

The Board of Commissioners held a workshop Monday, March 12, 2012, at the Town Hall. Commissioners present were Clara Debnam, Heidi Hogan and Jimmy Kearney. Commissioners Terry Newsom and Diana Bobbitt arrived after the meeting started.

Mayor Willis called the meeting to order at 10:09 and advised two Commissioners hadn't yet taken the required ethics training.

Mayor Willis reported she had met with General David Johnson, Kim Sutton and Michelle Smitherman about the Kipp project (converting the former McIver Elementary School into a Kipp Elementary and Middle School) and they requested another letter of support from the Town. Discussion included holding an open meeting to allow citizens to show their support for the project and having a sign-up sheet available at the Town Hall for citizens to show support.

Mayor Willis advised Warlene Faulcon Goins had asked the Board to consider a request to permit American Legion Post 25 hold a festival the first Saturday in April 2013. In discussion that followed it was the consensus of the Board that more information was needed to make a decision. Commissioner Newsom arrived at 10:19 at the end of the discussion.

Mayor Willis stated someone had donated, for a tax credit, a conference table and chairs for the Library and she had found a storage place to keep the furniture. Commissioner Kearney made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan, to accept the donation of the tables and 12 chairs. The motion was voted and carried.

The board was reminded they had discussed proposals for roof repairs for the new library and had narrowed it down to Briggs or Hernandez. Discussion followed and the consensus was to make the decision at the next regular meeting.

Commissioner Newsom advised Lakeland Theater had a sewer backup and in discussion, Keith Hamm, WWTP Superintendent, advised there had been no proper cleanout and the problem was partially the Town's fault. Following further discussion, Commissioner Hogan made a motion seconded by Commissioner Debnam, to reimburse Lakeland Theater for the \$300.00 Pitchford Plumbing bill. The motion was voted and carried with Commissioners Hogan, Debnam, Newsom and Kearney voting in favor and Commissioner Bobbitt opposing.

Superintendent Hamm advised he was required by statute to clean 10% of sewer lines each year; the lowest price he could find would be about \$9,504.00 per year. He proposed purchasing a sewer jet for \$36,842.12 plus taxes using the availability fees. Discussion followed, including where the as-builts and videos from the grant projects were and providing copies to the Town rather than having Mr. Hamm to go to Rocky Mount to the engineer's office to view the as-builts and videos, the sewer jet had a life span of 17-20 years and the money would come out of capital improvement. Commissioner Debnam made a motion seconded by Commissioner Bobbitt, to purchase the sewer jet. The motion was voted and carried.

Commissioner Newsom made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hogan, to direct the Finance Officer to make the necessary budget amendments. The motion was voted and carried.

Mayor Willis wanted to raise awareness that a 25% increase in Halifax County property taxes would be on the ballot and reminded everyone to vote May 9th.

Commissioner Bobbitt made a motion seconded by Commissioner Kearney, to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 am. The motion was voted and carried.

Clerk