



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 Chris McDonough led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Jack Edwards requested we remember residents who recently passed away: Arnold McCarver, who is from an old Pineville family, Dr. Maxwell Nolen Rudie, who passed away at the age of 34, Park Shropshire, who is a four-year old with brain cancer and on his way to St. Jude's for further care, and also our first responders, police department, fire department, our military, and Brandy Bailes, Zack's daughter.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the February 8, 2022 Council Meeting and the February 28, 2022 Work Session meetings were up for approval. Council Member Chris McDonough moved to approve the Minutes with a second made by Mayor pro Tem Ed Samaha. (**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 Resolution 2022-3 for Surplus Items. Council Member Stinson-Wesley moved to accept the Consent Agenda with a second made by Council Member Gladden. (**Approved 4 - 0**)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tristan McMannis, Chair of the Pineville Parks and Rec Advisory Board, voiced his support of the Town along with Barbara Manning, Lorraine Hayes, and Yvette Isaacs, who were also in attendance. He asked Council to consider improving the outdoors space and outdoor recreation as opportunities as uses of the ARPA funds and voiced his support for the purchase of the property being sold behind the dog park and are happy to do anything he can to help support that option.

David Neeley, appeared via Zoom, and voiced his support of the Arts & Science Council and their upcoming presentation. He added that he is happy to represent Pineville and thanked Council for all that they are doing for the Town.

Lacy Armstrong, Charlotte Soccer Academy, attended in person. She is the Marketing Manager and also coaches two teams and helps Brad Wylde, the Executive Director. She shared that since their ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 26, 2015, in Pineville. They have 6,500 participants. The Academy is located on 55-acres on Dorman Road. They are the headquarters of the largest non-profit, full-service soccer organizations in the country. She wanted to see how they can partnership with the Town and what they can offer the Town in return for any amount for sponsorships. She asked Council what goes into deciding what they can give to her organization? A little bit goes a long way in a non-profit. She added that their Academy helps the children and also brings in thousands of dollars in revenue, including hotel rooms and restaurants. At one event recently, there were 1,000 rooms booked in one weekend with people participating in their events. Further, she shared that Council can use their facility for meetings, events or festivals, and thanked Council for their time.

Town Manager Spitzer confirmed that they were considered two years ago; we can only fund to their non-profit side. Mayor Edwards said that Council would discuss this at upcoming budget cycle.

BOARD UPDATES

Medic – Sierra protocol. Chief Gerin wanted to discuss the Sierra protocol to Council and introduced Dr. John Studnek, who is the Deputy Director with Medic protocol. Fire Departments respond to emergencies to the Sierra calls, including cardiac arrests and low acuity calls. Chief Gerin's goal is to get the first responders off the roads. Mr. Studnek explained the protocol to Council and how 911 emergencies are currently handled and prioritized. He explained how basic assessments are performed to determine if a person needs high-priority care or lower-priority care and referred to a local urgent care or serviced in another way. Chief Gerin summarized by adding that it is important to get the fire trucks on the road and would like Medic personnel to be available for high communicative calls.

Council Member Stinson-Wesley would like to see updates in the future on this.

Presentation by Krista Terrell, Arts & Science Council. Ms. Terrell discussed the Arts & Science Program and shared slides outlining the various ways that Council's donation to their organization will benefit local artists. For FY23, they are requesting \$20,000 funding from the Town of Pineville. The money would create individual artist fellowships, arts and support grants, cultured vision grants, and culture blocks programs. She discussed the funding gaps. Ms. Terrell thanked Council for their past support and to David Neeley, as the Pineville representative to the Arts & Sciences Board.

Presentation by Kevin Devanney, Downtown Merchants. Mr. Devanney provided a report of the Downtown Merchants. They meet once a month. There are about 35 merchants who participate in supporting each other and generating business leads, They recently conducted an informal survey and found that the downtown merchants get about 30% of their business from the residents of Pineville, and 70% of business comes from businesses. He also noted that only 19% of the business revenue comes from Pineville. He would like to see that percentage increase to 80%. There are currently 12 jobs available in downtown Pineville that can't get filled. He would like to see more involvement by the residents, including millennials and teenagers applying for jobs in downtown Pineville. Mr. Devanney is hopeful that Council will continue to support residences, which in turn, will support more businesses. More residents will put more feet on the street for downtown merchants.

PUBLIC HEARING - none

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Budget Meeting Dates. Town Manager Ryan Spitzer presented a revised budget meeting schedule to Council. All meetings will take place at the Police Department. Council Member Stinson-Wesley moved to approve the dates presented with a second made by Mayor Pro Tem Samaha. (**Approved 4-0**)

NEW BUSINESS

Municipal Audit Contract. Town Manager Spitzer noted that this is the annual audit contract and the cost of the contract is expected to increase substantially next year by Starnes. This will be the last year that the contract will be this low. We'll be using federal funds by that time. Council Member Les Gladden moved to approve the contract with Martin Starnes and Council Member Chris McDonough provided a second. **(Approved 4-0)**

Approval of material bid for materials & equipment to extend electric lines further along Downs Rd. into Carolina Logistics Park. Don Mitchell provided a bid for electrical equipment at \$560,000 for Council's approval. There are funds in the budget for this purchase. He is requesting Council's approval. Council Member McDonough moved to approve the funds to extend electric lines into Logistics Park with a second made by Council Member Les Gladden. **(Approved 4-0)**

Salary Study. Town Manager Spitzer discussed the recent salary study results that the Town tries to do every three years to keep pace with the surrounding market. Roughly 2/3 of our jobs were at below market. This study tries to get our salary pay grades and ranges within a reasonable market. At the last Work Session, Council had discussed pro-rating the increases to take effect now, rather than in July. Town Manager Spitzer advised that the cost to pro-rate the increases is \$15,000. Council approved the effective date of the increases to the first pay week in April and confirmed that the Town does have the funds to do this. Mayor Pro Tem Samaha added that these salary studies are very necessary and were well done by Ms. Manning and likes to hear that we'll launch it April 1st. He also stated that we need to look at the critical positions with the Town. He expressed concern about the retention of staff. Mayor Edwards concurred. Mayor Pro Tem Samaha moved to approve the salary increases with a second made by Council Member Stinson-Wesley. **(Approved 4-0)**

Approval of Board Application for Kris McVey. Council approved Kris McVey's Application to the County Parks & Rec Board. We are modifying our Application to the Boards and will update our website with the amended form. Council Member Gladden moved to approve Kris McVey's Application with a second made by Council Member McDonough. **(Approved 4-0)**

Manager's Report.

Town Manager Spitzer reported that he and Planning & Zoning Director Travis Morgan met with McCullough regarding the Greenway project and extension to Jack Hughes Park and that is going well. He has a proposed meeting scheduled for April 13th with US Developments to discuss densities with Cone Mill. Council Member Stinson-Wesley asked if the meeting could be rescheduled to April 20th. He will look into rescheduling that meeting to April 20th. We're going to go over plans on what can go into that opening and have public input with four options available. We want a clear vision of what the community wants. He reported that border collies are scaring off the geese at Belle Johnston Park.

Chief Gerin and Mr. Spitzer have picked a construction manager for the Fire Department. We have the contract to Council at the April meeting. The RFQ is going out for the architect and will be due on April 1st. It may take another month to select the architect for that project. He will have that proposal in May for Council to review.

Town Manager Spitzer recently met with the developer about the incoming apartments downtown and should have an agreement by July or August of this year.

He discussed the purchase of the new Fire engine with ARPA funds. Pricing for the new engine is \$744,000 and the price is good for 30 days. On May 1st, the price will increase by 7%. He recommended that Council should go ahead to save \$23,000 and added that delivery would be in 24 months. Mayor Pro Tem asked what the resale value is and Chief Gerin replied it would be about \$100,00. Town Manager Spitzer added that the actual cost to the new Fire engine would be about \$850,000 which includes the hoses and other equipment for the truck. This will be put on the April Work Session.

Council member Stinson-Wesley asked Mr. Spitzer if there is a new timeline for the new Town Hall opening, He replied that the building is still on schedule to open in June for employees to move in, but there is still work to be done out front, including the installation of the fountain. There will be no ribbon-cutting until the fountain is completed.

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

Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley 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 and NCGS 143.318.11 (6) regarding a personnel matter. Council Member Chris McDonough made a second to the motion. (**Approved 4-0**)

Closed Session entered at 7:50 pm.

Council reopened Regular Session at 8:30 pm.

Mayor Edwards said that we need to set aside funds to widen the road along the Cone Mill site, save some oak trees, a Cone Memorial and a park set aside for the memorial site. He asked Town Manager Spitzer if we can set up a CIP.

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 8:31 pm.

Mayor Jack Edwards

ATTEST: _____

Lisa Snyder, Town Clerk