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BUDGET MEETING MARCH 16, 2026

The Town Council of the Town of Pineville, NC met in a Budget Workshop on Monday, March 16, 2026, at 6:00 pm. The meeting was held in Town Hall Council Chambers.

Attendance:

Mayor: Amelia Stinson-Wesley

Mayor Pro Tem: Nick Gallo

Council Members: Danielle Moore, Josh Simelton, and Ed Samaha

Town Manager: Ryan Spitzer

Town Clerk: Lisa Snyder

Police Chief: Michael Hudgins

Mayor Stinson-Wesley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Town Manager, Ryan Spitzer, began the budget meeting by stating that this budget meeting will on Public Safety, which is 50% of the Town's budget. The CIP and the salaries of the mayor, council and boards will also be reviewed and discussed.

Chief Hudgins gave a presentation on his department's FY27 budget. He reviewed FY26 Goals and gave a progress update. The crime rate was down 8%. He added that Assistant Chief Corey Copley has done a fabulous job. They also surpassed their traffic campaign goals.

The Chief outlined his department's FY27 Goals: to reduce the Town's overall crime rate an additional 3%; join the 30 x 30 initiative well-being of women in policing agencies; expand their presence on the Greenway; and complete the NC League of Municipalities' Risk Assessment Program by the end of FY27.

His operational budget requests include: replacement of obsolete fire suppression controls (\$35,000) as they become obsolete after some time; I.P. phone recorder (\$3,500) and this is a one-time cost; Safe Guard Recruiting (\$33,000); office supplies (\$2,000) due to increased costs; the Awards Banquet (\$1,400) for food costs and combining it with their Christmas celebration; Tower Dump Funding CID (\$5,000); I.P. Phones recurring (\$3,840); Lexipol Contract increase (\$1,500) as this does their policies; Intelligence Software (\$5,390) as this helps our crime analyst; Axon AI (\$24,000) for translation and report-writing; P3 Axon License Plate Readers (\$20,000) a/k/a Flock cameras; and Homeless Response CPTED (\$20,000) for crime prevention. The Town Manager and Council discussed options for cost-sharing with surrounding municipalities.

Chief Hudgins' list of Asset Forfeiture proposals were reviewed and include: Peer support (\$20,000) after shooting; Training (\$44,000) at \$1,000 per employee; SWAT (\$7,500); Awards plaques (\$1,000); Phased P & E Shelving (\$64,000) for the Property & Evidence room; Gun range equipment (\$25,000); Ammo (\$40,000); SRT Munitions & Equipment (\$93,729); Mobile crowd protection barricades (\$85,000) as they would like to obtain five lanes' worth for various events; Community Engagement (\$10,000); Class A Uniforms (\$8,000); SRT Uniform replacement (\$1,500); Operator RX Virtual Reality Trainer (\$150,000) as this helps with deescalation; and Trauma kits (\$7,150) which include tourniquets and wound-packing.

The Chief's Capital Outlay proposal is the purchase of four police interceptors (a/k/a Explorers). He noted that the County is funding these via the ETJ agreement.

Town Manager Spitzer began the discussion of the CIP (Capital Investment Program). We try to stay around \$1.4 million dollars in capital, and it is actually what's built into our debt. We have about \$2.2 million in capital. If we don't get the money from the State Budget by July, we may still go forward with the crosswalk on Main Street. Administration and HR were not asking for any capital. IT is requesting \$50,000 for customary computer upgrades; Police cars \$315,000; Public Works is requesting \$160,000 for sidewalks and repairs, \$70,000 for a new F150 service truck, \$150,000 for stormwater piping, and a Tack machine, which is used to fill cracks in the street with tar. The Tack machine costs approximately \$100,000, but we are looking into renting one instead.

Parks & Recreation is requesting \$260,000 for seven projects, which include a new stadium fence, netting for field #3, a stadium scoreboard, a shade structure for the fitness court, an automatic gate for the BJCC, a new swing set and an Explorer. Mr. Spitzer and Town Council ranked these projects in order of their importance.

The salaries of the mayor, council and board members were reviewed and discussed. Council approved the increase for board members from \$50 to \$100 per board member, per meeting; approval of increasing the mayor's salary from \$15,600 per year to \$20,000 per year; and approval of town council's pay from \$9,600 per year to \$13,000 per year, effective July 1, 2026. In addition, they will receive COLA with the FY27 budget effective July 1, 2027.

Council Member Moore moved to adjourn the meeting followed by a second made by Council Member Samaha. All ayes. Adjournment was at 8:00 pm.

Mayor Pro Tem Nick Gallo

ATTEST:

Town Clerk Lisa Snyder