

The Board of Commissioners held a work session Tuesday, February 14, 2012, at the Town Hall, 112 E. South Main Street. Commissioners present were Diana Bobbitt, Jimmy Kearney, Heidi Hogan, Terry Newsom and Clara Debnam.

Mayor Willis called the meeting to order at 10:03.

Commissioner Bobbitt made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kearney, to change Gregory Bolton's salary back to officer pay. The motion was voted and carried.

Mayor Willis stated she expected to have a police officer at all regular meetings and discussion followed. Mayor Willis also advised she had received an apology from the Mason's and was told the (Masonic Lodge) roof would be taken care of. The Board also discussed Commissioner Hogan's work with the Library and fundraising and in response to comments from Mayor Willis, Commissioner Hogan suggested Commissioner Bobbitt go to the Library Board meetings in her place.

Commissioner Hogan made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kearney, to appoint Commissioner Bobbitt to replace Commissioner Hogan as liaison for the Jones Memorial Library Board. The motion was voted and carried.

Commissioner Hogan advised the board needed to make a decision on repairing the library roof and discussion followed on the contractors and their proposals. It was decided to get additional information from Briggs and Hernandez and get itemized and detailed information for comparison.

Mayor Willis reported the invitations would be sent out for the Town Hall grand opening to be held February 26.

The Clerk advised she had received the information the amount remaining in the Town Hall grant that could be spent for furnishings and office equipment was \$19,000.00. A list provided by the clerk was discussed and additional equipment suggested by the Board. Following discussion, Commissioner Bobbitt made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan, to allow the clerk to, as frugally as possible, purchase furnishings and equipment for the Town Hall not to exceed \$17,000.00. The motion was voted and carried.

Commissioner Hogan stated Angela Bryant had suggested she contact Henry McCoy, Dept. of Commerce, concerning the library and he had set up a meeting for 1:30 that afternoon. The board briefly discussed the coming meeting.

Mayor Willis asked the Board to designate the area originally called the museum (in proposed library plan) the "Learning Museum" to be established for educational purposes. Discussion followed including better opportunities qualifying for grant funding as a learning center, storage for donations and for holiday decorations and moving into the Town Hall by April 7th.

Commissioner Debnam reported she had contacted Philip Joyner, Mack Gay Associates, and he said Freddie would come to repair Y's and T's and clean outs and would make a list of the ones to be repaired and then they would be re-inspected. Commissioner Kearney suggested getting someone else to do the inspection, Commissioner Newsom suggested a lawsuit if something doesn't get done, Commissioner Hogan suggested contacting the Town Attorney for advice, Mayor Willis stated she didn't agree with anything Freddie didn't do right but she was

tired of this and she would stay on this and tell them to get it done. Further discussion followed and Commissioner Debnam said she would report back to the Board at the next regular meeting.

Commissioner Bobbitt made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan to reconvene the meeting at 1:30 pm to meet with Mr. McCoy. The motion was voted and carried.

Mayor Willis brought the meeting back to order at 1:40 pm. Elizabeth Parham, Office of Urban Development and NC Main Street - Division of Community Assistance (DCA), Cathy Scott with Halifax Economic Development, Henry McCoy - Assistant Secretary DCA and Vickie Miller - Community Investment and Assistance DCA were in attendance to inform the Board of possible programs available for the renovation of the building for the new library and to hear input from the Board. Discussion included what funding might be available, using the \$75,000 in donations already donated or pledged for leverage and different aspects to highlight for increased chances for funding. Also discussed was a CDBG program, NC Catalyst Grant for up to \$500,000, could be used for any CDBG activity which now not limited to housing but could be for infrastructure and checking to see if Friends of the Library was a 501(c)3 corporation.

At 2:25 the meeting adjourned to allow inspection of the building to be renovated for the proposed new library. No action was taken during inspection of the building and discussion focused on the proposed renovation.

Clerk