MINUTES SNOW HILL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012 MUSEUM SNOW HILL, NORTH CAROLINA 28580

- 1. Call to Order Mayor Liles called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The prayer was offered by Commissioner Washington. The Pledge was led by Commissioner Taylor.
- 2. Roll Call The roll was called by Cathy Webb. All members were present A quorum was declared.
- 3. Consider Agenda Approval A motion was made by Commissioner Washington Seconded by Commissioner Shackle ford, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.
- 4. Consider Minutes Approval A motion was made by Commissioner Shackle ford, seconded by Commissioner Hagans, and carried unanimously to approve the March 1, 2012 minutes as presented.
- 5. Presentations: NONE
- 6. Report of Officers: NONE
- 7. Unfinished Business:
 - a. Consider Authorizing the Use of \$17,000 from the General Fund Capital reserve for the Purchase of a Garbage Truck.
 Mr. Hill told the Town that he had found a 1998 Garbage Truck (used) in Bailey and that the price had been negotiated at \$17,000. He indicated that the truck was in good condition as far as he could tell and that he thought this was a good price. A motion was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Shackleford, and carried unanimously to purchase the truck at the price of \$17,000.
- 8. Report of Boards: NONE
- 9. Work Session: FYE 2013 Budget Discussion and Long Range Plan

Mr. Hill introduced Larry Moolenaar with the East Carolina Council of Government to moderate the work session/retreat. Mr. Moolenaar began the session with discussion on the Law Enforcement FY 2012-2013 coverage and associated costs. Mr. Hill announced that the full-time officer had been hired and would begin work shortly. Also, two part-time officers have been hired. He presented a proposed budget for 2012-13, which would include 16-18 hour coverage. The total budget is \$180,000-\$193,000-depending on which way the Board wants to go. Commissioner Washington commented that the citizens she had talked with still desire 24 hour coverage. Mr. Moolenaar asked Commissioner Washington if she had heard the citizens say that they would be willing to pay for the coverage. She said she told the citizens that there was a possibility that taxes would have to be increased if they wanted the 24 hour coverage-(only a possibility).

Commissioner Scarborough cautioned against more expenditures-stressing Fiscal responsibility. She noted that property evaluations were being done in Greene County and that this would cause people to pay more tax even if the budget remains revenue neutral. She was concerned about increasing the law enforcement services for the Fiscal Year 2012-2013. She said that she would like to see the revaluations before making a firm decision-not that she was open to the idea.

Next, planning and economic development was discussed. Mr. Moolenaar asked if the Town had a planner. Mr. Hill responded that we did not. He asked what the Board would like to see the Town look like in 3-5 years. Commissioner Washington said that it was important to have planning-you had to have objectives. She said that she would like to see more small businesses come to the Town. Commissioner Shackleford said that she would like to see more infrastructure in the Town to possibly attract more businesses. Commissioner Taylor said that we had the infrastructure, but that we just could not get the businesses to come. He noted that he believed that the Town was much in need of a planner. Mr. Moolenaar said that the Town needs to determine their priorities and go about seeking grants to fulfill these projects.

Mr. Hill told the Board that he would be presenting the 2012-2013 preliminary Budget at the end of April. He said that he would like to present the budget To the Board as a whole, not to just a finance committee made up of three Commissioners. He thanked Mr. Moolenaar for coming to the meeting.

10. Public Comments –

- Gwen Smith Mrs. Smith gave an update on the happenings at the museum. She said that there would be an Indian Celebration in the near future and also maybe a Civil War Exhibit. She said that both of these functions would bring a lot of people to Snow Hill.
- 2) David Jones Mr. Jones said that he was in favor of staying with The current law enforcement budget, before hiring any more, and see how this worked first. He wants to see a good relationship between the officers and the citizens.
- 3) Joyce Paige Ms. Paige said that the curb and cutter on Harper Street was in need of repair. She said that when it rained, water

ponded in the streets. She would like to see these repaired.

- 4) Bill Wilkes Mr. Wilkes expressed his concern for the poor lighting at the skate park. He hopes to see this corrected as soon as possible.
- 11. Commissioner Comments NONE
- 12. Adjourn There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Shackleford, and carried unanimously to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk