

**RED SPRINGS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
BUDGET MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017  
6:00 PM**

The Red Springs Board of Commissioners met in the Town Hall Planning Board Room for a FY2017/2018 Budget meeting, at 6:00 PM. This meeting was recessed from the regular board meeting held on May 2, 2017.

**Present: Mayor John M. McNeill; Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Sumpter, Commissioners Duron Burney, Edward Henderson, and Murray McKeithan, Town Manager James Bennett and Finance Director Kathy Pittman, standing in for Town Clerk**

**1. Mayor John M. McNeill opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.**

**2. Public Hearing – Conditional Use Permit**

A presentation of a Conditional Use Permit was made by Wilson Ray, Chairman of the Planning Board. He explained that the Life Opportunities wishes to relocate their current group home from Old Lowery Road to a new location on McLeod Road. Formerly the current home was damaged and although repairs have been made, the state is requiring they move to a new facility. The move to the new facility must be completed within 12 months. Dean Pearson, the owner of the new property has agreed to the conditions of the permit and stated the facility will be staffed 24 hours per day.

Per James Bennett, Town Manager, he and Ernest Stephens, Code Enforcement Officer are in agreement with this permit.

Mayor McNeill asked if there was anyone who disagreed with the issuance of this permit. Hearing none, the Public Hearing was closed.

**Commissioner Burney made the motion to accept the Planning Board's recommendation to approve the conditional use permit. Commissioner McKeithan seconded the motion. All board members voted to approve the motion.**

**3. Sale of bus owned by Town of Red Springs**

The Town Manager thanked Commissioner Burney for a call regarding an interested party in the purchase of a bus owned by the town. Mr. Bennett met with a person affiliated with Robeson County regarding the possible sale of the bus and stated he was in hopes the sale would be completed by Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

Commissioner McKeithan questioned why the bus was not going to be assigned to the Recreation Dept. The manager explained there was another vehicle being planned for use by the Recreation Dept.

**4. FY2017/2018 Budget Discussion**

Below are items discussed in the proposed budget:

- Personnel

1. Changing from the part time Fire Chief's position to a full time position. Following some discussion by the board, Mayor McNeill recommended the position title be "Public Service Officer" due to multiple duties including Fire Chief, Animal Control and Fire Inspector. The board agreed to this recommendation.

2. Electric Dept. – two positions have new titles. The Town Manager explained that these changes describe more accurately the level of work required.

- Longevity or Annual Bonus

**Mayor Pro Tem Sumpter made a motion to keep the annual bonus policy that currently in place rather than changing to a longevity policy. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burney. All board members voted for the motion.**

- 401-K – Increase

**Commissioner Burney made a motion to a 2% increase. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sumpter. Following some discussion among the board members, the motion was withdrawn.**

**Commissioner Henderson made a motion to a 1% increase. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sumpter. Three board members voted to approve the motion and one voted against.**

- COLA – Increase

**Commissioner Henderson made a motion approve a 3% COLA. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sumpter. All the board members voted to approve the motion.**

- Farmer's Market Fees

The board felt the suggested fees were too costly for an open space. Board agreed to \$75 deposit rather than \$100.

**Mayor Pro Tem Sumpter made a motion to present the Amended FY2017/2018 Budget at the June 6, 2017 regular board meeting for approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson. All board members voted to approve.**

## 5. Naming the Farmer's Market

**Commissioner McKeithan made a motion to name the Red Springs Farmer's Market the John M. McNeill Farmer's market in honor of Mayor McNeill. Commissioner Henderson seconded the motion. All board members voted to approve the motion.**

### Adjournment

**Mayor Pro Tem Sumpter made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner McKeithan seconded the motion. All voted to approved the motion.**

  
John M. McNeill, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Kathy Pittman, Finance Director