



The Daffodil Town
Special Called Meeting - Budget Presentation FY 24-25
June 3, 2024

The Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont, NC held a Special Called Meeting at 6:00 p.m., on June 3, 2024. **Present were:**

Eddie Yelverton, **Mayor**
Leroy Ruffin, **Mayor Pro tem**
Joyce M. Artis, **Alderwoman**
Tim Howell, **Alderman**
Annie Lewis, **Alderwoman**
Wayne Jackson, **Alderman**

Not in attendance was Oscar Mooring, **Alderman**.

Also in attendance were **Town Administrator** Jonathan Allen, **Finance Officer** Shannon Daly, and **Town Clerk**, Junnie Williams.

Quorum Present: Yes

Call to Order:

Mayor Yelverton: called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Mayor Pro tem Ruffin: gave the Invocation.

Alderman Jackson: led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda:

*Mayor Yelverton: this is a Special Called Meeting in which we only have a couple of things to discuss this evening. Do we have a Motion to approve the Agenda. **Alderwoman Artis:** so moved. **Alderwoman Lewis:** seconded it. **Mayor Yelverton:** are there any discussion? None. All were in Favor. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Yelverton: next Mr. Jonathan will speak with us on the Action Items.

Action Items:

1. Capital Project Ordinance Fremont, NC CDBG-CV Community Assistance Program.

Town Administrator Allen: basically what This is a Community Assistance Program for the CDBG-CV(Community Development Block Grant–Coronavirus). We need an Ordinance that has to be approved by the Town Board, each year.

*Mayor Yelverton: Do we have a Motion for Action Item 1? **Alderwoman Artis:** I make a Motion that we move on the Capital Project Ordinance for the Fremont NC., CDBG-CV Community Assistance Program.

Alderwoman Lewis: Seconded it. **Mayor Yelverton:** Is there any other discussion? None. All in Favor let it be shown by the raising of hand? **4** in Favor. Any Opposing? **1 – Opposed (Mayor Pro tem Ruffin** having the dissenting vote). **Motion passed by a vote of 4 – 1.**

2. Powell Bill Accounts: Combine the Southern Bank Powell Bill Account with Capital Management Powell Bill Account.

Finance Officer Shannon Daly: added the Town Board of **2** different Powell Bill Accounts in which the Town has. One account being Southern Bank and the other account being the Capital Management Fund. **Mrs. Daly** stated the interest the Town is making from the Capital Management Fund, is **5.151%** versus the interest from Southern Bank is **0.27%**, which is basically somewhere around **\$43** a year for Southern Bank and somewhere around a **\$1,000** a year in the Capital Management Funds. **Mrs. Daly** stated in speaking with the Town's Accountant, to see if the Town had to have **2** different Powell Bill Accounts, and his answer was no, the Town doesn't have too. **Mrs. Daly** informed the Board that it would be much easier and simpler to have only one Powell Bill Account and for this reason she is coming before the Town Board, if they agreed with that, what **Mrs. Daly** would like to do, is to close the account at Southern Bank and transfer that money to the Capital Management Fund account, where the Town, will

actually earn an extra **\$1,000** a year. **Mrs. Daly** stated she went ahead and put it in the Revenue Section, the General Fund for the Powell Bill Interest.

*Mayor Yelverton: asked do we have a Motion to close the Southern Bank Account and just have 1 Account which would be the Capital Management Fund. **Alderman Howell:** made the Motion. **Alderwoman Artis:** seconded it. **Mayor Yelverton:** is there any more discussion? None. All in Favor raise your right hand. All were in Favor. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Budget Presentation: Town Administrator Jonathan Allen.

Town Administrator Allen presented a printed demo slide handout to the Town Board, letting the Board know at this time the Budget was balance.

Mr. Allen stated it is similar to what the Town had before, some of the dates had changed. **Mr. Allen** spoke on the **State Statutory Budget Requirements** from the **§159-8:** Balanced Budget Ordinance, the **§159-11:** Budget message & Balanced request submitted to Board, the **§159-12(a):** Budget Filed in Clerk's Office when submitted to Board (**June 3rd**), the **§159-12(b):** Public hearing to be held regarding submitted budget (**June 18th**) with Public Comments), the **§159-13(a):** No earlier than 10 days after budget is submitted and before **July 1** the Board should adopt the budget, and the **§159-13(b):** Fully fund all debt service. **Mr. Allen** spoke on the **Budget Development Drivers:** Support Board Focus Areas/Goals, Stagnant Population, Decrease in Electrical Revenue due to school moving, Maintaining existing service levels, Start catching up equipment for electrical and sewer, Invest in Town's largest asset – Our People. **Mr. Allen** spoke on the **Highlights** (Passing on expenses): Increase Property Tax (Ad Valorem) by **2 cents**, raises from **\$.68** to **\$.70**, Increase Water by **5%**, Sewer by **7%** for all customers, Increase Garbage Pickup **5.3%** (Due to GFL (went up) increase on us), Increase Eureka Regular Sewer by **9%** and overflow by additional **3%** (Total **12%**) – need to recoup. Electric Rates increase of **5%** for all customers (Includes a **2%** increase from Electricities) – going up on us. Includes a **3%** COLA raise for Employees. **Mr. Allen** spoke on the **Budget Fund Total:** General Fund Expense = **\$1,227,133**. General Fund Revenues = **\$1,227,133**. Water & Sewer Fund Expenses = **\$1,580,244**. Fire Department Fund Expenses = **\$167,531**. Fire Department Fund Revenues = **\$167,531**. Electric Fund Expenses = **\$1,584,199**. Electric Fund Revenues = **\$1,584,199** and **Mr. Allen** stated everything is Balanced.

Mr. Allen spoke on the **Fund Expenditures & Revenue Comparisons:** FY25 General Fund **\$1,227,133** (Expenses/Revenues) Comparison. FY25 Water & Sewer Fund **\$1,580,244** (Expenses/Revenues) Comparison. **Mr. Allen** spoke on the Fund Expenditures & Revenue Comparisons: FY25 Fire Fund = **\$167,531** (Expenses/Revenue) Comparison. FY25 Electric Fund = **\$1,584,199** (Expenses/Revenue) Comparison. **Mr. Allen** spoke on the **Effect of Rate Changes** - Water & Sewer Funds. **5% increase on Water & Electric:** Water Avg. household **\$2.25/month** or **\$27/year** increase per household. Current Avg. bill = **\$44.91/month**. Increase Avg. bill = **\$47.16** month. Electric: Avg. household **\$11.57/per month** or **\$138.84/year** increase. **7% increase on Sewer:** Sewer. Avg. household **\$5.15/per month** or **\$61.80/year** increase. Current Avg. bill= **\$73.63/month**. Increased Avg. bill = **\$78.77/month**.

Mr. Allen implemented the **Final Thoughts to Consider for Budget**. **WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET:** Public Works Director Position, Additional Electric Lineman, Part-Time Billings & Collection Position, and No Additional Park Amenities. What's next? Important Dates. FY25 Budget Presentation – June 3, 2024 and FY25 Budget Public Comments & Final Approval – June 18, 2024 and July 1, 2024 – Start of FY25 Budget year.

*Mayor Yelverton: asked for a Motion to go into Closed Session.

Alderman Artis: so moved. **Alderman Lewis:** seconded it.

Mayor Yelverton: we are now in Closed Session.

*Mayor Yelverton: called the meeting back in Open Session. **Alderman Jackson:** made a Motion to write up the person involved in the issue discussed during the Closed Session for not following policy and letting them know if it occurred again that they would be terminated. **Mayor Pro tem Ruffin:** seconded it. **Mayor Yelverton:** all in Favor, let it be shown by the raising of hands? **4** in Favor. Any opposing? **1** – **Opposed** (**Alderman Artis** having the dissenting vote). **Motion passed by a vote of 4 - 1.**


*Mayor Yelverton asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting. **Mayor Pro tem Ruffin** made the Motion. **Alderman Lewis** seconded it. All were in Favor. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

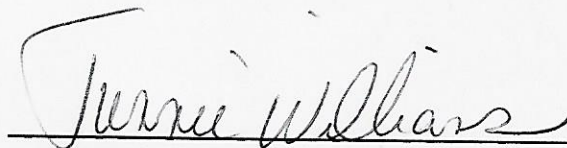
Encouraging Words:

"There are three words that only few people know:
Thanks, please and sorry."

~ Pope Francis.



Mayor Eddie Yelverton



Junnie Williams, Town Clerk