

## **Budget Workshop – May 9, 2023**

The Fairmont Board of Commissioners held a budget workshop meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center with Mayor Charles Kemp presiding. Commissioners present were J.J. McCree, Terry Evans, Heather Seibles, and Clarence McNeill, Jr. Commissioners Melvin Ellison and Jan Tedder-Rogers were absent. Staff present included Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Public Works Director Ronnie Seals, and Police Chief Jonathan Edwards.

### **Call to Order and Invocation**

Mayor Charles Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and gave the invocation.

### **Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget**

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut presented the following budget highlights:

The draft budget includes a 5% (\$4.25) base utility rate increase and a 2.5% cost-of-living raise for employees. The cost-of-living raise is dependent on the utility increase, so the board must do both or neither. The 5% increase is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is 5.8% for 2023. The tax rate will remain the same at \$0.73 per hundred-dollar valuation. This is a bare bones budget with no funds set aside for capital improvements.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

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Jennifer H. Larson  
Town Clerk