

Haywood County “Toeprints”

May 20, 2023

Vol. #14 Issue #9 (Subject: \$12M Library Renovation?.)

www.haywoodtp.net

What’s Happening?

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform Haywood County Taxpayers of what transpires at the bi-monthly County Commission Meetings. This newsletter will be written from the perspective of a casual observer, myself. Any opinions expressed will be mine.

\$12M Library Renovation?

One of **James Weaver “Kirk” Kirkpatrick the III** ambitions in life, other than the Super-Duper Sports Complex, was to renovate the Haywood County Library. Every time a renovation is mentioned, the costs jump by \$2 Million Dollars. It started at a modest \$4Million, and **Bryant Morehead** announced at the last county commission meeting that this back burner project, with this can continuously being kicked down the road, will be anywhere between \$8 - \$10 Million, up to **\$12 Million**, as he gave a preview of the 2023-2024 Budget to county commissioners.

Although his proposed budget does not indicate \$12 Million, you can hear it on the video of the meeting.

[Manager's Recommended Budget Presentation FY 23-24, 5/15/2023 county commission meeting, by Bryant Morehead. 5/18/2023...](#)

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/230518RecommendedBudgetPresentationFY24.pdf>

and

https://haywoodcountync.granicus.com/player/clip/284?view_id=1&redirect=true&h=bf2cfb23b07dadcl8c46489c83f5738

There is a rich history of the constantly increasing proposed cost for this library, which seems to increase by an increment of \$2 Million any time anyone mentions this project. Pretty soon, it will approach the original cost of the New Detention Center proposal, which was \$16 Million.

Simply search www.haywoodtp.net Interesting Stuff Archives, using the keyword “library”, and you will find:

[Haywood County Public Library \(The Center of the Universe of Haywood County!\) presentation to commissioners at the 4/12/2016 Budget work session. Only \\$4 Million Dollars. That is after the \\$5 Million for the Mark and Susan Swanger Memorial Glorified Dog Pound, and after purchasing CES for \\$3.3 Million \(plus remodeling costs\). Finally, money will be available to go towards Haywood County School kids. 4/12/16. 8/13/2016...](#)

[Haywood County Public Library Strategic Plan \(DRAFT\). An estimated \\$6 Million project \(page 36\). 6/02/2017. 6/10/2017...](#)

[Haywood County Public Library Survey #2 Results. 714 responded out of 4500 surveys. 58% want new Property Tax to support improvements. Kirk Kirkpatrick indicated the county is in the hole -\\$1.3M already this year due to lower property Revaluation. 4/11/2017. 4/13/2017...](#)

[Haywood County Budget Overview, Presented May 2, 2021 \(Got the year wrong - presented yesterday\). Jail Expansion + 8 pickle ball courts + \\$8-10M Library Renovation + etc., etc., etc... Hang on to your wallets! 5/2/2022. 5/3/2022...](#)

[Davenport announces Detention Center will cost \\$21.5 Million + \\$10M New Library + \\$37.2M New HCC Building. WTF! Who is Davenport? 1/17/2023. 1/19/2023...](#)

Whew!

If any name is in **bold**, it can’t be a good thing.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
Haywood County Taxpayer
2200 Camp Branch Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
www.haywoodtp.net
Si vis pacem, para bellum