



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
PINEVILLE HUT MEETING FACILITY
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022 AT 6:30 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jack Edwards called the meeting to order @ 6:30 pm.

Mayor: Jack Edwards
Mayor Pro Tem: Ed Samaha
Council Members: Les Gladden, Amelia Stinson-Wesley, Chris McDonough
Town Manager: Ryan Spitzer
Town Clerk: Lisa Snyder

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Council Member Les Gladden led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Jack Edwards requested we remember Mr. Nolls, who passed recently, our first responders, police department, fire department, EMS, their families, and please pray for our country, give a thought to the people who defend us and our troops.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council Member Les Gladden moved to approve the Agenda as presented with a second made by Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley to adopt the Agenda as stated. The Agenda was adopted (*Approved 4-0*).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the January 20, 2022 Council Retreat, the January 24-2022 Work Session and Town Council meetings were up for approval. Mayor Pro Tem Samaha moved to approve the Minutes with a second made by Council Member Gladden. (*Approved 4-0*).

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Edwards advised that on the Consent Agenda are two items: the Tax Refunds presented by Finance Director Sheila Rollerson and the Proclamation for Black History Month. Council Member Stinson-Wesley moved to accept the Consent Agenda with a second made by Council Member Gladden. (*Approved 4 – 0*)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jane Shutt of Pineville Neighbors Place gave a presentation on what they have been doing. PNP facilitated a very successful meeting with community stakeholders on January 27th to explore the possibility of expanding services to meet the growing needs of our community. A steering committee has been formed. She added that our County Commissioner, Susan Rodriguez-McDowell, shared that the county is building a Southwest Community Resource Center on Nations Ford Road between I-77 and Tyvola Road. It is slated to be open in 2025. This addition will bring services including food stamps, veteran's services, WIC and other resources much closer to our residents. Ms. Shutt has been elected to serve on the

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care Board and will represent six towns in the county. In this fiscal year, the Town generously donated \$7,500 to PNP. They finished spending that money on January 13th. They helped 78 of our neighbors with electric bills, housing, a gas bill and a water bill. PNP is excited to welcome NC Med Assist to their organization. Beginning in March, they will be in their office once a week to help our neighbors who are uninsured and live at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty level to get the prescriptions they need. The worker will be bi-lingual so they can reach our Spanish-speaking residents. Lastly, PNP will hold a vaccine clinic on Saturday, February 26th at the Oakland Hills/Lamplighter community. In addition to distributing vaccines, they will also hand out masks, home tests and boxes of food. Ms. Shutt thanked Council once again for helping our neighbors live their best lives!

John Holibinko briefly spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. He advised that the Chamber will be hosting their first Business Expo at the Hut on March 18th from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. One of the things that Council help fund last year is the Pineville Business Directory and through that they have almost 1,000 names of senior leaders and businesses in Pineville. Invitations will be sent out for this event.

PUBLIC HEARING - none

OLD BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation by Chief Hudgins. Chief Hudgins gave a presentation for the Police Department for the year 2021. He shared that the Top 3 Call Types they received were (1) Alarm (2) Traffic and (3) Call by phone. He reported that the PD issued 2,609 citations last year. The breakdown as follows: 671 citations for speeding; 534 citations for expired plates, 114 citations for red lights, and 77 citations for DUI's.

Total arrests in 2021 were 487. This number reflects outstanding warrants, and warrants from other counties. A total of 2,942 crime reports were taken last year. He noted the crime was down 5.88% in three years; however, aggravated assaults increased by 66.7%. Safe Alliance is currently assisting the officers with referrals from residents.

Violent crimes, specifically aggravated assault, were the highest at 74%. Property crimes were at 87% which was mostly larceny among businesses.

The Chief reported what his department has been doing monthly for community engagement. Included in his report was participating in a drive-thru event with Atrium Health for free meds, Facebook Live with the Chief, established a Department Liaison program, held Shop-with-a-Cop fundraisers, participated in a Special Olympics fundraiser at Spare Time, distributed flyers for Lock it or Lose it in high-point areas of the Town, and a media event at What the Fries.

He noted other significant accomplishments, as well, including entering an agreement with Ring Doorbell, training of his department on ICAT (de-escalation) and created, trained and outfitted the Civil Unrest Team.

Vote on dates for Budget Meetings. Town Manager Ryan Spitzer noted conflicts that Council had with the potential dates of the upcoming Budget Meetings. Council did agree to meet twice per week, as needed. Town Manager Spitzer will work on a revised schedule and come back with new dates for those meetings. (Tabled for the February 28th Work Session).

Manager's Report.

Town Manager Spitzer wanted to start off with Chief Hudgins; they just got notification last week that if we don't get our Intent to Purchase Police Cars in by February 11th, we may not get them next year. They are about 48 weeks out. Last year we budgeted for police vehicles. The number was seven, but we think that we can get four. After a car gets to 100,000 miles, we look at replacing them. If we wait, it will be the following fiscal year. Town Manager asked Council how many they want to order (four or six). It will take them 48 weeks to get them in and several more weeks to get them outfitted. Council agreed on six vehicles. Chief Hudgins also asked about the color and getting hybrid models. The officers would like to go with the black cars, if Council approves. There would be no difference in price. Hybrids are about \$3,000 more but could save dollars

in the end we could save on each car between \$6,000 and \$12,000 on each car. The price is around \$39,000 and the battery's warranty is for 8 years up to 100,000 miles. The engine recharges the batteries. It's not an electric vehicle.

We are working on the designs for public input for the Cone Mill site for mid-March, and Planning & Zoning Director Travis Morgan is working with a designer on the Cone Mill Site Design. The salary study that we do every three years will be presented at the next Work Session on February 28th, and then we'll have a discussion on that salary study in the budget meetings. It looks like over half of the job descriptions are not at market rate. If we go with the recommendations, it looks like it will be about \$16,000 to pull into it. Also, at the February 28th meeting we will have the new Vision and Goals statement for Council to review, and we can revisit this again mid-summer. He also reported that the County is looking at doing away with mask mandates mid-February, if the trends continue to go in the right direction per the Public Health Director.

The Valentine's Dinner is this Friday. and we are all signed up to participate with that. Parks and Rec Director Matt Jakubowski said there are 106 signed up. Drinks and lasagna will be served.

He also reported that he, Mayor Pro Tem Samaha, and Public Works Director Chip Hill met with Charlotte Water about water leaks, and it was a fruitful discussion. Charlotte Water is still in the process of implementing a reverse 911 system where they can highlight a certain neighborhood and just send out automatic notifications.

There are currently nine bids either out, or in the process of being reviewed for projects, including the Fire Department, that's out until March 1st. We're currently working on the costs for the Greenway and did select Kimberly Horn for that project and we are also working on construction drawings for that project. We should have that by the end of the month. We're working on evaluating potential contractors for the Lowry Street extension (the turn lane). We are in the final documentations for the Lynnwood project, so we will be able to proceed with that project. We are waiting on NCDOT Board approval for the final Johnston Road realignment. We are ranking CDBG projects for the sidewalk along Sable Point. After we rank and pick a construction company for that we'll be able to go to design for that and get that moving along. Town Manager Spitzer is also working on the RFP for the Fire Department architect. After we select an architect, the design process will be about eight months and then it should go out for bid. Staff is evaluating possible new IT vendors, or stay with the current vendor.

The new Town Hall is slated to be open mid-June. Town Manager Spitzer hopes to see the fountain in by that time, as well.

The Mayor announced a five-minute break before going into closed session and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Council Member Chris McDonough made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (3) to consult with the Town Attorney to protect the attorney-client privilege. Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley made a second to the motion. *(Approved 4-0)*

Closed Session entered at 7:35 pm.

Council reopened Regular Session at 8:22 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Council Member Stinson-Wesley to adjourn followed by a second made by Mayor Pro Tem Ed Samaha *(Approved 4-0)*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Mayor Jack Edwards

ATTEST: _____

Lisa Snyder, Town Clerk