

**HAMLET CITY COUNCIL MID-YR BUDGET REVIEW  
HAMLET CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015 – 4:34 PM**

**MINUTES**

***Governing Body Present:***

Mayor	William Bayless
Mayor Pro Tem	Johnathan Buie
Council Member	Tony Clewis
Council Member	Jesse McQueen
Council Member	Eddie Martin
Council Member	Pat Preslar

***Staff Present:***

City Manager	Marcus Abernethy
City Clerk	Tammy Kirkley
Police Chief	Scott Waters
Fire Chief	David Knight
Zoning	Gail Strickland
Public Works Dir.	Billy Stubbs
IT	Zach Garner
Bldg & Maintenance	Doc Sylvain

**Others:** Kevin Spradlin-Pee Dee Post; Malorie Flomer- RCDJ; Kim and David Lindsey; Candace Garner

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**1. Call to Order.**

Mayor Bayless called the meeting to order.

**2. Invocation.**

Tony Clewis offered the invocation.

**3. Adoption of FY 14-15 Budget Calendar.**

Councilman Buie and McQueen motioned to adopt the FY 14-15 Budget Calendar as presented. The vote passed 5-0.

**4. 2014-15 Mid-Yr. Financial Report.**

The city manager then gave a financial update. He stated the city's auditor has a concern with a trend in the decline within the General Fund balance and noted the percentages required. Mr. Buie pointed out a contributor to this year's expenditures included a payment for the garbage truck that was approved the prior year.

- Revenues: The only major revenue source that we are expecting to come in higher than budgeted, is State Sales tax.

- Tax Collection averages were noted for the past several years.
- Revenue Totals per Fund: Year-to-date revenues were reported within the following: General Fund, Powell Bill Fund and Enterprise Fund.

The manager reported as of today, the city has spent a considerable amount more than that compared to this time last year. The manager provided a departmental breakdown of expenditures as of to date.

## **5. Updates on Capital Outlay.**

**Police:** Completed purchase of the fingerprint livescan equipment; server and ten desktop computers.

**Fire:** SCBA Bottles have been purchased; the Deck Gun Risers were priced at \$8500 and will be received within 30 days and we are expecting to spend about \$2,000 less than was budgeted. T5 metal paint for the surplus forestry service trucks previously purchased is expected to begin in about two weeks. Replace Tanker 3 (5 yr lease payment).

The city manager reported that the initial bid opening for the fire truck resulted in no bids being submitted. A second bid opening is scheduled for January 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Sanitation:** Garbage Truck Purchase – this is a three-year lease payment.

**Recreation:** Memorial Park. \$10,000 was budgeted to do updates/repairs to this park. Mrs. Dickens pointed out that nothing has been coded to capital outlay. Council discussed the needed repairs to the wall area located beside the steps leading to the gym area.

**WTP:** Valves for water tank- not yet purchased. SCADA system has been purchased.

**Water Distribution:** F-150 Truck purchased - \$1,800 under budget.

**Waste Collection System:** Kohler Generator quoted \$63,000 and purchased for \$85,700. This was an overage of \$22,700. The manager reported that installation was not included in the quote. After discussion on this issue, Councilman Buie and the Mayor agreed from this point forward, staff needs to make sure to ask for “turn-key” quotes.

### **Additional Projects:**

- NCDENR Mandated Emergency Action Plans- Coal Ash Management Act mandated by the state and is to be submitted by March 1. Staff may be able to move funds around to cover this project and it will come out of the Enterprise Fund. The expected cost is \$10-12,000.
- *Leaf Machine Replacement*- this unanticipated purchase has been made.
- *Patrol Car Replacement* – the city may visit this next year.

Around 5:00 pm, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Robert Brown joined the meeting.

Asset Management Planning & Utility Mapping for water and sewer lines. Mr. Abernethy reported that staff began working with the Lumber River Council of Governments on a program that addresses smaller municipalities.

The manager mentioned the benefits of having the water and sewer line maps to coordinate with the County's GIS Technology. Mr. Abernethy reported a goal would be to budget this project in next year's budget. The quote was \$29,000 and partial payments may be made for the project.

Mr. Abernethy reviewed several charts via power point presentation, which included a comparative chart of a snapshot for a view of this year's spending to date, compared to last year. Mrs. Dickens stated that the Capital Outlay was included the comparison chart.

**6. Discussion from Mayor and Council.**

Councilman McQueen inquired about the insurance funds for the wrecked police vehicle. Mr. Abernethy confirmed that a replacement for the vehicle has not been purchased to date.

Council Members Buie and Clewis motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 pm. Councilman Clewis asked to talk to Robert Brown to discuss the value issue at the small water tank. Council members Buie and Clewis rescinded the motion on the floor to allow for discussion.

Mr. Brown stated that a contractor is coming in Monday to measure and give him a price for new value system. He explained the valves control the water going in and out of the tanks. Robert stated that Utility Services come in every 1-2 years to perform an inspection of the tank and city staff has to turn the values on and off; he said it has gotten to the point of difficulty with the current values that it is all staff can do to turn the valves. Robert gave a brief history about the tank and equipment saying that it was handed-over to the city from Bonsal Water Company.

Councilman McQueen inquired about the timeline for hiring a Park and Recreation Director. The manager replied that a date has been set and staff is moving forward with interviews in the next few days. Mr. McQueen also stated in the past mid-yr budget meetings money has been spent; however noted, council did a good job last year of setting a budget. He pledged to improve public services with some of the upcoming projects. Mr. McQueen stated he would like to see more emphasis on long-term goals in this upcoming budget session to include 5-10 year goals. Some of the projects will need to be done over a period of time.

**7. Adjournment of Meeting.**

At 5:20 pm, Councilman Buie and Clewis motioned to adjourn the meeting. The vote passed in favor 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Tammy Kirkley, Clerk for City of Hamlet

