

**May 4, 2015 Special Called meeting  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

The Wendell Town Board of Commissioners held a Special Called meeting on Monday, May 4, 2015 at 5:30 pm in the Board Meeting room to talk about the FY 15/16 Budget with Mayor Hinnant presiding. Present were Commissioner Sam Laughery, James Parham; Virginia Gray; Manager Teresa Piner; Jonnie Driver-Clerk; Butch Kay-Finance; Jeff Polaski-Parks and Recreation; Bill Carter-Police; David Bergmark-Planning; and Tamah Hughes-IT. Commissioners John Boyette and John Lutz were not in attendance.

Mayor Hinnant called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

Manager Piner said Mr. Polaski has a meeting at 6:00 pm with the Parks and Recreation Commission and would be staying for the entire meeting and asked that questions regarding events or other budget details pertaining to parks and recreation could be addressed first.

Commissioner Gray said she had questions about our budget in general. She said she wished that the budget had more details regarding descriptions, because she was not in a department and did not know what the codes mean. She said on Salaries-Regular, she would like to know how many employees and who they were. She thought she knew, but it would help to see that information. Teresa said their packets contain a breakdown of the codes by line item and with what department they belong. Commissioner Gray said that was very helpful. She asked what parks and recreation departmental supplies were. Jeff said that encompasses sports equipment, basketballs, baseballs, catcher's equipment, or anything that was associated with athletic gear other than uniforms. Commissioner Gray asked if they ordered the same number of things each year. Jeff said generally. She asked who the uniforms were for. Jeff said that line item was for kids uniforms. She asked what part of that did the sponsorship for the teams pay for. Jeff said that goes back into revenues. She asked do the fees pay for everything, do we break even? Sponsorships help to cover costs as well. Teresa stated that the money received for registration does not cover everything, we do not break even. Commissioner Gray asked what Facility & Equipment rental was. Jeff said that was for the porta-johns we order for events. Commissioner Gray asked what the Dues and Subscriptions were for. Jeff said most of us are members of the NC Association of Parks and Recreation, and it also covers any league fees we pay. Commissioner Gray asked if insurance was for kids that did not have insurance. Jeff said some parents wish to pick up the insurance and it was insurance for Quinceaneras when they were held at the park. Commissioner Gray asked about the Special Programs and Camps. Jeff said that number was higher this year because the only thing that was in that line item last year was Tiny Basketball, and the events have added are now included in this line item. Commissioner Gray said this was why she would like for a description to be included, because she did not know these things.

Commissioner Parham said where does the money for kids who cannot afford to play come from. Jeff said we have a scholarship program which comes from the Doug Proctor Foundation to help those kids.

Commissioner Gray said she would like to talk about the exact events we were planning. Jeff said he was looking at doing a child friendly haunted trail at the park and get businesses to set up tables throughout the woods and pass out candy. Mayor Hinnant said does the board as a whole get to approve the programs and events. Commissioner Gray said she wanted to make sure the board was ok with what events and programs would be taking place before we jump into them. She said she would

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really like to have a list of the events, when they would be held, and what the cost of the event was. Teresa said we would prepare a calendar spread the events out over the calendar year. Mayor Hinnant said before you solicit feedback from the Parks and Recreation Commission this board would like to bless these events. He said he was not sure that he wanted to pay for the BMX event this year that was expensive. Commissioner Gray said she really enjoyed the BMX event, but it was really expensive for an annual event. She thought maybe every other year would be good. Mayor Hinnant said also if we were going to help the Chamber by paying for the band at \$4,000 that would come out of this budget. He said in the future we need to get some type of request from the Chamber so it could be added to our budget. Mayor Hinnant said Mrs. Piner said we had \$4,000 in the current budget to satisfy the Chamber's request if this board so chooses. He said the biggest problem he had was that he was told that some of the money that was received from tips at the beer garden last year's event was actually spent rather than putting it back into the Chamber Funds. Mayor Hinnant said he was told that the money that was received was spent at the Angus Barn as well as some chamber funds. He said before we say let's give them \$4,000 every year and they are making money and not putting it all back into the organization, he did not want his tax dollars to pay for a band when they were having a party. Commissioner Gray said she did not know anything about the tips or the Angus Barn. She said if they want to have a party at the Angus Barn and pay their own way that was fine, but she agreed if they were using revenues from the harvest festival for these types of items, she understood. She said last year they did not have a lot of money and they got a band that was much less, but the town came in at the last minute and said no we want it bigger and better and it seemed we were trying to impress Wendell Falls which was fine, so we set that precedent. She said maybe we should not have done that because they were spending less because they knew they had less. They were struggling just like the Town and they don't have any money either.

Mayor Hinnant said he thought that if we were going to put tax dollars into the band for the Harvest Festival, then the Chamber was going to have more accountability for the money they make. He said he thought the chamber should know up front if we were expecting some accountability moving forward, and we owe it to the taxpayers to ask for a level of accountability of what was spent and what they took in. He said they may not want our money if they have to be accountable, but we are accountable to the taxpayers. Commissioner Gray said typically when they had a meeting they give me their financial information and usually it was who has paid dues and who has not. She said they don't have that information on the sheet. Mayor Hinnant said if we do decide to contribute money for the band, do we want to also express to them that we expect an accountability of their finances. Commissioner Gray said by the time one person comes in to the Chamber and gets their feet on the ground, a new person takes over, so there was not a same person every year that would know to send Teresa a request for the band. She said we need to write down a process of what we want them to do and give it to them and say this was what we want. We need to be real specific with them. Mayor Hinnant said his suggestion to this board was that the Town allocate \$2,000 per year specifically for entertainment, and if they need more than the \$2,000 allocation they would have to jump through hoops to get additional money. Commissioner Gray said that was fine with her.

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Commissioner Laughery said he saw that we were planning on doing the entire PARTF Grant in one FY in the amount of \$306,000. He said he could not possibly support that. He said to do all that work in one FY was ridiculous. We had done a lot of things in the park this year that were not budgeted, in fact we did a lot of things overall that were not budgeted and the reason we were able to do that was because at the end of the budget process last year we made major reductions in different things so that we would have some flexibility in the budget and if an opportunity came up like the BMX, we would have the funds to do that. He said he thought we should do the same thing this year. He said as far as doing the entire PARTF Grant in one fiscal year, he could not support that and would vote against the entire budget.

Mayor Hinnant said he thought if we decided to move in the direction Commissioner Laughery was suggesting, it could actually be done but he did not agree. Commissioner Laughery said it was his understanding it was three years, but when you look at the list of things in the PARTF, there was no way we could do that list in one year even if we wanted to. Commissioner Gray said that was if we get a loan. Commissioner Laughery said it was showing that we were going to get the loan, whether we get it all or most of it at the end of the fiscal year it was in the budget. Commissioner Gray said it was her understanding that it was better to go ahead with it and not have interruptions to the park property over and over. Jeff said some of the improvements would be spread out because of the nature of usage. When ball games were going on they would not be able to do work in that area until later in the season. Commissioner Laughery said there were probably hundreds of things on the list that our citizens would like to have at the park. He said as long as it was \$306,000 in the budget that was money we potentially would borrow next fiscal year. He said it was in the budget and the only way you could take it out of the budget was by adjusting it and saying we were going to do it over three years. Mayor Hinnant said we cannot afford to pay for it out of pocket and pay the note on a loan. We were getting the loan for the PARTF Grant and other things. That was why it was all rolled into debt, because we could afford a loan payment, but we can't afford to do the other things that are in the budget without a loan. Commissioner Laughery said he did not disagree with the note. Commissioner Laughery stated that this next fiscal year the Town could do half, and borrow half of the amount and put the next half in the following fiscal year. Mayor Hinnant asked if we could borrow only \$150,000 and next year re-open the note and ask for the additional \$150,000 for the next year. Teresa said Butch and I met with the Local Government Commission and they talked about the process and they recommended that we have one loan and roll the note for the Clark property into this loan to save on the interest rate at about \$2,000 per year. She said they also described the process we would have to go through because once the board approved the loan, the Town had to go thru the LGC process and it would not be until the spring that we could close on the loan. She said the payment would not be due this fiscal year, but the payment would fall into FY 16/17. Mayor Hinnant said in fairness to parks and recreation compared to how much we spent on the other departments, we said if we did not get this grant, we would still get the \$306,000 in the Capital expenses so they could upgrade the services at the park. He said even if we don't get the grant we would still have \$306,000 for park upgrades. Commissioner Gray said it was all in the timing, we had to make a decision on this before we were going to know whether or not we would get the PARTF Grant. She said we had to approve the budget and loan if this was the way we go prior to knowing about the PARTF Grant. Commissioner Laughery said he did not think we had to approve doing it in one year. He

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said what he heard was no interest would be paid until the next fiscal year, so the interest number of \$66,192 needs a major adjustment because that was not going to occur in this fiscal year.

Butch Kay said those numbers were not in this proposed budget. He said the whole \$66,192 would be delayed until the next fiscal year. He said when we submitted the proposal for the PARTF we had to show a commitment of our matched dollars to them that says the Town was committed for our portion of match. He said if that amount does not stay within that budget or if it gets reduced, we run the risk of not getting the grant. He said obviously it would be spread out, Jeff had said that it could not all be done in one year, but the Town had to show that commitment. Commissioner Laughery said you could show the commitment, but still do it over three years. Butch said yes. Mayor Hinnant said he was looking at how much money we were giving to every other department and we were asking parks and recreation to provide the same level of service that we were asking others departments to do and they don't have money to do it.

Mayor Hinnant asked Commissioner Laughery if he was in favor of giving the Chamber \$2,000 for the band at the Harvest Festival and if they asked for more than \$2,000 they would have to give accountability of their need. Commissioner Laughery said he would rather not give his opinion tonight, but to have more discussion. Mayor Hinnant asked Commissioner Parham and Commissioner Gray if they were comfortable with making a decision tonight. Both were in agreement to give \$2,000 and give accountability for any additional funds needed. Commissioner Gray said she did want to partner with them or play a role in the Harvest Festival. Mayor Hinnant said the majority was fine with the decision of \$2,000 and for additional funds, they had to give accountability. Commissioner Gray asked what exactly do you want from the Chamber. Mayor Hinnant said what they take in and what they pay out for the Harvest Festival.

Jeff said he had a list of events and the break-down of cost he would like to see take place, but he could get back with the board on those since he had a meeting scheduled at the community center. Mayor Hinnant said it sounded like we were ok with the amount of money for these events, we would just add \$2,000 in each year for the Harvest Festival. Teresa said for clarification you want to give the Chamber \$2,000 out of the current year budget and moving forward with 2015-16 you want to add \$2,000 more. Mayor Hinnant said that was correct, we were paying ahead and would do that each year.

Commissioner Laughery said in all honesty he had not gone through the budget like he had wanted, but by reducing that budget we could add to our fund balance. He said he thought one of our goals should be to add 2-5 percent to the fund balance over the next twelve months and you could only do that by reducing the overall budget. Teresa said she would add that if you look at each department you would see that they had cut the operation budget and in the budget highlights the 6 percent increase was for things that were not in last year's budget like the election, codification of the Code of Ordinance, Wi-Fi which we had already committed to, the PED Grant, and the electrical increase associated with the growth.

Commissioner Gray said on the list of events, she would like to know what some of the cost were. Teresa said on the ice carving we show \$500, rental on the equipment and the rights for movie night

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were \$1,000 for two events, the beer festival at \$2,500 was something we had not had before so we had to work out those details. Teresa stated that she would email the board a breakdown and their costs.

**Update on the fitness trail equipment authorized for purchase in FY 14-15**

Teresa stated the Board had approved \$7,000 out of Fund Balance in FY 2015/2016 for the fitness trail and Jeff had tried to contact the vendor on numerous occasions. She said anyone that was that difficult to get in touch with before you give them money, was a concern to her as to what would happen after they were paid. She said it would be her recommendation not to go with this company. She said Jeff had reviewed previous quotes from other companies and they were considerably that the \$7,000 approved.

Teresa said we talked about equipment for the weight room and she had sent out an e-mail after talking to Jeff indicating that more people were on the trail and education along the trail, with signage was needed. Some of the \$7,000 appropriated in the current fiscal year could be spent in this manner. Mayor Hinnant said he was fine on spending it on the trail. He said as far as equipment for the weight room, it was used so sparingly, and the equipment was old and broken. He said we should not be in the weight business because of the liability. He said the police officers were not using the equipment, so it would be his recommendation not to provide weight equipment with these funds and put the money back into the trail. Commissioner Laughery asked if there were any counts on how many people were using the equipment. When he goes out there, people were using the tread mill, and the stationary bikes. Teresa said we have ordered a new elliptical machine, but she did not have the number of people using the equipment. He said he would like to know a little more about the number of people using the equipment. Commissioner Gray said we were not talking about big weight lift equipment. Mayor Hinnant said from a liability standpoint we do not have any personnel there to monitor any of that equipment. He said if anyone gets hurt, we do not have coverage. Commissioner Gray said if we do decide to take it to the next level, she would expect rules, such as sanitizing it after you use it and an employee there when the weights were being used. Teresa said Jeff had a cost to replace everything for about \$13,000 and we had been replacing a piece or two at a time. She said she thought enhancing the trails would work because we had a couple of new pieces out there. Commissioner Gray said as far as the fitness trail, she thought since we were all hoping to get the PARTF Grant and part of the fitness equipment was going on that, she thought we should wait. That would be money we could put back into the fund balance if we don't spend it.

Commissioner Laughery said he thought it would be a good advertising tool to get more people to use the weights, but for now he said hold on to the money. Commissioner Gray asked what the fitness trail would cost. Mrs. Piner said it would be mostly signage, and she would estimate about \$3500. She said with more and more people coming to walk the trail, they wanted to promote the trail to an older population, so we were looking at getting some type of device to hook on their clothing to locate someone if they were lost along the trail. Also we had talked about an app that identifies leaves, but we may be able to get that app for free. Teresa said her main concern was safety and there were no markings on much of the trail. Commissioner Gray asked if staff could get some information about the signage and let's look at what it would cost before we say no. Commissioner Parham said he did not

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have any objections to finding out what the cost would be, but he would rather see the money go back into the general fund.

Commissioner Laughery said he had talked a couple of times about the Capital Budget and he had a little different flavor of it tonight from what Butch had said. He said he would really like to understand that better, if we could get a couple of paragraphs or bullets on the loan structure that would help. He said he thought all along that we were going to borrow \$306,000 and it would cost us \$46,000 in the next fiscal year and it sounds like that was not the case. She said the facility loan would be for 10 years at 3 percent interest with a payment of \$66,192 annually. She said because of our communication with LGC, we would have to go through their process and we would not close until next calendar year. The first payment would be due within 12 months of the closing, it will fall into the FY 2016/17 Budget. Mayor Hinnant said with Sam's concern about the PARTF Grant we would actually be into our second year of that PARTF money before we spent any money. Teresa said LGC also recommended a Resolution of Reimbursement. She said as we were getting ready for the loans and expending funds, the resolution would allow the Town to reimbursement itself once the loan process is completed. Commissioner Laughery said he was interested in the amount of money going out the door next fiscal year. Mayor Hinnant asked Teresa if she would just send the board an email of the actual amount of money to be spent in this upcoming fiscal year. Commissioner Laughery said he was still concerned about the Capital expenditure figure.

Mayor Hinnant said that the board would send the manager their concerns and any recommendations on items in the budget. He said for salary increases, rather than the figure you had in the budget, he recommended for each employee to get \$25.00 per week for 52 weeks for a \$1300 cost of living which equates to \$52,000. He said this gives the employees that make the least amount of money a higher percentage of a cost of living increase. He said if you give somebody a one and a half percent who makes \$30,000 you give them less than \$500.00 and by the time they pay taxes on it they do not see an increase. He said because this budget was so tight he would say we had given ourselves a little of cushion. He said he thought \$1300 across the board was a good raise.

Teresa said we had proposed a 1.5 percent cost of living and a 1.5 merit. Whatever the board decides, staff would work with that. Mayor Hinnant said his recommendation would be \$25.00 per week per employee for \$1300 per year.

Commissioner Laughery said to give everyone in the organization exactly the same amount of increase was crazy. He said the way he had seen it done was that you get a pool and if it was \$52,000 you could vary your increases based on performance, based on their salary compared to others and you could go from 0 – 10 percent. He said his recommendation was that we not set a number for everybody, but be able to vary the amount based on the manager's opinion of that particular employee. Mayor Hinnant said that a manager may have bias and prejudices and he did not know if Wendell was performance based as far as how we do our raises. He said he was asking this board to do a cost of living, because we may not have the money to do the raises with anyway. She said we had proposed a 3 percent, 1.5 merit, and 1.5 cost of living which would be about \$92,000 with benefits. She said when you look at what the mayor was recommending at \$52,000 there would be a savings and if we had to bring some people on later we would have some funds available.

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Commissioner Parham said he agreed with the Mayor and Sam, but in addition to that he agreed that people who are hard workers and team players in doing the evaluations it would show there. He thought the merit and COLA was a good idea. Mayor Hinnant said what we were saying was use the \$1300 for everyone and the other \$40,000 goes into a pool for merit that the town manager could give as you see fit for performance. Commissioner Parham stated that records would be needed to show why they were given that percentage. Mayor Hinnant said Teresa there would be \$1300 per employee increase and then if there was money left, you would use the balance for merit raises whatever amount was left over in the line item. He said there may not be any left over. Commissioner Gray said it would need to be for merit, not longevity or whatever. Commissioner Laughery asked Teresa if she was comfortable that the supervisor's as well as you could manage giving a merit raise or tell an employee why they were not getting a merit increase. Mrs. Piner said yes, up until the down turn of the economy we had merit and COLA raises.

Commissioner Gray said she also wanted to talk about the banners at Wendell Falls Parkway. Teresa said Wayfinding was included in the ten year loan for \$20,000. It was estimated that a little over \$11,000 would need to go towards surveying and getting the approval process through DOT and about \$8,000 would be available for signage or banners. The number we received from Broach Signs for a welcome sign at Wendell Falls Parkway was \$12,000 which exceeds the \$8,000 available. One option would be to install banners at each one of the interchanges or to reduce the size of the welcome to Wendell sign at the interchange. Commissioner Laughery said don't you just want a sign that says Wendell 3 miles ahead. Teresa said that was an option but we were referring to a sign similar to the one on Wendell Boulevard at 97 Highway, only it would be a little smaller. Wendell Falls indicated where the sign could be located and not compete with their signage. They were going to move their large gateway sign away from the interchange, closer to the residential section. Commissioner Gray said she was not a fan of banners, the town does not even have a piece of equipment to put them up. She said she was concerned about the appearance that it looks like we were spending a lot of money to pretty up Wendell Falls. Teresa said this would be putting them at both interchanges and agreed that the banners we currently have installed look bad, but they have been up for 12 years. Mayor Hinnant said Wendell Falls was fixing to be competing with Preston of Knightdale and Wendell Falls would affect our tax base. We have to promote Wendell Falls the best we can. If that dries up we were in a very bad spot. Commissioner Gray said at one time they were going to start at Wendell Falls and go up to Martin Pond Road. Teresa said that was what we would have liked to have done, but with \$8,000 it would not be possible. Commissioner Gray said she felt like that was a lot of money to spend in one little spot, but she felt better about it if they would be installed at both locations. She said she felt like sometimes we overlook Leith and Sheetz. She said we had talked about finishing the landscaping out there. Teresa said DOT was looking to see if they had funds available to plant the median between Sheetz and Leith as well as the interchange at the Parkway this fall. Teresa said with the amount of money that had been spent on Rolesville Road and Eagle Rock with the transportation study, the \$10 million sewer line, and the work on certified sites, a lot of money has been spent at the Wendell Boulevard interchange as well. Commissioner Gray said she agreed, but it was not the kinds of things people could see and that creates perception. Teresa said if there is a suggestion on the best way to spend the remaining \$8,000 for signage, we are welcome to suggestions.

Commissioner Laughery said looking at the projected revenue when you take out the \$2.3 million for the loan we were showing as revenue it shows 4.7 million. Are we comfortable with that figure with what we have coming online with Wendell Falls? Mrs. Piner said tax revenues from Wendell Falls would not have an impact until the 16-17 budgets. She said revenues from property taxes for FY 15-16 were from development that occurred thru Dec 31, 2014. She said the construction that was currently taking place

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at Wendell Falls would not come on line until FY 16-17. Mrs. Piner said that with the revenue line item regarding fees in the planning department, an increase was projected.

Commissioner Gray said on the revenue page it had facility rentals and recreation rental proceeds, what was the difference in those two. Butch Kay said the \$1500 is specifically for the parking lot to the side of Town Hall and the recreation rental proceeds is based on what we rent to the public, such as the Community Center, Shelters, ball fields, etc.

Commissioner Laughery excused himself from the meeting.

Commissioner Gray said she had not had a chance to look at and compare what you prepared for us, but under governing body there was a \$1,000 for training. Butch said with this being an election year, elected officials had to take the Essentials of Government at the SOG. She said what were dues and subscriptions. Butch said the Mayor's Association dues and the representative from CAMPO that represents our governing body. She asked what the miscellaneous expense was. Butch said that would include flowers or contributions that were sent and refreshments like we had tonight. She said Board retreat was \$2,250 was that for the facilitator. Butch said yes. She said on the salaries does the Mayor make \$6,600. Butch said that is correct.

Butch said we had a meeting scheduled this week with the bus services, Zebulon had concerns with the amount of money so we would be talking with TTA on Wednesday and we may have a revised number. We want to go in as a team. The \$20,000 is part of the note that was in the operational increase.

Commissioner Gray said there was \$3,000 budgeted for the Christmas Light Show under public buildings and grounds. Teresa said that was for the Lake Myra Light Show. Mayor Hinnant said anytime you sponsor an event, people would have concerns over what they thought was appropriate and what was not. He said he would like to recommend that we get the town out of that business, and get someone else to sponsor the event. He said we would still give the \$3,000 to the sponsor. Commissioner Gray said she completely agreed. When we spend \$3,000 to upgrade the electricity it was for other events that take place as well. We needed to do the upgrades and everyone benefits. Commissioner Parham said he agreed, if Mr. Williams could get the Council of Churches before-hand to be a committee and discuss what they want and don't want. Commissioner Gray said what they could do was apply to use the property and we could waive the fee. Mayor Hinnant said we could call it holiday upgrades. He said if the Wendell Council of Churches was not interested in sponsoring this event, he would hope that the Chamber of Commerce would be willing to help. Teresa asked if it would be ok to add the \$3,000 to the line item under Public Works under Holiday Decorations. Mayor Hinnant said that was fine. He knew we could not do anything about it tonight, but he would like for the Manager to find a home for it other than the Town of Wendell.

Commissioner Gray said under Police was the Emergency Communications line item for the contract with 911 services. Chief Carter said yes, as well our access to the radio system. Commissioner Gray asked if the rent for the building was under Facilities and Equipment. The Chief said the highest item number in that line item was the hot spots that each car was assigned. Mayor Hinnant said he knew the board instructed you to have some conversation to see if there was any possibility of a purchase of the police building. Mrs. Piner said we were working with the attorney to put together a proposal, but the owner had not been approached. Commissioner Gray asked if the Capital Outlay for \$196,000 was for cars. Chief Carter said yes and that included fully equipping three marked patrol cars, as well as two unmarked cars for administrative use. Mayor Hinnant said he had no problem with the amount of cars,

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or the cost. He said he was over at the State Motor Fleet and they had a couple of the Fords out there and for the record it was not but \$3000-\$4000 difference to go to a utility vehicle rather than a sedan. He said his only question was whether the Chief and Captain Cars would be able to use some of the equipment you already have. Chief Carter said that was correct, we would not have a fully equipped vehicle. Mayor Hinnant said what he wanted to know was why we had the need to keep those two cars in service. Mrs. Piner said we would evaluate those vehicles and see if we could move them over to other departments or if we could see what the marked cars would go for if we sold them, and buy a truck for Code Enforcement. Mayor Hinnant said it sounded like you had identified the need for those two vehicles in Town and he would like for you to explain the needs that have been identified for the vehicles. Mrs. Piner said when Brinkley Wagstaff was here, he drove his own vehicle and what we had two maintenance trucks at park, if Jeff or Kelly need to go to meetings, town hall or check on fields, they have to take a truck away from maintenance and it disrupts scheduling. Mayor Hinnant said the other vehicles would be for Daryl to use in Code Enforcement. Mrs. Piner said Daryl was driving the car that Tamah normally uses and we had 8 people driving 2 vehicles at Town Hall. Mayor Hinnant said he would think the vehicle in Planning would take care of the amount of time Tamah drives and the time Planning needs to be out of this office. He said he would have a little less reservation if you said you were going to take those two police cars and get a truck for Code Enforcement. He said he did not think we should have to provide a vehicle for Jeff, he could use his vehicle and we pay him mileage. He said we do not have the tax base to allow each department to have a vehicle. He thought Tamah should keep a record of her mileage and Jeff and Kelley keep a record of their mileage and turn it in for reimbursement. He said he would rather sell the vehicle and get a nice truck for Code Enforcement and it would not constantly be in the garage for repairs. Commissioner Gray said she agreed how much driving does Tamah do. Teresa said to all the town departments, school and training, as well as she represents the town at East Wake High School. Teresa said we were getting busier than we had been and we had 8 people using 2 vehicles. Mayor Hinnant said if we do not have a vehicle for them, then they need to be reimbursed for their mileage. He said we cannot afford to buy police vehicles and the last thing we need to do was increase our fleet of vehicles that we cannot pay for and maintain. Commissioner Gray said it might be that in a couple of years we can get another vehicles, but for now this was where we need to be and let Jeff, Tamah and Kelley get reimbursed for mileage. Teresa said she believed that by the time we add up all the mileage and what we had in some of those cars, she thought we would be spending more. Mayor Hinnant said he thought we need to take those cars and sell them and get a truck for Code Enforcement use. He said we should have some type of policy that allows employees to get reimbursed for their mileage. Mayor Hinnant said this board's priority was to invest money into the employees and to ensure public safety for the Police Officers, but we do not want to set a precedent to increase the town fleet when we can't even take care of what we have.

Mayor Hinnant said the only reason the police were getting new vehicles was that we had put off for several years replacing those vehicles and if it were not for the loan we were getting, Bill would not be getting 5 new vehicles. Commissioner Parham said we had to look at the priorities, and if reimbursement for mileage was a better way to go, then that was what we should do. Mayor Hinnant said it looked like the direction for the Manager was to get 5 police vehicles and sell those extra vehicles and get a truck. Butch said some of that money we had allocated as revenue to balance the budget already included the sale of vehicles. Commissioner Gray said you need to come up with a way to keep up with the mileage. Teresa said we can provide a sheet and they can write their mileage down and turn in for reimbursement. Commissioner Gray asked could we take a look at this in six months as to the mileage reimbursement. Commissioner Parham said if I had to drive his vehicle, he would want more than gas reimbursement, because you were putting the wear and tear on your vehicle. Mayor Hinnant said the IRS rate encompasses all of that.

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Commissioner Gray said under Fire Safety that amount was what it cost us to contract these things out. Mrs. Piner said yes.

Commissioner Gray said under Public Works, street signs and fixtures, was that where we replace the street signs. Mrs. Piner said yes. She asked about the downtown lights. Teresa said we own the street lights downtown so it was for replacement of bulbs and things when they go out. Commissioner Gray said she guessed under snow removal that was just an anticipated thing. Teresa said it would be for salt and sand. Commissioner Gray said street repairs, and drainage was historical information and sidewalks as well. Mrs. Piner said that is correct. Commissioner Gray said on the Capital Outlay and Equipment for \$70,000, what was that. Mrs. Piner said that was for the mini excavator and utility loader. She asked if the capital outlay was for the building. Mrs. Piner said yes, the building and the fencing. Commissioner Gray asked what the residential collection contract services were for. Mrs. Piner said for the residential solid waste to Waste Industries. Commissioner Gray said that goes into the revenue line item when the water bills are paid. Mrs. Piner said that was correct.

Mayor Hinnant said he had questioned in the past do we want to continue to pay for the level of services that we provided by picking up the sofas, chairs and other furniture that was set out at the street. Commissioner Gray said he did not think we should. Mayor Hinnant said he felt like we needed to change what we allow citizens to put out, and put the cost back on the citizens who put mattresses, couches, chairs out, and he thought for that extra stuff we needed to bill the landlord or homeowner. Mrs. Piner said if we do this we would need to put an educational component out there and in the water billing and set a price as to what the minimum cost would be. Mayor Hinnant said he would like to see us do an educational component starting July 1<sup>st</sup> we no longer accept those items and the only things that will be accepted at curbside will be the two containers by Waste Industries. He said we would not pick it up and if they put it out, we would fine them. He said as we grow, we would not be able to provide this service. Commissioner Gray said the waste site was just down the road. Teresa said we do not have a problem with that, as long as we have the support of the board.

Commissioner Gray said under the Powell bill there is a salary, who is that person. Mrs. Piner said we have always had a salary paid out of the Powell bill for one of the Public Works employees.

Mrs. Piner said the Capital Budget was the big one, she knew Commissioner Laughery had some issues and concerns about the overall cost. She said we would be introducing the draft budget to the public at the next board meeting which was May 11<sup>th</sup>. She said she would like for the board and staff to be on the same page if possible. Mayor Hinnant said it sounded like with the additional explanation that Commissioner Laughery got tonight, if you could express through email that the \$306,000 in the PARTF Grant would not be expended out until the second year and there would be no interest paid on the PARTF Loan until we draw down. He said that seemed to give him the explanation he needed. She said also once we get that loan, you have twelve months before you have to make a payment. Mayor Hinnant said other than Commissioner Laughery having his concern about the PARTF Grant, it seemed the other board members were comfortable with the budget. He said it did not take a unanimous vote to pass the budget, so present it and we would go with the majority of the board members.

Mayor Hinnant adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.

**May 4, 2015 Special Called meeting  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

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Timothy A. Hinnant, Mayor

Attest:

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Jonnie S. Driver, Town Clerk