

**TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

**May 11, 2022
5:00 P.M. – Huntersville Town Hall
101 Huntersville-Concord Road**

The Huntersville Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting at Huntersville Town Hall, 101 Huntersville-Concord Road, Huntersville, NC, at 5:00 p.m. on May 11, 2022, to discuss the proposed budget for FY23.

Mayor Bales called the Special Meeting to order.

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Melinda Bales; Commissioners Dan Boone, Rob Kidwell, Lance Munger, Derek Partee, and Stacy Phillips. Commissioner Amber Kovacs was present via telephone.

Anthony Roberts, Town Manager, reviewed the Projected Capital Improvement Program. *Refer to Exhibit No. 1.*

It was the general consensus of the Board to get to the right-of-way phase (without purchasing) of the David Kenney Farm Road project, then pause the project until there is movement on the NC 73 widening project.

It was the general consensus of the Board to include the splash pad in the FY23 budget. The two locations considered were Waymer Park and North Meck Park. Staff has concerns about parking at Waymer Park and recommends the splash pad be located at North Meck Park. If built at North Meck Park, another restroom would need to be built. The requested amount does not include funding for the restroom. Staff will bring back an updated estimate.

Storm water issue in the Walters Street area was discussed. Staff noted that could be addressed by Storm Water funds, not ARPA funds.

Vehicle Fee. The vehicle fee has been \$20 for 15 years. State statute allows a fee up to \$30. It was the general consensus of the Board to leave the vehicle fee at \$20.

Solid Waste Fee. There was previously consensus to raise the solid waste fee by \$17 to \$126. It was the general consensus of the Board of to keep the \$17 increase.

Employee COLA/Merit. The Manager's Recommended Budget includes a 6 percent COLA and 1 percent merit.

Commissioner Boone suggested increasing firefighters pay by an additional \$2 an hour (Manager's Recommended Budget includes a \$1 an hour increase), for a total increase of \$3 an hour.

After debating different scenarios, a general consensus was reached for 5 percent COLA, 4 percent merit and an additional \$1.50 per hour for firefighters on top of the \$1.00 per hour increase recommended in the Manager's Recommended Budget.

Commissioner Munger asked about the increase in insurance.

Jackie Huffman, Deputy Manager, explained the broker suggested the Town include cybersecurity insurance.

Commissioner Boone asked about police transportation van.

Chief Hoyle explained the van would be used for storage of SWAT equipment.

Commissioner Kidwell asked why external agencies weren't broken out.

Emily Sloop, Town Attorney, explained it was included as a lump sum due to new ethics rule.

Commissioner Kidwell questioned if the Town should start charging for parking in the parking deck.

Mr. Roberts explained that there are no current plans to start charging, but would be revisited in the future.

Subsidized HFFA memberships was discussed. It was the general consensus of the Board to eliminate subsidizing for Board, but continue to subsidize for employees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved this the 18th day of July 2022.