. I have also expressed my concern to Public Safety Director Danny Parker about our fine and fee revenue.

I am pleased to report that we received \$4,910.00 for mosquito spraying this year. It was a pleasant surprise to receive the check for \$4,910.00. This amount is actually about \$2,000.00 more than we usually receive each year. Ronnie Seals and I completed an application for mosquito funds for 2012-2013. I will inform you as soon as we receive a response to our application.

Department Head Input

Public Safety Department

Public Safety Director Danny Parker apologized on behalf of the officer who left Chalmus Hood's daughter in the town hall parking lot but he had to respond to a call. Chief Parker said there is an electrical issue with the light that shines on the parking lot and that it is scheduled for repair. Chief Parker plans to increase enforcement of parking fines but lately break-ins have been the top concern for the department. He currently has one new officer in training and two vacancies. He has 10 to 15 applicants for the positions, but is waiting until the next B.L.E.T. class graduates before filling the vacancies.

Public Works Department

There was no input this month.

Announcements

April 14 - April 28 - Spring Litter Sweep. Place your junk, large items, disposable material out by the curb and public works will remove them. Let's make Fairmont clean and spotless together!

Thursday, April 19 - Saturday, May 5 - Early Voting for the May 8th primary, 8:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., Fairmont Fire Hall. Monday - Friday and Saturday, May 5th.

Saturday, April 21 - Baltimore Baptist Church's Relay for Life team will be sponsoring a yard sale on Saturday, March 31st, at the corner of Center & Walnut Streets from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Saturday, April 21 - Student Recycling Contest, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Bring materials to the old Southern States weigh station on Morro Street. Student credited with the most pounds wins \$100, 2nd place, \$60 and 3rd place, \$40. Also bring your aluminum cans to participate in the "Fill up the Dump Truck" contest. All proceeds go to help Rosenwald Elementary School with their needs.

Saturday, April 28 - "Kids Day" at Floyd's Strawberry Farm, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A huge outdoor event of family fun, games, awesome food, strawberry picking and the music of Dr. Electrode! Proceeds benefit the Robeson County Autism Society.

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Saturday, April 28 - Fairmont Womanless Pageant sponsored by the Fairmont Farmers Festival Queens. Spaghetti supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by the pageant at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Proceeds benefit Relay for Life.

Thursday, May 3 – National Day of Prayer.

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

Tuesday, May 15 - Town Board meeting, 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers. Representatives of the armed forces branches will be honored.

Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19 – Robeson County Relay for Life, Robeson County Fairgrounds.

Saturday, May 19 - Armed Forces Day.

Thursday, May 24 - 4th annual Chamber of Commerce Beach Blast. 5:30-9:30p.m., Fairmont Golf Course. Featuring the Carolina Breakers, the 2011 CBMA New Artist of the Year! Free admission.

Monday, May 28 - Town offices and schools closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Monday, May 28 - Memorial Day sidewalk sale, 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Downtown. Memorial Day ceremony, 12:00 noon, Heritage Center. Stackhouse Family Parade, 1:30 p.m., Downtown

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 15, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 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, Charles Townsend and Kim Ammons. Commissioner Wayland Lennon, III was out of town on business and unable to attend by telephone. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker. Others in attendance included Judge Frank Floyd, Rev. Gary Deese, Jennifer Martinez, Beth Wilkerson, Ashley Berdeau, John Jackson, representatives of Cedar Grove Baptist Church, members of the Armed Forces and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Rev. Gary Deese gave the invocation.

Public Hearing – Conditional Use Permit for Cemetery by Cedar Grove Baptist Church

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m. to discuss a conditional use permit for a cemetery by Cedar Grove Baptist Church. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider an application from Cedar Grove Baptist Church for a Conditional Use Permit (#602) to establish a cemetery at 207 Industrial Drive, Robeson County Tax Parcel# 0502 02 01602. The property is zoned R-A, Residential Agricultural and is located in the town's ETJ. A cemetery is allowed as a conditional use under this zoning district. The Fairmont Planning Board met on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 and unanimously approved the conditional use permit.

There were no comments by the public or the board, so Commissioner Sealey made a motion to come out of the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Presentations

Proclamation – Armed Forces Appreciation Day

Mayor Kemp read a proclamation and poem in honor of Armed Forces Appreciation Day, which is Saturday, May 19. He also recognized Army Staff Sergeant Hunt and Marine Sergeant Jefferies with certificates of appreciation. A copy of the proclamation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Town flyer design winner – Jennifer Martinez

Mayor Kemp recognized Fairmont High School art student Jennifer Martinez, winner of the town flyer design contest. Ms. Martinez was one of 27 students in Ashley Berdeau's art class who submitted entries. The flyer will be printed and distributed to welcome centers, hotels and outlet malls along Interstate 95. She was presented a plaque and a check for \$100 by Beth Wilkerson of the Mayor's JOBS team. A copy of the flyer is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

John Jackson representing citizens of Liberia, Cottage, Red Cross and Powell Streets who feel they get overlooked when the town receives grant money to rehab houses.

Mr. John Jackson came before the board representing the citizens of Liberia, Cottage, Red Cross and Powell Streets. He presented a petition signed by the residents who feel like they get overlooked when the town receives grant money to rehab houses and to let the board know that their homes need work too.

Mr. Jackson read the following statement from the citizens to the board:

“We, the citizens on Liberia Street, Cottage Street, Red Cross Street and Powell Street are sad that we are overlooked when the town gets grant money. When we questioned the mayor and board members we always get the same answer, the money will be used to finish where we started.

Numerous grants have been given to town of Fairmont and the money has gone to every street, except for the streets stated above. The grant money worked on Canal Street and afterward it shifted to North Fairmont and bypass Liberia, Red Cross, Powell and Cottage Streets. The streets above have never had work done. Just let me share a little something with you guys, there are 2 houses on Liberia Street which are the oldest and never had work done too by the grant money.

So we, the people that live on the streets mentioned above would love to have some work done to our houses as well. So, we the citizens on the streets mentioned above would love to see the grant money used for our houses.

Thank You, Mayor Charles Kemp and Board members for your time.”

Mr. Jackson concluded by reading his own statement to the board:

“On behalf of the citizens on Liberia, Cottage and Red Cross, and Powell. I understand and point out that the present grant is one of scattered sites. This type of grant allows for the rehabilitation of homes not in a continuous row of homes on streets.

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I point out that Canal St. was done in the past and again when some houses were done for the second time. Once again (making three) it seems like Canal St. is receiving preferential treatment in rehabilitation.

I find it hard to understand the need to repeat on work done in the past. Was any other area considered for the grant? How was the site determined? Is it possible through the grant amendment process that those homes on Liberia, Cottage, Red Cross and Powell Sts. can be helped?

Further on behalf of the citizens on the aforementioned Sts they would request a written response to this and their statement to the Mayor, and Town Board Members.”

A copy of both statements and the signed petition are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Consent Agenda

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

- g. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, April 17, 2012.
- h. Reappointment of Fitzhugh Sealey, Dorothy McCormick and Ronald Hughes to the Planning Board for a 3 year term ending May 2015.
- i. Set Public Hearing Date for FY 2012-2013 Budget for June 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Unfinished Business

Resolution 12-08, Accepting bid and authorizing sale of real property – 309 S. Main Street to Nobar, Inc.

Town Manager Linda Vause informed the board that the property located at 309 S. Main Street was properly advertised and there were no upset bids. She asked the board to consider adopting Resolution 12-08, accepting bid and authorizing sale of real property at 309 S. Main Street to Nobar, Inc. for \$525, which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 12-08 ACCEPTING BID AND AUTHORIZING SALE OF
REAL PROPERTY – TAX PARCEL 300801008

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2012, the Board of Commissioners approved Resolution 12-06 declaring tax parcel 300801008 as surplus and authorizing the sale of that property through the upset bid procedure of North Carolina General Statute 160A-269; and,

WHEREAS, Nobar, Inc. (Brian Rabon) made the initial bid for the property in the amount of \$525.00; and,

WHEREAS, notice of the offer and the upset bid process was properly advertised; and,

WHEREAS, no upset bid has been received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont that it does hereby accept the bid of Nobar, Inc. (Brian Rabon) in the amount of \$525.00 and authorize the sale of the real property lying and being in the Town of Fairmont, Lumberton Township, Robeson County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

A certain lot or parcel of land lying and being in Robeson County, North Carolina, in the Town of Fairmont; and being Lot No. 3 on east Main Street, BEGINNING at a stake, the northwestern corner of Mrs. Sarah Pittman's lot (being Lot No. 4) and running with the line of Lot No. 4 South 88 degrees East 141.5 feet to an iron stake in Dr. Brown's line; thence North 2 degrees West 22.5 feet to a stake in the southeast corner of Lot No. 2 (L.G. Pittman's lot); thence with L.G. Pittman's line North 88 degrees West 141.5 feet to a stake in Main Street; thence with the line of Main Street 22.5 feet to the BEGINNING. Being the same property described in the deeds recorded in Book 524 at page 149, Book 538 at page 330, Book 656 at page 42, Book 720 at page 457, and Book 771 at page 577, Robeson County Registry. This property is identified in the Robeson County Tax Office as 3008-01-008.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont that it does hereby authorize the Mayor and Town Clerk to execute a deed to Nobar, Inc. (Brian Rabon) for the above-described property for and on behalf of the Town of Fairmont based on the following terms:

- a. the Town will pay the cost of deed preparation, the property taxes for years prior to the year in which the sale closes, and any tax stamps due. The buyer must pay current year taxes and all other costs of closing,
- b. the Town will use a quitclaim deed to transfer the property,
- c. the buyer must pay with cash at the time of closing, and
- d. the property must be brought up to building codes within 24 months of the date of closing.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-08, accepting bid and authorizing sale of real property at 309 S. Main Street to Nobar, Inc. Commissioner Ashley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Ashley asked if the property would revert back to the town in case the property is not brought up to code within 24 months and Town Attorney Rob Price said the reversion clause would be explicitly stated in the deed. A signed copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

White House Packing Company sewer rate.

Mrs. Vause presented a proposed agreement to accept wastewater from Whitehouse Packing. She asked the board to set a rate for accepting the wastewater. Whitehouse Packing was previously charged .015 per gallon. The City of Lumberton charges .04 for hauled septage and .08 for industrial waste. Our current rate for in town residents is .0116 per gallon for the first 2000 gallons and .00229 for each gallon thereafter. The out of town residential rate is .0231 for the first 2000 gallons and .00352 for each additional gallon. Mrs. Vause recommended the rate of .04 for hauled septage. Any company hauling wastewater to the Brown Street lift station will have to follow the guidelines of the town's sewer ordinance and have lab tests completed each month. Mayor Kemp's main concern was the odor. Mrs. Vause said that if the load is properly treated, the smell should be minimal. Commissioner Townsend made a motion to set the rate for accepting hauled septage at .04 per gallon. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 1 as follows:

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

Commissioner Swearing In

Comments from outgoing Commissioner Perry Ashley

Commissioner Ashley held back tears as she thanked the citizens of Fairmont for their support and regrets that she will be unable to fulfill her term. Her family circumstances have changed and they are relocating to Wisconsin.

Swearing in of Commissioner Kim Ammons by Superior Court Judge Frank Floyd.

Superior Court Judge Frank Floyd swore in Commissioner Kim Ammons. A copy of her sworn oath is hereby incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Comments by Commissioner Kim Ammons.

Commissioner Ammons thanked Commissioner Ashley and the board for the opportunity to serve Fairmont. She looks forward to working with the board and the citizens to promote and support a high quality of life for the residents in Fairmont, and to ensure that everyone is treated with respect, dignity and fairness.

New Business

Approval of Conditional Use Permit for Cemetery on Industrial Drive by Cedar Grove Baptist Church.

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to approve Conditional Use Permit #602 to establish a cemetery at 207 Industrial Drive by Cedar Grove Baptist Church. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The members of the church thanked the board and stated they had been working on establishing a church cemetery for years.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced that Fairmont will host the R.C.M.A. meeting on Tuesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Bob Moore will be the guest speaker and the F.F. Palace will cater the meal.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Sealey thanked Commissioner Ashley for the good job she did for Fairmont. He also thanked everyone for the calls and cards during his recent illness.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie announced that she will be out of town in June because she has two daughters getting married. She will try to participate in the upcoming meetings by phone.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

“Laverne Hunt, a long-term employee since 1985, retired on medical disability effective April 30, 2012. Upon completion of his cancer treatments, a retirement lunch or dinner will be planned.

Mr. Hunt was paid from the Sewer Maintenance Department in the Water/Sewer Fund. However, his main duties had been in the Street Department in the General Fund. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals agreed that any new employee should be in the appropriate department.

Ronnie has hired two part-time employees, Mr. James Moore and Mr. Nathaniel Taylor, to fill this slot. These two gentlemen previously worked for the town through the Lumber River Council of Governments Senior Program. These are the first COG employees that have been employed by the town. We also save in benefits by using part-time versus full-time help. I had to adjust the Street Department budget to cover the additional expense.

The Fire Department suffered a major breakdown with Engine #2. The repairs exceeded \$3,000.00. Engine #2 is required by the NC Insurance Commission Office to maintain our fire rating. This also required a budget adjustment.

Along with the previously mentioned budget adjustments, I also adjusted the Election Department budget to account for the extra \$1,105.00 the town had to pay due to the election protests.

The following adjustments to the 2011-2012 budget were made.

- Finance Department – reduced \$7,035.00
- Administration Department – reduced \$900.00
- Public Building – reduced \$2,750.00
- Street Department – increased \$7,050.00
- Fire Department – increased \$2,550.00
- Election Department – increased \$1,105.00

All department budget adjustments were done in accordance with the 2011-2012 Budget Ordinance.

I hope that the remaining fifty days in the 2011-2012 fiscal year will be uneventful. Fortunately several of our revenue line items are coming in above budget; such as Privilege License, Gaming Privilege License and NCDENR Mosquito Grant to name a few. Sale of Fixed Assets has been a total disappointment. The Town not only needed the revenue, but it would have been nice to have the properties back on the tax rolls.”

Department Head Input

There was no input from the department heads this month.

Announcements

Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19 - Robeson County Relay for Life, Robeson County Fairgrounds. Event starts at 12:00 noon on Friday, May 18.

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Saturday, May 19 - Armed Forces Day. A day to honor and praise our military.

Thursday, May 24 - 4th annual Chamber of Commerce Beach Blast. 5:30-9:30p.m., Fairmont Golf Course. Featuring The Carolina Breakers, the 2011 CBMA New Artist of the Year! Free admission.

Monday, May 28 - Town offices and schools closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Monday, May 28 - Memorial Day sidewalk sale, 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Downtown. Memorial Day ceremony, 12:00 noon, Heritage Center. Stackhouse Family Parade, 1:30 p.m., Downtown.

Tuesday, May 29 - Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Friday, June 1 - Family Movie Night, "The Muppets", 8:00 p.m., FDC Pavilion in the Pines, Fairmont Community Park. Bring snacks, a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the fun!

Tuesday, June 5 - Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Thursday, June 7 - Last day of school.

Tuesday, June 12 - Budget Workshop, if necessary, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Thursday, June 14 - Flag Day. Fly your flag proudly.

Tuesday, June 19 - Regular Board meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers. FY 2012-2013 Budget Public Hearing.

Thursday, June 21 - Budget Workshop, if necessary, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Tuesday, June 26 - Budget Workshop, if necessary, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers.

Thursday, June 28 - Special Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers. Approval of Amended FY 2011-2012 budget and adoption of FY 2012-2013 budget.

Sunday, July 1 - Fairmont's Fantastic Fourth fireworks show, Fairmont Community Park.

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 6:55 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop Meeting – May 29, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop meeting on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were Wayland Lennon, III, Carol Leak-McKenzie, Wade Sealey, Kim Ammons and Charles Townsend. Commissioner Townsend arrived at 6:40 p.m. Commissioner J.J. McCree was absent due to a family illness. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, and Town Clerk Jenny Larson.

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 2012-2013 budget.

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

The proposed 2012-2013 budget for the Town of Fairmont is enclosed. This budget includes a proposed rate increase of \$2.00 per month for sanitation.

GENERAL FUND

I have estimated current year tax revenue based on a valuation of \$94,866,977.00. The rate of .73 remains the same. I estimated the revenue based on a 90% collection rate. State revenues were estimated using the NC League of Municipalities' estimates and past history. Their estimates include a 3% increase in sales tax collection, 4% increase in solid waste tax and a 3.9% increase in telecommunication taxes. I did not project as high as they did. Sale of fixed assets is once again included. This can be reduced if gaming privilege license revenue increases. I would like to check on other ways to dispose of the town surplus properties; such as an auction, etc.

Police Department: The COPS grant will be completed as of June 30, 2012, increasing general fund expenditures in the police department by \$31,574.00. Public Safety Director Danny Parker requested \$15,000.00 capital outlay for 2 used police vehicles. This is NOT included in the budget.

Fire Department: The NC Department of Insurance grant is included in this budget. The grant is \$7,500.00 with the town's match being the same.

Street Department: Public Works Director Ronnie Seals requested \$60,000.00 to purchase a tractor or backhoe for the Street Department. This is NOT included in the budget.

Sanitation Department: Mr. Seals requested \$25,000.00 for chipping of the landfill. This was reduced back to the current year level of \$15,000.00.

Non-Departmental: We have a substantial increase in retiree insurance for the new year. Retiree insurance for Medicare eligible retirees is \$4,350.00 per year. Non Medicare coverage is \$12,270.00.

The General Fund budget does NOT include an increase in employee wages. A 2.5% increase would cost \$20,851.00. This amount includes salary and wage based benefits.

WATER/SEWER FUND

The Water/Sewer Fund has a surplus of \$35,339.00. This amount was placed in the contingency line item with the hope it will not be needed. Once again I have conservatively budgeted revenues. Revenues were decreased from \$1,070,900.00 to \$1,053,445.00; the surplus is due to less staff paid from this fund.

Water/Sewer Administration: The request for a new computer in the water department is included in this budget. We've been having problems with one of the computers for a couple of years and I don't expect to get many more months use from it.

Water Maintenance Department: The public works request for \$10,000.00 for a well casing is included.

Water Treatment Department: The request for \$135,000.00 for a new backhoe is NOT included in this budget. Hopefully we can make do for three years until the flusher truck is paid.

Sewer Treatment Department: The request of \$15,000.00 for sludge removal at the sewer plant is included; \$40,000.00 for preventative maintenance is also included.

A wage increase is NOT included in the Water/Sewer Fund because the General Fund can't afford an increase. A 2.5% increase would cost approximately \$6,500.00.

Mrs. Vause presented a memo and table explaining the need to increase the sanitation rate by \$2.00 a month:

The Town has absorbed rate increases and fuel surcharge from Waste Management for the past several years. I have attached a schedule with these rates and charges beginning July 2004. July 2004 is when the town contracted with Waste Management for limbs and leaves pick-up. The fuel charge listed is a twelve month average for each year. I divided that number by 1,096, which is our average number of customers.

The landfill charges were averaged the same way. This amount is what Waste Management charges each month to empty the dumpster at the town's landfill. This dumpster contains white goods, mattresses, etc. that the town staff routinely pick up. If the public works department can determine who placed the debris by the street, a charge ticket is generated and it is added to the customer's account. In many instances this debris is placed on a vacant lot or at a residence that has discontinued services with us. Since these fees are so difficult to bill and collect, it is requested that the town include these in our monthly rate. This action would eliminate the need for the twice a year "clean-up" weeks. The landfill rate increases to \$5,000.00 or more during these times. It is also a lot of extra work on our limited Public Works staff. It would be much more convenient for our employees if this work was spread out all year long. No employee related expenses are paid through this department. Other than contract services, the only other expenses charged to the Sanitation Department is the town's garbage truck and related equipment.

The town rates and charges from Waste Management prior to 2004 are listed below. These numbers do not include the fuel surcharges or the cost of the town handling limbs and leaves pick-up.

YEAR	WASTEMANGEMENT FEE	TOWN RATE
2000	\$5.48	\$11.00
2001	5.67	14.50
2002	5.97	14.73
2003	6.12	14.73

Our town is on track for a deficit of approximately \$17,000.00 for this fiscal year. The proposed budget being presented to you today includes a \$2.00 increase. Annual increase for each of our 1,096 customers would be \$24.00, and would generate an additional \$26,304.00 in revenue.

The current contract with Waste Management, Inc. does not expire until June 2014. This contract requires a six month termination or possible termination notice. This will need to be an agenda item in November 2013 so that we can complete a Request For Proposals from other sanitation companies including Waste Management. There are more sanitation companies in our area now than in the past. I would hope that the bidding process would generate lower rates. Judging from the use of our recycling dumpster, curbside recycling should be included in the RFP. Most of our residents appear to be enthusiastic about recycling and want to do their part in preserving and protecting our environmental resources.

DATE	ROLL- OUT CARTS	YARD WASTE	FUEL CHARGE*	LANDFILL CHARGE**	TOTAL CHARGE	TOWN RATE	DIFFERENCE
7/1/04			595.00	2,020.00			
	6.29	4.02	0.54	1.84	12.70	16.73	4.03
7/1/05			910.00	2,445.00			
	6.53	4.17	0.83	2.23	13.76	14.73	0.97
7/1/06			760.00	2,075.00			
	6.86	4.38	0.69	1.89	13.83	14.73	0.90
7/1/07			760.00	2,695.00			
	7.05	4.50	0.69	2.46	14.70	14.73	0.03
7/1/08			772.00	3,232.00			
	7.37	4.70	0.70	2.95	15.72	14.73	(0.99)
7/1/09			810.00	2,454.00			
	7.59	4.84	0.74	2.24	15.41	14.73	(0.68)
7/1/10			830.00	2,950.00			
	7.76	4.95	0.76	2.69	16.16	15.23	(0.93)
7/1/11			875.00	2,670.00			
	8.12	5.18	0.80	2.44	16.53	15.23	(1.30)

* Average monthly fuel service charge divided by 1096 customers.

** Average monthly charge for town landfill pick-ups divided by 1096 customers.

Commissioner Lennon suggested the bid process for trash collection start in July 2013 as part of the next budget cycle. He added that any future vendor rate increases need to be passed on immediately because postponing increases only cause pain for our citizens.

Mrs. Vause pointed out that the revenue from court fees has steadily decreased in the past few years. The town received over \$9,000 in fees in FY 05-06 but has only received \$4,174 in FY 11-12, even with an increased caseload. She called the clerk of court's office for an explanation and was told that a lot of people cannot afford to pay the court fees. The Town of Pembroke's court fees have also decreased. Commissioner Lennon suggested Mrs. Vause call or write the clerk of court and ask for an explanation of how court fees are calculated along with supporting documentation

Mrs. Vause informed the board that Public Works will have to wait until the sewer flusher truck is paid off to buy new equipment. The COPS grant in the Police Department ends June 30, 2012 and that officer has been moved to the general fund for the upcoming year. The town can apply for another COPS grant in FY 13-14. The Police Department is in the process of applying for a NC Highway Safety grant that will fund an officer and the purchase of a police car.

Mrs. Vause explained that a salary increase was not included in the budget because revenue would have to be increased in the general fund to cover the cost of a 2.5% raise, approximately a 3¢ tax increase.

Mrs. Vause informed the board that there is the potential of \$45,000 revenue in computer gaming privilege licenses fees, even though it is not included in the budget.

Commissioner Lennon noted that no fund balance was used to balance the budget but that no additional money was going into fund balance either. Mrs. Vause stated the town's undesignated fund balance in the general fund is 10.5% to 11%, which is higher than the state minimum of 8%. If the town is not successful in selling fixed assets, the town will have to use part of the fund balance at the end of the fiscal year.

After discussion, the board agreed to cancel the budget workshop scheduled for Tuesday, June 5, 2012 and meet again for a budget workshop on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Budget Workshop Meeting – June 12, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop meeting on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 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, Kim Ammons and Charles Townsend. Commissioners Lennon and Leak-McKenzie participated by telephone. Commissioner Wade Sealey was absent. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Robesonian report Abbi Overfelt also attended the meeting.

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Town Manager Linda Vause made no changes to the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget presented at the May 29, 2012 budget workshop. She has been contacted by a business that would like to install 50 computer gaming sweepstakes machines but would like to pay less than \$50,000. She proposed the following sliding scale for computer gaming machine privilege license fees:

1-10 machines:	\$1,500.00 per machine
11-25 machines:	\$1,000.00 per machine
26-40 machines:	\$750.00 per machine
Over 40 machines:	\$500.00 per machine

Using the sliding scale, the business proposing to install 50 machines would pay \$46,250 in privilege licenses fees. Mrs. Vause informed the board that the sliding scale would have to be adopted by ordinance at the June 19 board meeting to be effective by July 1st. She did not include the \$46,250 in the budget because of the uncertainty of what the state is planning for computer gaming revenue. Commissioner Lennon felt the sliding scale would encourage businesses to put more machines in with a quantity discount.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

Regular Meeting – June 19, 2012

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Wade Sealey, Wayland Lennon, III, Charles Townsend and Kim Ammons. Commissioner Carol Leak-McKenzie was out of town and participated by telephone. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Attorney Rob Price, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Public Safety Director Danny Parker and Recreation Director Mickey Williamson. Others in attendance included Kelly Johnson, Tayler Warren, Luke Hunt, Nicholas Brown, Ashley Berdeau, Abbi Overfelt, and several citizens.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Public Hearings – Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget and Robeson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update

Commissioner Sealey made a motion to go into two Public Hearings at 6:01 p.m. Commissioner Lennon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The purpose of the first public hearing is to gather public and board comment on the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget. Town Manager Linda Vause stated the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget includes a \$2.00 increase in sanitation fees, no tax increase and no employee raises. The \$2.00 increase in sanitation is to cover fuel charges and increased costs charged to the town by Waste Management. There was no public comment on the budget.

The purpose of the second public hearing is to gather public and board comment on the Robeson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mrs. Vause stated that Public Works Director Ronnie Seals and Public Safety Director Danny Parker have attended meetings over the past two years to contribute to the completion of the plan, which was compiled by the engineering firm, Holland Consulting. A plan must be in place in order to receive FEMA funding following disasters. There was no public comment on the budget.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to come out of the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Presentations

Recognition of FHS art students who won state awards – Tayler Warren and Goliath “Luke” Hunt and Recognition of FHS art student Nicholas Brown, winner of the 2012 Farmers Festival T-shirt design contest

Mayor Kemp recognized Fairmont High School art students Tayler Warren and Goliath “Luke” Hunt for winning state art awards. Mayor Kemp also recognized Fairmont High School art student Nicholas Brown, winner of the 2012 Farmers Festival T-shirt design contest. He was presented a certificate and a check for \$100. The t-shirts will be sold starting July 1 at the Fantastic Fourth event. A copy of the design is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comment Period/Citizens Appearance

Kelly Johnson, President, Fairmont Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Kelly Johnson, President of the Fairmont Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the board about what the chamber does for the town. Mr. Johnson, who has been the president for five years, stated the chamber helps sponsor the Fantastic Fourth Fireworks, the Farmers Festival, the flowers on Main Street and a commercial that ran last year on the local Fox TV channel. The Chamber hosts the Chamber Beach Bash in May and its biggest fundraiser is the Festival Golf Tournament. Mr. Johnson encouraged the board members to join the chamber, whose dues are \$25 for a family and \$65 for a business. The chamber will hold a social on August 23 at the Fairmont Golf Course. The Festival Golf Tournament will be Friday, October 19 followed by a free concert at the Fairmont Community Park featuring the Coco Loco band. The chamber will end the year with a Christmas party in December. The chamber has ordered new logo stickers to go in the windows of business members. It also helps sponsor the Carolina Breakers band.

Consent Agenda

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

- j. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, May 15, 2012 and Budget Workshop, May 29, 2012.

Unfinished Business

Request for extension on old Callahan TV Building – Phillip Wall

Mrs. Vause informed the board that due to economic conditions and personal situations, Mr. Phillip Wall is asking for an eighteen month extension on the clean-up of the Main Street property formerly known as the Callahan TV building. Commissioner McCree asked how much work has been done on the property in the past 18 months. Public Works Director Ronnie Seals stated that Mr. Wall has not been able to do much work at all. Commissioner Townsend suggested since the property was originally purchased for \$500, Mr. Wall should pay that or more to get an extension. Commissioner McCree mentioned lost water/sewer revenue. Commissioner Ammons estimated that 6 months of lost water/sewer revenue would be \$250. Commissioner McCree suggested granting a 6 month extension for \$750, which is the \$500 original price paid for the property and 6 months of lost water/sewer revenue, and giving Mr. Wall 10 days to respond to the offer. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to grant Mr. Phillip Wall a six month extension on the clean-up of the old Callahan TV building for a fee of \$125 a month with the total of \$750 due at the time of the agreement and if the work is completed before the 6 month time period expires, part of the fee will prorated and rebated back to Mr. Wall. Commissioner McCree seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Choose alternate for LRCOG board representative.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to appoint Commissioner Kim Ammons as the alternate LRCOG board representative. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

Resolution 12-09 – Adopting the Robeson County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

Mrs. Vause asked the board to consider adopting Resolution 12-09, adopting the Robeson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update, which reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION 12-09 ADOPTING THE
ROBESON COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the citizens and property within Robeson County are subject to the effects of natural hazards and man-made hazard events that pose threats to lives and cause damages to property, and with the knowledge and experience that certain areas, i.e., flood hazard areas, are particularly susceptible to flood hazard events; and

WHEREAS, Robeson County desires to seek ways to mitigate situations that may aggravate such circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of North Carolina has in Part 6, Article 21 of Chapter 143; Parts 3, 5, and 8 of Article 19 of Chapter 160A; and Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes, delegated to local governmental units the responsibility to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of North Carolina has in Section 1 Part 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes (adopted in Session Law 2001-214 – Senate Bill 300 effective July 1, 2001), states in Item (a) (2) “For a state of disaster proclaimed pursuant to G.S. 166A-6(a) after August 1, 2002, the eligible entity shall have a hazard mitigation plan approved pursuant to the Stafford Act that is updated every five years”; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners of Robeson County to fulfill this obligation in order that the county will be eligible for federal and state assistance in the event that a state of disaster is declared for a hazard event affecting the county; and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 states that local governments must develop an All-Hazards Mitigation Plan and update it every five years in order to receive future Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funds; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairmont actively participated in the planning process of the Robeson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and has fulfilled all their part of the multi-jurisdictional planning elements required by FEMA;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont hereby:

1. Adopts the Robeson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and
2. Separately adopts the sections of the plan that are specific to the Town of Fairmont; and
3. Vests the Public Works Director and Public Safety Director with the responsibility, authority, and the means to:
 - (a) Inform all concerned parties of this action.
 - (b) Cooperate with Federal, State and local agencies and private firms which undertake to study, survey, map, and identify floodplain or flood-related erosion areas, and cooperate with neighboring communities with respect to management of adjoining floodplain and/or flood-related erosion areas in order to prevent aggravation of existing hazards.
4. Appoints the Public Works Director and Public Safety Director to assure that, in cooperation with Robeson County, the Hazard Mitigation Plan is reviewed annually and in greater detail at least once every five years.
5. Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the strategies outlined within the 2012 Robeson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-09, adopting the Robeson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Commissioner Townsend 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.

Resolution 12-10 – Agreement to continue participation in the North Carolina Small Town Main Street Program 2012-2013.

Mrs. Vause asked the board to consider adopting Resolution 12-10, agreement to continue participation in the North Carolina Small Town Main Street Program 2012-2013, which reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION 12-10
ADOPTING AN AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE
NORTH CAROLINA SMALL TOWN MAIN STREET PROGRAM
2012-2013**

WHEREAS; the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Urban Development Division has established a Small Town Main Street Program to provide technical assistance in downtown revitalization, utilizing the “Main Street Four-Point Approach” of Organization, Design, Promotion and Economic Restructuring, to selected small towns in eastern North Carolina; and

WHEREAS; several towns were selected to receive a more detailed level of service incorporating all of the “Main Street Four Points”; and

WHEREAS; the Department of Commerce selected the Town of Fairmont to participate in the program and the Town wishes to continue its participation for an additional year; and

WHEREAS; both parties agree that a high level of community participation and commitment is required on the part of the Town and community in order to ensure that the program is as successful as possible: and

WHEREAS; reimbursement for travel related expenses will be required of the Town;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the Town agrees to continue its participation in the Small Town Main Street Program and to abide by the following conditions:

1. The Town will actively participate in the Small Town Main Street Program for an additional period of no less than twelve (12) months beginning July 1, 2012.
2. The Town will designate a contact person in the community for the technical assistance team to coordinate with in order to provide continuity and leadership for the effort.
3. The Town will continue to maintain a volunteer committee and working subcommittees that are representative of the entire community, to provide focus for the program.
4. The Town will continue its support for the volunteer committee and will assist the committee and team in conducting community projects and any other necessary activities.
5. The Town will cooperate with the Small Town Main Street technical assistance team and support the community vision and plan of action.
6. The Town will continue to implement the plan of action to the fullest extent possible.
7. The Town will continue to develop and actively participate in local and regional partnerships and networks, and share resources and information gained through the program with other communities in the region.
8. The Town agrees to reimburse the Urban Development Division for travel related expenses for any travel requested by the Town as submitted.

Commissioner Leak-McKenzie made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-10, agreement to continue participation in the North Carolina Small Town Main Street Program 2012-2013. 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.

Ordinance 12-145 – Amending computer gaming privilege license fees.

Mrs. Vause asked the board to consider adopting Ordinance 12-145, amending computer gaming privilege license fees, which reads as follows:

ORDINANCE 12-145

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FAIRMONT, ROBESON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, AMENDING SECTION 115.02 PRIVILEGE LICENSE FEES, OF CHAPTER 115, COMPUTER GAMING ESTABLISHMENTS, OF TITLE XI, BUSINESS REGULATIONS, OF THE FAIRMONT CODE OF ORDINANCES

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Fairmont, North Carolina, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 115.02 Privilege License Fees, 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:

§ 115.02 Privilege License Fees.

A. A Privilege License Fee shall be paid annually for each and every computer at a Computer Gaming Establishment as follows:

For the first ten machines within a building	\$1,500 per machine
For machines 11 to 25 within the same building	\$1,000 per machine
For machines 26 to 40 within the same building	\$750 per machine
For any additional machines within the same building	\$500 per machine

B. All Privilege License Fees shall be due and payable on or before July 1st of each year for the ensuing twelve months. The Privilege License Fee for machines placed in use between January 1st and June 30th shall be one-half the appropriate fee as established above. No interested party shall allow a computer to be operated until the appropriate Privilege License Fees have been paid for the machine.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2012.

Commissioner Lennon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 12-145, amending computer gaming privilege license fees. Commissioner Townsend seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A signed copy of the ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Mayor Input

Mayor Kemp announced that the Job Link of NC Job Fair will be Wednesday, June 20 from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Commissioner Lennon asked for statistics on how many people attend the job fairs and how many jobs are acquired as a result. Mayor Kemp said he will start tracking it for future reference.

He announced that the RCMA meeting will be hosted by Lumberton at the Village Station on June 28.

Commissioners Input

Commissioner Ammons asked how the grant writer was doing. Mayor Kemp stated she has filed three separate grants for the I-95 billboards and has been given information on recreation and downtown business grants.

Manager Input

Mrs. Vause presented the following monthly financial summary to the board:

May has been a very busy month for all departments. The Street Department and the Fire Department are both at 99% of budget. This has been mentioned in my previous reports. Most of the revenues are on budget in the General Fund. However, while compiling my monthly financial report, I caught an error of \$27,000.00 in the billing for contract sewer services. This was corrected in June and will be reflected in the June reports.

The Police Department has been working a special assignment for the month of May. Please see the chief's report for the increase in citations issued. They have two openings that we hope to fill in June. The chief is waiting for approval from the State level to complete this process. Along with working two officers short, one officer has just completed departmental training. Needless to say, they have been very busy.

It has been a struggle in the Public Works Department to keep the equipment running. Some of the needed repairs were completed the first week of June; which is not reflected in the May financial statements. The estimated cost in all departments is at least \$7,500.00. Ronnie Seals and his staff are completing all of the repairs they possibly can in order to save money. These men are juggling their schedules to accommodate the extra work they are doing.

Only necessary purchases will be made for the balance of this fiscal year.

Mrs. Vause asked that the budget workshops scheduled for June 21 and June 26 be cancelled. She noted that the FY 12-13 budget and the FY 11-12 amended budget will be adopted on Thursday, June 28 at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

Department Head Input

There was no input from Public Works Director Ronnie Seals this month.

Public Safety Director Danny Parker gave a report on Operation Spring Forward, which took place May 1 to May 31, 2012. There were 9 felony arrests, 35 misdemeanor arrests, 136 citations, 13 for DWI, 27 warning citations, 8 license checkpoints, 152 traffic stops, 8 vehicles towed, 6 wanted person arrests, 4 narcotics arrests, 2 weapon violations, 8 housing lease violations, and 2 juvenile curfew violations. Officers recovered 15 items of stolen property valued at \$1,322.39 including 122 pounds of copper. The officers spent 51 hours of extra foot patrol in high crime problem areas such as Pine & N. Main Street,

Market & McDaniel Street, Canal Street, Fairmont Housing Authority properties and the Meadow Woods Apartment complex. Problem areas include large crowds hanging around including non-residents, loud music, possible drug and alcohol activity and gang activity. A second, more investigative operation has started focusing on the problem areas.

Announcements

Wednesday, June 20 - Employment Security Commission Job Fair with 25 employers present. 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center.

Thursday, June 28 - Special Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers. Approval of Amended FY 2011-2012 budget and adoption of FY 2012-2013 budget.

Friday, June 29 - Family Movie Night, "The Incredibles", 8:30 p.m., FDC Pavilion in the Pines, Fairmont Community Park. Bring snacks, a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the fun!

Saturday, June 30 - Greenbrier social with the Farmers Festival queens and Mayor Kemp, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 1 - Fairmont's Fantastic Fourth, Fairmont Community Park, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Concert by Too Much Sylvia ending with a huge fireworks show at 9:30 p.m. FREE admission.

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

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

Thursday, July 19 - Fairmont Community Watch Quarterly Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Courtroom.

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 7:23 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk

**Special Meeting – June 28, 2012
Budget Adoption**

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2012 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, Carol Leak-McKenzie and Kim Ammons. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie participated by telephone. Commissioner Charles Townsend was absent. Staff present included Town Manager Linda Vause, Town Clerk Jenny Larson and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Robesonian report Abbi Overfelt also attended the meeting.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and gave the invocation.

Administrative Matters

Write Off Uncollected Water Accounts for 2011-2012 in the amount of \$2,367.60.

Town Manager Linda Vause stated this year's write-offs are \$145.52 less than last year. Commissioner McCree made a motion to write off uncollected water accounts for 2011 - 2012 in the amount of \$2,367.60. Commissioner Sealey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the 2011-2012 uncollected water accounts is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Write Off 2001 Property Taxes in the amount of \$1,300.66

Mrs. Vause stated this year's write-offs are \$100.75 less than last year. Commissioner Lennon made a motion to write off the 2001 property taxes in the amount of \$1,300.66. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the 2001 property tax accounts are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 12-146 - Amended Fiscal Year Budget 2011-2012

Mrs. Vause said the estimated fund balance usage is \$20,745, which is way less than last year's \$108,202. She projects the undesignated fund balance to be at 10% which is above the state minimum of 8%. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to adopt Ordinance 12-146 - Amended Fiscal Year Budget 2011-2012 in the amount of \$2,991,234.35. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the 2011-2012 amended budget ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.

Ordinance 12-147 - Fiscal Year Budget 2012-2013

Mrs. Vause state the budget includes a \$2.00 increase in sanitation and no tax increase. Commissioner McCree suggested looking at the possibility of giving the employees a raise in September or October once the unbudgeted computer gaming revenue comes in. Commissioner Sealey made a motion to adopt Ordinance 12-147 - Fiscal Year Budget 2012-2013 in the amount of \$3,946,028.92. Commissioner Leak-McKenzie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the 2012-2013 budget ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes. Commissioners Sealey and Leak-McKenzie commended Mrs. Vause and her staff for the excellent work on the budget.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Jennifer H. Larson, CMC
Town Clerk