

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Littleton held a special meeting for a budget workshop on Thursday, May 28, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to present the proposed FY 2009-10 Budget to the Board of Commissioners and to take care of any other business brought before the Board. Commissioners present were Patrick McAtee-MacRae, Betty Willis, Clara Debnam and Terry Newsom.

Mayor Hawfield opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hawfield stated this was a work session on the budget, on which he had worked many hours and it was presently a balanced budget. Hopefully there would be few amendments. The State may tap the Town's third largest revenue, franchise taxes, which would create problems all across North Carolina. They might know something by June 15, but more probably, not until July. Commissioners Willis stated they needed to send letters to fight the possible loss of revenue. Mayor Hawfield went on to state the budget kept the tax rate of \$0.61/\$100.00 valuation and didn't recommend raising the tax rate.

Mayor Hawfield asked the Board to set a date for a public hearing on the budget to allow citizen's comments. Monday, June 15th, 2009, at 6p.m. was the date decided on.

Mayor Hawfield stated there was a 5% increase in health benefit costs to the Town which would be in lieu of salary increases. Some municipalities were requiring the employees to participate in health care costs, but he didn't recommend it. Under the police department they would be making the last payment on the police car in the amount of \$7,338 and the last payment to Halifax County on the FASTA (industrial) building was included in this year's budget (08-09). The budget was down from \$617,020 for the current year to \$598,551.40, so would not have to use as much reserve. There actually was a surplus in the Water and Sewer Fund which would allow a little leeway. That surplus might be needed due to a break down of a piece of equipment at the WWTP.

Commissioner MacRae questioned the miscellaneous line item in the cemetery budget, it had been reduced considerably to \$200.00. He stated he would prefer to have \$500.00 in the original budget rather than having to perhaps make an amendment later. Following a short discussion, Mayor Hawfield agreed to make the change in the budget.

Commissioner Willis made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Debnam, to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. The motion was voted and carried.

Clerk