

Minutes Regular Monthly Meeting February 11, 2019 at 7:30 PM

Mayor Horace Reid called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Mayor Pro Tem, Quentin Jackson, Commissioners, Sid Eley, Frank Norman and Gracie Felton. Others present were Town Manager, Pam Hurdle, Town Attorneys, Ben Gallop and Will Norrell, Town Clerk, Cindy Sharber, Police Chief, Dennis Brown, Public Works Director, Greg Benton, Fire Chief, Drew Woodard, Kim and Tim Brin, Janel Jenkins, Veronica Jordan, Reginald White, Mary Weeks, Diane Stallings, Anne and Greg Benton, Martha Borders, Sarah and Mary Weeks, Scott Mathis, Sharon and Jim Smith, Buck Bunch, William T. Winslow, Sara Winslow, Murielle Harmon, Reta Blair, Ashley Hodges, Paul Chappell, Jennifer Byrum, Olga and Charles Simpson, Kay and Skip Matthews, Connie and Frank Jaklic, Brian and Stephen Chappell, Greg Terranova, Rob Woodard, Jonathan Nixon, Ethelyn Simpson, Doris Jones, Stan Howell, Earnell Brown, and Tony Riddick.

Frank Norman had the prayer.

Mayor Reid led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to approve the minutes of January 7, 2019 work session, January 11, 2019 special called meeting and January 14, 2019 regular meeting as presented.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

**Scheduled Business**

There were none.

**Citizen Concerns**

Kim Brinn read the following:

Good evening Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Hurdle and members of the town council. After last month's meeting and this month's work session, I have a number of suggestions I would like to make.

#1 There was discussion concerning the lack of events planned by Historic Herford and our tourism director that are of interest to the African American residents of Herford. Since our town is almost evenly divided between white and black residents, the council should be proactive in planning an event for these residents. The council should recruit volunteers who would form a committee to plan, advertise, carry out the event and do an after action report to document the cost, attendance and profit made or not made. Town council should also continue to reach out with the help of this committee to

Historic Hertford and the tourism office to provide input to already planned events. I think this would be a more proactive way of addressing this issue.

#2 In response to a question from a local businessman as to why Hertford would not buy his equipment, it should be a common sense rule that the town not procure non-standard equipment that does not meet all compliance standards for manufacture and interoperability according to our ElectriCities provider and town engineering staff. It would also make common sense that the town does not do business with any individual who has outstanding town and county property taxes due. Publicly available data indicates at least one individual with over \$37,000 in outstanding liens for multiple local properties.

#3 I would like to congratulate our new Public Works Chief, Greg Benton, on his recent project I learned about while attending the Planning and Zoning Board meeting. His idea to open a landfill for yard waste will save the town anywhere from \$500-1000/month in fees, according to Mrs. Hurdle. I also want to thank Mrs. Hurdle for her continuing efforts to move the town ahead in spite of the limited time she has available in filling her many different roles in day-to-day management. Perhaps standing appointments with Town Council members would assist in her being able to get her work done.

#4 The town of Hertford is in the real estate business since, like it or not, a large part of our income is from property taxes. Therefore, I strongly urge the town council to carry out their responsibility to the town of ensuring properties are safe and meet standards. The first step is to contract a full-time code enforcement agent for a limited period to assess the town's current status. This should occur before entertaining any thought of hiring any other town employees such as an assistant town manager. This person can be a contractor who gets a salary, but no benefits or retirement. They could possibly work for 180 days to get caught up then maybe one week/month. All property owners need to maintain their properties so that their values and therefore the taxes due to the town don't continue to decline. The distressed properties list contains some properties that have lost 90% of their value simply due to neglect. Without enforcement of standards, absentee owners and others have been allowed to ignore the problem.

#5 I strongly recommend that the town council review all of the nuisance fees owed to the town for work done on neglected properties. These fees should be broken down into what work was actually done and how much it actually cost. This would encourage potential buyers and even the current owners of these properties to pay their taxes and fees. Some nuisance fees are actually more than the actual value of the property. If the town will negotiate these fees, I feel strongly there is a greater likelihood of taxes being paid along with a portion of the fees for work actually done. It may well be better to recoup \$50 for lawn work actually performed by the town than to insist on a \$500 nuisance bill for the same service.

#6 I noticed on the work session agenda that the Chamber of Commerce was listed as something to be discussed possibly in terms of funding? The Chamber has many important functions and in fact should expand some of their duties in an effort to promote our town and businesses, serving as a point of

contact for new businesses and future residents. They may also be a point of contact and even prepare a packet of information for historic tax credits for people interested in buying properties. They could have a relocation guide, interface with magazines such as Our State to promote local events. They could promote our businesses by submitting stories to the Daily Advance, Chowan Herald and Perquimans Weekly about new businesses. They can make sure that boaters who tie up at our town dock are welcomed and provided information about events, restaurants and other businesses and maintain an enclosed billboard by the town dock with a map of the town and phone numbers to contact. They could also maintain a web site with links to real estate, recreation and historic sites.

In closing, I would like to thank you for giving me the time to speak and hope that you will make a motion to explore the feasibility of my proposed suggestions, appointing a council member to do research and report back to the council their findings at the next meeting. To recap, these suggestions are as follows: form a committee of African American residents to provide input to Historic Hertford and the tourism director on events they would like to see in Hertford. Budget for and hire a code enforcer. Review nuisance fees owed and come to an agreement on a reasonable fee for the actual work done so the town can begin to make progress on these properties whether they are sold or torn down. And lastly, examine the duties of the Chamber of Commerce and how they can further be of assistance to Hertford.

Janel Jenkins said she was a mother of 5 living at Stokes Drive and she was concerned about her Hertford Housing Authority apartment being infested with mice and her son has asthma which she claimed the mice trigger his asthma. She also said a contractor had been in her apartment and seen her and her son naked. She said she would be starting a petition to bring to next months meeting. She said Gail White, Hertford Housing Director belittles people and doesn't not know how to talk to people.

Martha Borders thanked Mayor Reid for allowing citizens to speak during the work session. She said she wanted to speak to value of employees. She said she likes change but sometimes we act to quickly. She commended Pam Hurdle for the really good work she was doing. She said she had spoken with and exchanged emails with Cindy Sharber who had always been helpful and pleasant to her. She told them with her being employed with the town for nearly 30 years they needed to appreciate the work she does and the common sense she brings to the job.

Frank Jaklic said people live in towns for protection. He said by living in town when have protected ourselves from the outside, but we need to protect ourselves from those on the inside. He said he was pleasantly surprised at the work Pam Hurdle had been doing. He thanked Mayor Reid, Police Chief, and the Public Service director. He encouraged them to appreciate folks that serve our town and promote our town.

### **Continued Business**

There were none.

## New Business

### Town Council Report & Concerns

Mayor Reid said they had heard the citizens concerns he didn't feel they were heavy concerns. Mayor Reid said he didn't want to see anyone put out of their home. He said after the rain stops the streets need to be cleaned from Front Street all the way through. He said he personally didn't feel the sweeper was being used as he felt it should but hopefully, they could notify residents when the streets would be swept, and people wouldn't have cars interfering with street sweeping.

Quentin Jackson wanted to address Kim Brinn's comment he said Hertford consist of 52% black, 47% white and 1% other. He addressed the comment she made about the town not doing business with a businessman in Hertford because he owed over \$37,000 in outstanding liens. He said it bother him that someone had made this statement. He said the town has contracts with others who owe more than this. Quentin said the comment she made about congratulating the public works director, Greg Benton for an idea to open a landfill for yard waste was started before he was ever hired and said he, Pam and a State representative met at the proposed location. He said citizens didn't come before and tell previous council how to do their job. He also urged citizens making claims to do their research. He was also concerned when they tried to bring in an African American business that citizens would go and make complaints to the town manager. He thanked Greg Benton, Cindy Sharber, Pam Hurdle and Judy Bateman he heard that all of them were getting fired and he apologized and personally thanked the employees. He said people were upset with the decision they made last month for Sharon Smith's request but felt the 20 people it upset don't define the 2,200 people that live in town. He Thanked Chief Brown for putting up with him and said he had gone above and beyond. He cautioned citizens about fictitious information was being told including the rumor that he and Mr. Norman went to beat up Peter Williams. He told Janel Jenkins he heard her comments and they would deal with her issues.

Quentin Jackson made a motion to change their title to council from commissioner. Ben Gallop said they could change their title, but they needed to follow a certain procedure. Quentin Jackson amended his motion to begin the procedure to change their title to council from commissioner seconded by Frank Norman and passed 4-1. Sid Eley voted against the motion.

Quentin Jackson said in 2017 Mayor Reid and Commissioner Aples met with Tony Riddick from Greener by LED. He said the sign in Woodard's says buy local shop local but that's not what the town is doing. He said Tony Riddick had hit road blocks since January 2018. He said he would like to speed up the process. Frank Norman concurred and added that an agreement and contract had been drawn up. Frank Norman said the previous lighting decision with Greener by LED was done by former town manager and the lighting he chose needed other equipment to retrofit. He said this extra equipment added some cost to the project. He said this mistake was made and we have to deal with it.

Quentin Jackson said the camera issued on King Street had been satisfied since Chief Brown provided images for council.

Frank Norman said J&M Photography had withdrawn their proposal for live streaming because they felt disrespected by citizens during their presentation.

Frank Norman said he had an issue with how ElectriCities Strategic Plan was carried out. Pam said ElectriCities would be here next Friday to discuss if time needs to be extended further.

Frank Norman would like to query the town about date/time change for the council meetings and asked madam manager to prepare a survey. He felt this would allow all to be more involved in County meetings.

Frank Norman said he met with CivicPlus who presented a complete proposal. He said he would like to take the lead to get with individuals who can bring more expertise to the table and then make a formal presentation at the next meeting.

Frank Norman said it was slanderous that it was said he attacked a member of the Daily Advance.

Frank Norman said if a group puts on an event and they vote on it he is fine that decision but if town council supported an event financially it needs to be for all citizens.

Murielle Harmon said in reference to the council addressing Kim Brinn concerns. She said they have 30 days to reply to citizen concerns. She said she is not to be ridiculed and she said they are not going to put fear in citizens for speaking out. Frank Norman said Kim Brinn's statement was racist. Kim Brinn said all she was saying was let's work together.

Frank Norman said he was told that the Chamber of Commerce has never supported the fireworks, but he found that to be false. Frank said the town had always sponsored a table at the Chamber banquet but was asked why the town wasn't supporting the banquet he found out that this had dropped off Pam's and Brenda at ElectricCites radar and they would take care of this. Frank said the town's table was listed as ElectriCities table. Frank wanted to know what the Chamber's plans are going forward and what does the town get for their dues?

Motion by Quentin Jackson to have a public hearing for the Chamber discussion. Motion died for lack of a second.

Chamber of Commerce president, Reggie White said the Chamber doesn't bow down to Hertford. He said the Chamber represents Perquimans County. Reggie said he took this job on to pull people together. He said folks don't want to come to Hertford. He said they are asking questions with no meaning and suggested they are supposed to support not tear apart. He encouraged them to come to him and let's work together. He said comments are being made all over the county that people don't want nothing to do with Hertford. He encouraged them to stop all this division.

Quentin Jackson said he don't like when people say Hertford is divided, he said the country is divided. He said he supports all members of the council. Downtown was empty before but now it's about full.

Reggie White said one of the convenience stores is closing. Quentin Jackson told Reggie as much as you don't want to deal with us, we don't want to deal with y'all. He said all he asked was how would Hertford be inclusive?

Sarah Weeks said she thought they were confusing the Chamber with Tourism/County. She said the Chamber Board is mostly minority women with an African American President. People don't see what Sid Eley does behind the scenes. She said we do support Hertford and County. She said they are a new board in transition.

Quentin Jackson said he had no issues with any of them, but felt they attacked council as a body.

Mayor Reid gaveled the heated discussion between Frank Norman and Sharon Smith.

Sharon Smith said Frank Norman comes off as argumentative and his tone is disrespectful. She said Frank doesn't want to work with the Tourism Development Authority.

Mary Weeks said she doesn't live in town but her and her daughter have a business in town, Hertford Printing and Signs and she said last year over 4,000 people visited the Jimmy Catfish Hunter museum and in April they are anticipating 1,500 bicyclist and she was certain that they would spend a dollar or two and that is a lot of money.

Janel Jenkins thanked Mayor Reid and Frank Norman for caring. She said she is new to town but felt like there is a lot of racism here. She said people look down on residents of King Street and Stokes Drive and what they can afford. She said she came to the Mayor and the Town Manager crying and they helped her. She said it's not what you say but how you say. She thanked them for allowing her to be heard.

Sid Eley said the Chamber wrote a pass-through check for fireworks because the person wanting to make the donation was using a credit card and the Chamber had a machine. He said years ago the American Legion used money they made from bingo to sponsor the fireworks. He said they had a non-motorized parade and events at the park leading up to the fireworks but those stopped for lack of participation. He said the Town of Hertford did not buy a table for the Chamber banquet but ElectriCities did buy one at the last minute. He said the Chamber does what the people ask of them. He said they worked to purchase their current building and currently have 4 people in the incubator. He said the town only pays dues a lot of other towns have more involvement and put a lot more money in it. He said some of members don't have a footprint in Perquimans County. He said the bicyclist come and not only do they spend money that day, but a lot have come back the next day.

Pam Hurdle added for clarity that the ElectriCities contact Brenda Daniels is who had sponsored the table at the Chamber banquet for town council. She said that she and Brenda had both forgotten and she told council that each had 2 tickets. Sid Eley said that Brenda Daniels and her husband have attended the banquet in the pass and he never knows how many seats are going to be available at the table.

Murielle Harmon wanted to make a comment about Quentin Jackson's comment that people are saying that they done nothing right. She said the most important thing they had done was to hire Pam Hurdle and she hired the Police Chief and Greg Benton. Quentin Jackson said people had wrote letters against them hiring Pam Hurdle and that council hired the police chief.

Ms. Vaughn said that Frank Norman comes off a little rough, but he is the best person for the position. She said he turned a Wendy's around he even fired the boss's girlfriend. She said she was sorry that they got their feelings hurt but she was used to it. She said if you call me a nigger, I'm fine with that too. She said he couldn't get a job done here with all the division.

Gracie Felton said she hadn't done anything but sit so far on council. She said she has a lot of respect, but we have so much hatred. She said everyone wants to be right. She said Sharon Smith had come to her as a woman and they resolved their issue. She said if anyone comes to you and said Gracie is involved please come to her and not go by hear say. She said she would like to have spoken to Janel Jenkins, but she had already left the meeting. Gracie said no one is going to push or sway her decision and invited people be bring the issues to her. She said everyone knows her story. She told Reggie White they are divided, and they needed to respect each other. She said she appreciated everyone of them. She said she had complained about having a \$500-\$600 light bill when she knew other did not. She asked that things be brought in a respectful way. She said if she didn't know about an issue, she would do her research and encouraged the citizens to do the same.

### **New Business**

Pam Hurdle said she was searching for a location for the council retreat and would send them information by the end of the week.

Motion by Sid Eley seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to approve the dates for the 2019 calendar year for work sessions and council meetings. This was done to account for meeting dates falling on holidays to allow staff to add this calendar to the webpage.

Motion by Frank Norman seconded by Quentin Jackson and passed 5-0 to appoint Gracie Felton to the TDA Board.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to table the electric rate increase. Quentin wants to know the total from both increase and the impact. Frank wanted to know what other communities are actually charging.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to approve the cemetery contact for one year in the amount of \$24,000 after Quentin Jackson asked Connie Brothers if Roadside Cemetery was being taken care of better.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 a resolution declaring a 2009 Ford vehicle, VIN 1FDWF30579EA59273 as surplus.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Sid Eley and passed 5-0 to partner with the NC – Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project Inc. This would allow the town to have individuals through this program age 55 and older to work free of charge to the town. This project is designed to assist individuals age 55 and older to help get them back in the workforce.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to purchase a service truck for the electric department in the amount of \$44,546.

Fire Chief, Drew Woodard said the fire department had responded to 13 calls so far this year and broke them down by saying 5 were accidents, 5 were alarms, 1 structure fire and 2 assist calls.

Public works director, Greg Benton presented the following information about his various departments:

### **WATER PLANT / DISTRIBUTION**

WELL # 1, 2 AND 3 REQUIRE NEW 3-INCH ULTRASONIC METERS

WELL # 1 GENERATOR IS PAST DUE FOR SERVICE / COOLANT LEAK AT HEATER

SOFTENERS AND FILTERS – AIR OPERATED VALVES ARE INOP WITH AIR, REQUIRES MANUAL OPERATION OF SOFTENERS VICE AUTO REGENERATION, FILTER REGENERATION REQUIRED THIS YEAR, 1 OF 2 BRINE PUMP MOTORS INOP

VEHICLES (2) PAST DUE FOR SERVICE, REPAIRS REQUIRED TO 2004 FORD F150

DISTRIBUTION – 3 WATER LEAKS, GRUBB, 405 DOBBS AND E. RAILROAD, 4 WATER METERS AND 3 CUT-OUT VALVES REQUIRE REPLACEMENT, 1 BACKFLOW PREVENTOR REQUIRED AT HEALTH DEPT.

FIRE HYDRANTS – 5 INOP AND REQUIRE REPLACEMENT (PAINTED BLACK), FLUSHING HYDRANTS AND AUTO FLUSHING VALVES REQUIRED ON DEAD END WATER LINES.

TELEMETRY AND PLANT METERS – (2) 3- INCH AND (2) 8-INCH METERS REQUIRE REPLACEMENT

GENERATORS – 2 OF 2 PAST DUE FOR SERVICE

ABOVE GROUND STORAGE TANKS – 2 OF 2 DUE FOR INTERNAL CLEANING (5 YRS)

MANNING AND TRAINING – ONLY 1 CERTIFIED WATER PLANT OPERATOR WITH 1 PART TIME TRAINEE, NO ONE CERTIFIED C DISTRIBUTION

### **WWTP**

DISK FILTERS – 2 OF 2 MOTORS REMOVED FOR BAKING, NEW CHAIN DRIVES REQUIRED \$6,352

GRIT SYSTEM – COMPLETE, GREEN

CHLORINATOR – NO REMOTE SHUTDOWN INSTALLED

AERATORS/BLOWERS – BLOWERS NOT ON GENERATOR LOADS

BAR SCREENS – MOTORS TRIP ON OVERLOAD DURING HIGH FLOW

PUMPS – SLUDGE PUMP INOP

BUILDING – PORCH ROOF REQUIRES REPLACEMENT AND BUILDING ROOF LEAKS, LACK OF STORAGE SPACE, OFFICE AND TEST LAB IN SAME SPACE

SPRAY FIELD – INOP, LAST OPERATION WAS 3-YEARS AGO

GENERATORS 3 OF 3 PAST DUE FOR SERVICE

TELEMETRY (SCADA) – INOP, RADAR INDICATORS INOP AND INDICATIONS INACCURATE

MANNING AND TRAINING – NO ONE CERTIFIED FOR SPRAY FIELD OPERATOR

#### **COLLECTIONS (WASTE WATER)**

##### **PUMP / LIFT STATIONS**

- COMMERCE PARK 2 OF 2 PUMPS INOP, TELEMETRY INOP
- MEADS 1 OF 2 PUMPS INOP
- CEMETARY 1 OF 2 PUMPS INOP
- CEMETARY GENERATOR PAST DUE FOR SERVICE
- CHURCH ST/ARPCD GENERATOR PAST DUE FOR SERVICE
- WHIDBEE 1 OF 2 PUMPS INOP
- LIFT STATIONS (9) INOP ALARMS

COLLECTION SYSTEM – SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT, MANHOLES REQUIRE REPAIR, PARTIALLY COLLAPSED PIPES

MANNING AND TRAINING – ONLY 1 PART TIME PERSON, FULL TIME MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN REQUIRED

#### **ELECTRIC**

SUBSTATION VOLTAGE REGULATORS PAST DUE FOR MAINTENANCE

##### **SECONDARY LINES**

- 3,400 FEET OF OPEN SECONDARY REQUIRES REPLACEMENT
- 6 MILES OF COPPER SECONDARY REQUIRES REPLACEMENT WITH ALUMINUM

UTILITY POLES PAST DUE FOR INSPECTION, 2 POLES ON CHURCH ST REQUIRE REPLACEMENT

STREET LIGHTS – 55 REQUIRE REPLACEMENT, 24 NEW LIGHTS IN INVENTORY, LED STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

LOAD MANAGEMENT – 28 LM BOXES NOT COMMUNICATING, INSTALL PENDING FOR HHA, ON STOKES DR.

NEX GRID SMART METERS – INSTALL REQUIRED ON STOKES DR.

LINE TRUCK FAILED DI-ELECTRIC INSPECTION IN 2018

PW BUILDING GENERATOR TRANSFER SWITCH INOP

## **STREET**

STREET PAVING – PO SUBMITTED FOR SAFE SEALCOAT SOLUTIONS TO COMPLETE 22 ASPHAL PATCHES, EDENTON RD AND GRUBB WTG ON DOT, REQUESTING 8K IN FUNDING FROM POWELL BILL

2009 FORD F250 CREW CAB SURPLUS, ORDER NEW ELECTRIC SERVICE TRUCK AND TRANSFER 2009 F350 SERVICE BODY TO STREET

LEAF MACHINE – REPAIRS COMPLETED, PULLEY MOVES ON SHAFT

SIDEWALKS – QUOTE RECEIVED TO ADDRESS UNEVEN SIDEWALKS, REQUESTING QUOTE TO REPLACE SIDEWALK AND ADDRESS CAUSE AS A COST COMPARISON, FUNDING AVAILABLE IN POWELL BILL

BACKHOE- PAST DUE FOR SERVICE, SCRAPE BLADES (3) REQUIRE REPLACEMENT

CHIPPER AND TRUCK – PAST DUE FOR SERVICE, NEW BLADE REQUIRED FOR CHIPPER

FLATBEDS PAST DUE FOR SERVICE

TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAGE – SUFFICIENT QTY NOT AVAILABLE FOR UPCOMING STREET CLOSURES FOR SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT, OWE MANAGER A COST PROPOSAL, OWE MANAGER A COST PROPOSAL FOR 2 SPEED HUMPS ON BRACE AVE.

MANNING AND TRAINING – ADDITIONAL CROSS TRAINING REQUIRED TO ASSIST WITH WATER DISTRIBUTION AND COLLECTION REPAIRS

In closing Greg Benton informed the citizens that they are sweeping the streets on Friday and have done so for the last 4 weeks. He said they haven't gotten to all streets yet, but they are working on getting them all. He said they had swept King Street twice so far.

Police Chief, Dennis Brown presented the following:

- We advertised on the following websites:
  - Indeed.com
  - North Carolina Justice Academy
  - Policeone.com
  - Simplyhired.com
- We advertised in the Daily Advance
- I reached out to each Basic Law Enforcement Training Program East of I-95 and North of I-40. Of those programs contacted, Edgecombe, Halifax, and the College of the Albemarle allowed me to conduct a site visit and speak to their cadets. During these conversations, I talked about the benefits of working for Hertford and distributed an agency flyer.
- We spoke to the Basic Law Enforcement Directors at Pitt Community College, Martin Community College, and Roanoke Community College about recruiting from their programs.
- Sharion mailed 40 packets of recruitment documents to Basic Law Enforcement Training Programs across the state.
- We received several referrals from local agencies on potential new hires.
- We received contact information on approximately 30 applicants with the majority of those candidates coming from out-of-state. We only received +/- 12 applicants who were certified or currently enrolled in Basic Law Enforcement Training.
- Of the certified applicants, we conducted 8 oral board assessments. The remainder of certified applicants did not want to participate.
- Sharion and I conducted 7 background investigations.
- We made four conditional offers of employment.
  - 1 candidate took another job
  - 1 candidate decided not to return to law enforcement
  - 1 candidate failed the police exam
  - 1 candidate is scheduled to start the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January
- The other 3 candidates who had background investigations completed, backed out of the process or failed the police exam.
- Currently, we are advertising on the free websites listed above.
- We are mailing out new fliers.
- We have started to Sponsor (non-paid) candidates for Basic Law Enforcement Training.
- We are scheduling additional recruiting trips to the are Community Colleges.

Dennis said he had contacted Gates County, Bertie county, Chowan, and Pasquotank about dispatching. Pasquotank advised they were not interested at this time. Other counties did not return multiple calls. Dennis said the town would have to raise the dispatch line item by \$51,138 to fully fund a dispatch center with 24/7 coverage. He said this does not include the one-time cost for a voice recorder in the amount of \$6,500 and the amount does not include what the fire department and public works pays to the county.

He said he was able to verify 3 cameras power up in the cruisers. He is working with a company to obtain necessary equipment to download the videos. He said he is researching body cameras and discussed current limitations.

Dennis said the town would have to raise \$51,138 to fully fund a dispatch center with 24/7 coverage. He said this does not include the one-time cost for a voice recorder in the amount of \$6,500 and the amount does not include what the fire department and public works pays to the county.

Quentin Jackson asked Chief Brown and Manager Hurdle to present a social media policy by the next meeting since the website was too much money to deal with right now.

Quentin Jackson suggested that due to the amount of time it took for the department head presentations that they only have them quarterly.

Mayor Reid presented the ABC report showing an increase of 3.18% from last January.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Gracie Felton and passed 5-0 to go into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318-11(a)(6) Town of Hertford v. Burton Perquimans County file number 17-CVD-30 and GS § 143-318-11(a)(3).

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to go into regular session.

No action was taken after coming out of closed session.

Motion by Quentin Jackson seconded by Frank Norman and passed 5-0 to adjourn the meeting.