

Special Meeting – April 2, 2024

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were Terry Evans, Heather Seibles, Melvin Ellison, and Jan Tedder-Rogers. Commissioner Clarence McNeill, Jr. participated by telephone and Commissioner J.J. McCree was absent. Staff present included Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Deputy Town Clerk Rodney Cain, Police Chief Jon Edwards, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Lee Grissom and several citizens were also in attendance.

Call to Order and Invocation

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and gave the invocation.

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Audit Report presented by Lee Grissom, S. Preston Douglas and Associates

Mr. Lee Grissom, of S. Preston Douglas and Associates, presented Fairmont's 2022-2023 audit report. He apologized for the audit being submitted late this year, but it was due to the county having issues with its property tax software. The town's unassigned fund balance for the general fund is 34%. The town's tax collection rate is 91%, which is down from previous years. Mr. Grissom stated the LGC has found financial issues of concern regarding the town's water/sewer fund. The town had a loss of \$229,618 in the water/sewer fund and the goal is to break even and build a reserve. Commissioner Tedder-Rogers made a motion to approve the FY 2022-2023 Audit Report. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approval of Lead for NC Fellow match of \$25,000.

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut informed the board the town has been approved for a Lead for NC fellowship beginning in August 2024 for 11 months. The town's match is \$25,000, which will be paid quarterly to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Commissioner Tedder-Rogers made a motion to approve the Lead for NC Fellow match of \$25,000. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Commissioner Tedder-Rogers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jennifer H. Larson
Town Clerk