

Attendance: Mayor John Crump; Mayor Pro Tem Darren Hartsell; Councilmembers: Allen Burnette, Mike Tallent and Rich Wise; Town Manager, Doug Paris; Town Clerk, Nancy E. Boyden, *CMC, NCCMC*; Finance Officer, Beverly Love.
Also Present: Ann Holland for Midland Scholarship; Jack Presnell, owner of Presnell Business Park.
Absent: None.
Late: None.
Guests: None.

1. **Open Meeting:** Mayor Crump opened the meeting at 5:00pm and called the room to order.

2. **Review FY18-19 Budget Process:** Town Manager Paris

Mr. Paris outlined the budget process as follows:

- (Today) May 3 Workshop- decide on new items;
- May 8 Budget Presented and will be available for public inspection;
- May-8- June 12 public and Council can address questions to the Town Manager;
- June 12 will be the Public Hearing and adoption of the budget.

3. **Review FY18-19 New Budget Requests:** Town Manager Paris

- a. Revenue Available Over Expenditures: \$32,397
- b. Saving SRO Bethel Traffic Control: \$13,800. (If Council chooses to not pursue the traffic control, revenues over expenditures would be \$46,197 and can be used for new items without a tax increase).
- c. Board Salaries

Mr. Paris showed a comparison of pay in other towns in the County including the NC salary survey for town populations averages for 2,500-4,999. (Midland is currently the only town in the County that does not pay board salaries).

Annual (Average Salaries) for Midland Town Council:

Mayor	\$4,366
Mayor Pro Tem	\$3,079
Council	\$8,800 \$2,960 per Councilmember (3)

d. PZ

Mr. Paris showed the comparison of PZ Board members in the County.

Annual Salaries for Midland Planning and Zoning Commission=\$6,300

\$50.00 per meeting for 9 members, 12 PZ meetings and 2 BOA meetings

e. Payroll taxes

Annual: \$1,725

Total \$24,270 per year for Council and PZ members.

f. Bethel Athletic Association

Mr. Paris said this was one of the items discussed at Council's Annual Retreat last February and adopted as a goal for FY 18-19.

Mr. Daniel Stines, Town of Harrisburg Parks Director would use 100 hours at \$50.00 per hour. This study is a one-time expense of \$5,000 and would come from fund balance so there would be no impact on the budget.

- g. Midland Scholarship Match up to \$5,000 from donations.

This Challenge Grant would match private donations per dollar up to \$5,000 with a deadline of January 1st, 2019.

- h. Midland Library Request

Mr. Paris had 2 options:

1. 2,000 sq. ft. for \$31,200 annually- 2k sq. ft. at \$2,500 per month plus internet at \$100 per month
2. 3,000 sq. ft. for \$46,200 annually- 3k sq. ft. at \$3,750 per month plus internet at \$100 per month plus 800 sq. ft. for a possible community room.

4. Council Deliberation: Consensus or Straw Votes

Council discussed Traffic Control at Bethel Elementary School.

- All schools have SRO's at Cabarrus Schools. They need to be in the school;
- If the Town discovers that not using an off duty officer to direct traffic causes traffic problems Council could consider putting it back in place;
- Can't use an on duty officer to direct traffic because his/her duty is patrolling and needs to respond to calls when called. This is a state law;
- The Town currently pays \$30.00 per hour per officer.

Consensus:

End the traffic control: Councilmember Wise, Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell and Councilmember Burnette.

Councilmember Tallent suggested having an off duty officer direct traffic for a few weeks at the beginning of the school year.

Final Consensus: Leave \$800.00 in the traffic control budget. All Councilmembers agreed.

Mr. Pairs said this would be a one-time expense not affecting the budget.

Council discussed Board Salaries:

- Councilmembers are reimbursed for travel expenses, training events, meals and a phone stipend;
- Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell said that he is in favor of salaries because the board does a lot outside of meetings for the Town and it takes time away from families. This is a good gesture;
- Councilmember Tallent said the salaries are too much money even though members and Mayor attend outside meetings on behalf of the Town. It's too much of a "jump";
- Those not in favor can donate the money to a charity if the wish;
- Councilmember Wise said he's been attending up to 5-6 meetings a month and only asks for travel reimbursement. He said that he serves on Council because he loves this town. His satisfaction is doing what is good for the Town.

Consensus:

No salaries: Mayor Crump, Councilmember Tallent and Councilmember Burnette.

Consensus on annual salaries at \$1,800 for Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and 3 Councilmembers= \$150 per month: Councilmember Wise, Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell, and Councilmember Tallent.

Council discussed PZ salaries:

Members will only get paid per meetings they attend.

Consensus on PZ salaries: \$25.00 per meeting they attend: Councilmember Wise, Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell and Councilmember Tallent.

*Note: decreasing board salaries decreases payroll taxes because PZ members wouldn't pay payroll taxes.

Council discussed Bethel Athletic Study:

- Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell said the BAA is in very bad shape and it will end next year if something doesn't get better. In fact they haven't filed their taxes in years. He said that Daniel Stines, Director of Harrisburg Parks would do a great job;
- Mr. Paris said he's talked to Mr. Stines at great length and he is highly qualified to properly do the study. He would never advise Council to get into this business without properly studying it. This would be good advice in order to make a good solid decision;
- Councilmember Tallent asked about help from the County;
- Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell said that there is no such thing as County park/rec anymore. They call it Active Living & Parks Dept. They want municipalities to run their own parks/rec departments now;
- Mayor Crump confirmed that this is a one-time cost for the study;
- Mr. Pairs said the study can be funded through fund balance with no impact on the budget.

Consensus: Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell, Councilmember Wise, Councilmember Burnette, Councilmember Tallent.

The timeline for BAA study will be 3-4 months.

Council discussed the Midland Scholarship:

- Councilmember Burnette expressed that this is a private organization and the Town should not be a part of it;
- Ms. Ann Holland, founder of the scholarship spoke to Council about it. She said that the \$5,000 would be seed money to help keep the fund growing, etc.;
- Council insisted that the scholarship money only go to citizens of Midland children and not all children attending Central Cabarrus High School. Councilmember Wise said that this stipulation is written in the bi-laws;
- Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell said that he's seen scholarships fail because they often can't sustain themselves. He has the same worry with this one;
- Councilmember Wise, Councilmember Tallent and Mayor Crump requested to lower the amount to \$2,500.

Consensus to change the amount to \$2,500 and come from fund balance as a one-time contribution: Councilmember Wise, Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell, Councilmember Tallent and Councilmember Burnette.

Council discussed the Midland Library Request:

- Mr. Paris said that Option 1 can be done without a tax increase;
- Option 2 would cause a tax increase of just under ½ cent;
- The lease covers the electrical but not the cost of the internet (both options);
- The lease would be a flat 5 year term;
- If the Town builds a new town hall before 5 years, Council can sublease the space upon the owner's approval;
- The County is in favor of the 2,000 sq. ft. option;
- If Council leases the 3,000 sq. ft. option the community room can be leased out as needed;
- Discussed a senior center. County will not fund one here.

Minutes Thursday, May 3, 2018
Special Meeting of Town Council
5:00pm, 4293-B Hwy. 24/27 E. Midland, NC 28107

Consensus for space Option 1: Councilmember Tallent, Councilmember Wise, Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell, Councilmember Burnette.

5. **Adjourn:**

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hartsell and seconded by Councilmember Wise to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried 4-0.

Council adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Attest/Seal

Mayor John Crump

Town Clerk Nancy E. Boyden, CMC, NCCMC