

Budget Workshop – May 27, 2025

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop meeting on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Terry Evans, Melvin Ellison, and Clarence McNeill, Jr. Commissioners Jan Tedder-Rogers and Heather Seibles were absent. Staff present included Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, Deputy Clerk Rodney Cain, and Police Chief Jonathan Edwards.

Call to Order and Invocation

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

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget discussion

Commissioner Evans asked the staff to look at increasing the base minimum for water and sewer from 1,000 gallons to 1,500 gallons.

Commissioner Ellison asked about charging a different rate for commercial users. Currently, commercial and residential rates are the same.

Mayor Kemp stated he was against any utility rate increase.

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut stated that Waste Management costs will increase 4.9% in August. The proposed budget does not include any figures for the potential regional agreement with Fair Bluff, Cerro Gordo, Boardman and Proctorville or billing for non-profits starting January 2026.

Adjournment

Mayor Kemp announced that another budget workshop will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Commissioner Ellison seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Jennifer H. Larson
Town Clerk