



**TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**TELECONFERENCE**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020 AT 6:30 PM**

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**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The following board members were in attendance:

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Jack Edwards  
Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Davis  
Council Member Joseph Maxim  
Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley  
Council Member Les Gladden

**Also in attendance:**

Town Manager, Ryan Spitzer  
Finance Director, Richard Dixon  
Town Clerk, Barbara Monticello

**Pledge Allegiance to the Flag**

Council Member Joe Maxim lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Moment of Silence**

A moment of silence was held for the following individuals: Tom Rea, Cindy Stewart, Greer Stanford and Van Dabbs (deceased). Mayor Edwards also asked for a moment of silence to remember our Police, Fire and EMS workers as well.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Council Member Gladden, Seconded by Council Member Stinson-Wesley.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Council Member Maxim, Council Member Stinson-Wesley, Council Member Gladden

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

1. Approval of the minutes of the July 14, 2020 Regular Council Meeting  
Motion made by Council Member Maxim, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Davis.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Council Member Maxim, Council Member Stinson-Wesley, Council Member Gladden
2. Approval of Minutes from the July 27, 2020 Work Session  
Motion made by Council Member Maxim, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Davis.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Council Member Maxim, Council Member Stinson-Wesley, Council Member Gladden

**CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Revenue Report (no Financials for August)  
A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as is.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Nick Martin of McCullough spoke about low voter turnout in Pineville and reiterated the importance of voting.

Mr. John Holobinko of the Pineville Chamber of Commerce provided an update on recent activities of the Chamber: Back Pack Challenge and providing business assistance to 10 businesses.

Jane Shutt of Pineville Neighbors Place provided an update on recent activities - 600 backpacks delivered to Sterling Elementary School; 8,000 meals delivered to kids from March - July; provided \$78,000 worth of assistance to 126 families in need in July alone.

Bobby French, Principal of Pineville Elementary School, thanked a number of community groups for all their assistance and stated that teachers were prepared and ready to teach students remotely. This should allow more time for students to interact with their teachers. What is needed to help teachers and students through this challenging year is to promote Pineville Elementary as a great school, encourage teachers and find ways to appreciate them, and donate books to students.

Jane Shutt added that toys were also needed for the youngest children.

## PUBLIC HEARING

4. NONE

## OLD BUSINESS

5. **Presentation by Creech & Assoc. for final review of the new Town Hall/Library building (INFORMATIONAL).** Brent Green of Creech and Associates presented the final plans for the new Pineville Town Hall. During the review of the site plan layout, the question was raised by Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Davis if there would be another entrance into the parking lot for Police Dept. vehicles. Council Member Les Gladden agreed and stated that it was already a tough spot to exit out of onto NC51 and if there was a baseball tournament going on at Jack Hughes Park, it will make it even worse. Mr. Green responded that they had looked into it but if Council wanted to pursue it, they would certainly revisit it. Town Manager, Ryan Spitzer stated that he had a meeting scheduled with PD later in the week and would address it with them at that time.

At the back of the building there were two drop boxes - one for library books to be dropped off and one for telephone, internet and electrical payments for drop-off. Mayor Pro Tem Davis asked if the drop boxes would be labeled clearly so people wouldn't get them confused and drop something in the wrong box. Mr. Green stated they will work on differentiating the boxes more so that there is no confusion.

Council Member Les Gladden asked about securing the Town Hall after hours when the library was still open to prevent anyone that may wander upstairs from getting into the Town Hall. Three different options were shown to council on what potentially could be done. The consensus was that most were in favor of Option A and all agreed they wanted the gate to look nice. Council asked to see some samples of what the gates might look like.

Council Member Gladden asked where solid surfaces were intended to be used. Mr. Green replied on the dais counter, restrooms and kitchen and it would be a synthetic stone material. Mayor Pro Tem Davis added that it was important to be sure the audio/visual equipment was done correctly so people could hear what was being said. Mr. Spitzer stated he would be working with a specialist on the audio/visual equipment. The projected number of seats for the Council Chambers was about 112. Likewise, the positioning of the podium was discussed with it likely having flexibility so that it could be moved around if necessary.

Manager Spitzer stated that if there were any changes to be made, now was the time as the project was moving quickly with September as the anticipated start date.

## NEW BUSINESS

6. **Tax Collector's Settlement for Fiscal Year 2020 and Order of Collection for Tax Year 2020 (Barbara Monticello)** Per NCGS 105-373(3), the Tax Collector's Settlement is required to be entered into record and then the Order of Collection approved authorizing Mecklenburg County to collect taxes on the town's behalf (**ACTION ITEM**).

Town Clerk, Barbara Monticello, stated that each year Mecklenburg County sends a statement of what they were able to collect in taxes from the residents of Pineville. This year they were able to collect 98.89% of the taxes that

were due to the town which was very good considering collection efforts were halted in March due to the Covid-19 outbreak. Motion made by Council Member Maxim, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Davis to accept the settlement as stated and appoint Mecklenburg County as our tax collector. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Council Member Maxim, Council Member Stinson-Wesley, Council Member Gladden.

7. **Memo Regarding Interlocal Agreement; Authorization to Enter into Agreement (ACTION ITEM).** Mr. Spitzer stated that Pineville was due to receive \$121,000 of Covid-19 relief funds (CARES) from the county but in order to do so, the town needed to agree to and sign off on an interlocal agreement. Additionally, the money would need to be spent by October or the county could take it back. Council Member Gladden asked about restrictions on use of those funds. Mr. Spitzer stated that it could not be used for Hazard Pay but it could be used to purchase technology equipment to be able to work from home, to obtain internet hot spots, cleaning supplies to combat the coronavirus or to hire additional employees or services to keep conditions clean and safe.

Mr. Spitzer stated the amount we receive will be based off of what we thought we would need but there was the ability to possibly get more funds if needed. The money from the county CARES act and the reimbursements we get from FEMA both have equivalent restrictions on what the money can be used for.

Motion made by Council Member Gladden, Seconded by Council Member Maxim to approve and sign off on interlocal agreement with Mecklenburg County. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Council Member Maxim, Council Member Stinson-Wesley, Council Member Gladden.

8. **Budget Amendment relating to Covid-19 funds (ACTION ITEM).** In addition to approving the interlocal agreement for these funds, a budget amendment is also needed to go along with the agreement.

Motion made by Council Member Maxim, Seconded by Council Member Stinson-Wesley to approve the budget amendment. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Council Member Maxim, Council Member Stinson-Wesley, Council Member Gladden.

9. **Discussion on the use of Town facilities for Educational Purposes (INFORMATIONAL).** Mr. Spitzer explained that teachers were reluctant to go back to the classrooms to teach because of the pandemic and wanted to do all online teaching but there are kids whose parents have to work and can't stay home to help their kids and there are those that can't afford internet service or laptops that are going to need a place to gather that can supply internet service and/or monitors to keep an eye on the kids. Mr. Spitzer added that the county had not asked Pineville directly to use its facilities but they were partnering with the YMCA to use theirs and wanted to discuss in case the county did approach us.

Council Member Joe Maxim added that everyone wanted to know what was happening. The county was working with CMS for the use of other facilities; they were working on a contract to partner with churches, municipalities and other facilities. He wanted to act as quickly as possible to support the ones that need it the most and asked Principal of Pineville Elementary, Bobby French, what he was hearing from parents in the community. Mr. French stated that Pineville Elementary was not involved in the CMS discussions but the issues he was anticipating were with internet access, children getting the social and emotional support that is vital at that age and the limited number of hotspots available.

Mayor Edwards asked Mr. French who would be doing the tutoring. Mr. French responded that they were not using tutors -- the teachers will be doing the teaching but not in person. It would all be done online. The issue was getting those kids that don't have internet access to a location that does and having monitors in those facilities to help the kids with questions they may have and just to keep an eye on them. The three apartment complexes, The Pines, Sabal Point and Pineville Place have clubhouses and would be ideal places to have the kids go to since they would be close to home and likely have internet access but the owners of those apartment complexes are the ones to say when the clubhouses will re-open.

Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Davis was all for helping out the kids but wanted to be sure the seniors were not slighted and were also being taken care of with their lunches, etc. Council Member Les Gladden stated that they are going to need a lot of space and perhaps Grace Life Church had some extra space the kids could use. Council Member Joe Maxim asked Jane Shutt what group of kids were of the greatest concern. She responded that it was those that are home alone with no support during the day, along with the need for reliable internet service and space to accommodate about 25-50 kids that could be cleaned/sanitized on a regular basis.

Parks and Recreation Director, Kristy Detwiler, noted that she was quoted a price of \$2400 to clean/spray the entire Belle Johnston Community Center for three months. Mr. Spitzer clarified that a bomb would be set off to coat the surface of the room and contents to prevent the virus from being able to attach itself and survive.

Council Member Les Gladden stated to Ms. Shutt that if she were able to find a suitable place for the kids to go, the town would do its best to provide the necessary internet service to them and Council Member Joe Maxim added that if she needed the town to help in discussions with the apartment management regarding use of their clubhouses, the town would be happy to do what it could to assist.

Ms. Detwiler noted that Mecklenburg County was charging \$100 per week for the use of their facilities and asked if families would be able to pay that. Ms. Shutt stated that they would not be able to afford to pay that. Council Member Gladden threw it out to John Holobinko of the Pineville Chamber of Commerce in case there was a business that could donate facilities and/or volunteer facilitators. Mr. Holobink offered to bring it up at the next Chamber meeting.

## STAFF UPDATE

10. **Staff/Manager's Report:** Mr. Spitzer provided an update on the following items:

- Status of open positions - interviews for Captain's position set for 8/25
- HR Manager - last day for submittals is Friday - received a lot of interested candidates
- In the process of contacting Parks and Recreation candidates to fill Manager's position

Mr. Spitzer stated that the interview panel for the Captain's position included Kevin Kendrick, Pastor Cambell and he was still in the process of looking for two additional members to be on the panel. Mayor Edwards suggested resident Mark Matthews, who is an Attorney.

11. **Calendar of Events:** Mayor Edwards asked for consensus from Council as to how they would like to hold September 9<sup>th</sup>'s Council Meeting - remotely or in person. The state would still be in Phase II of the pandemic re-opening plan. Consensus was to continue to do the meeting remotely. The Work Session for August will be held on 8/24/20. There was some conflict with schedules for October so it was decided to hold one Council Meeting on October 26, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. The Richard Sheltra Race has been cancelled due to the pandemic and rescheduled for April 24, 2021.

A motion was made and seconded to close the Open Session and take a ten-minute break before moving into Closed Session.

## CLOSED SESSION

12. Discussion of matters pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(5), (***Real Estate Item***) and (3), (***Consult Attorney for Possible Legal Action***). At 8:40 p.m. Council Member Joe Maxim moved to enter Closed Session, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Davis. There were ayes by all. Attorney John Buben was present to discuss a real estate item with Council. Additionally, a potential legal matter was discussed regarding a recently purchased piece of equipment.

At 11:30 p.m. Council Member Les Gladden moved to end the Closed Session, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Davis. There were ayes by all.

**ADJOURN:** Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Joe Maxim. There were ayes by all and the meeting adjourned.

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Mayor Jack Edwards

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Barbara Monticello, Town Clerk