

Mayor
Jack Edwards

Mayor Pro Tem
Ed Samaha

Town Manager
Ryan Spitzer



Town Council
Les Gladden
Amelia Stinson-Wesley
Chris McDonough

Town Clerk
Lisa Snyder

The Town Council of the Town of Pineville, NC, met in a Budget Workshop on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Pineville Police Department.

ATTENDANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Jack Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. and asked for a motion to open the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Ed Samaha moved to open the meeting, seconded by Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley. There were ayes by all and the meeting was opened.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

(Ryan Spitzer) Town Manager, Ryan Spitzer, gave a general overview of the budget, including Revenues, Expenses, Salary, Solid Waste and Sponsorships. He advised it was a Balanced Budget. Council may wish to cut or add to it after talking to the various department heads.

Mr. Spitzer continued stating that some line items were re-prioritized recently with the departments.

Council will note that they will see Capital items, Salaries, and Operating expenses. Some departments have salaries broken up in different lines. The Town's retirement match increased to 12.1%.

Mr. Spitzer added that about half of the budget is salaries. Mr. Spitzer would like to keep the 3% COLA in the budget for the first of the next fiscal year. Merit raises will follow in the Fall at an average of 2.5%.

Manager Spitzer discussed Revenue projections. Taxes increased with the additional of the Amazon warehouse in Pineville. Commercial appeals continue to drive our values down which we have no control over. Room Occupancy Tax revenue is not at the pre-pandemic level yet. He added that the 2022 Budgeted equals the estimate at this time; however, there are still four months left of the fiscal year to receive additional funds. Internet revenues should remain about the same.

The new Library will begin paying the Town after they move in to the new Town Hall at \$644,000. He is hoping for a \$60,000 grant from Home Depot, as well, for the Parks and Rec department. Storm water receipts remain the same. A new account was added to the PD to track their money. Council will see this next year. This is a restricted fund.

The Powell Bill gives us money for roads each year. Finance always budgets around \$200,000. We anticipate receiving about \$269,000 for fiscal year 2022-23. The Local Options Tax increased due to sales from Amazon. We no longer receive ABC Net Revenues due to a change in the laws.

Mr. Spitzer explained that sales tax is collected from the Towns, then sent to the State. They keep 3% off the top then send money back to Mecklenburg County for our use, based upon the population of each Town. He also noted that we will see recessions and growths a year after it happens.

Salary. An increase is shown due to employer-contribution rates for retirement and additional 5% for health insurance increase. Mr. Spitzer is wanting to add these new positions to the Town in six months: Budget/Procurement Analyst, HR Administrative Assistant and a Parks and Rec Maintenance Technician. He is also planning some reorganization by having a Planning Tech under Planning & Zoning Director Travis Morgan who would now be classified as a Business Development position. This position would begin in six months and be a two-step increase.

Chief Hudgins would like to change his Records Clerk into a Records Accreditation Clerk. This would also be a two-step increase and require her to be accredited every three years, as required.

Solid Waste. Annually, Waste Pro increases their fees by 3%, per their contract with the Town. We have to take into account new developments. Their fee is going from \$672,000 to \$692,160. Council Member Chris McDonough asked what the consensus was of how well Waste Pro is doing in Pineville.

Town Manager Spitzer commended Sissy Eaton on doing a good job with the trash and owing that part of her job. She handles all of the calls from residents and has good communication with Waste Pro. Town Clerk Snyder added that Sissy takes great pride in handling that for the Town and that she has a very good rapport with the Waste Pro employees.

Sponsorships – we have budgeted \$6,000 for James K Polk; \$10,000; \$10,000 for Pineville Neighbors Place; \$7,000 for the Chamber; \$8,000 for Downtown Merchants; \$10,000 for PCAA, and Arts and Science Council asked for \$20,000. In addition, Charlotte Soccer Academy has requested money.

Council would like to review ASC and lower their amount until they begin working in and around Pineville again. Town Manager Spitzer discussed the possibility of donating to the Charlotte Soccer Academy but noted that they have not paid taxes to the Town since 2018. Both the Mayor and Manager Spitzer have written Lacy Armstrong twice to ask how much they want but she has not replied yet.

Council Member Les Gladden shared his opinion on the various boards. He added that PCAA needs to pick up their trash after their events. This is a constant problem with them. Council Member Stinson-Wesley concurred.

Town Manager Spitzer advised Council that money given to the James K Polk is used to supplement a grant that they receive to various training events and videotaping. He further added that Council can decide who they want to donate to, and not donate to, by the end of the budget meetings next month. In addition, we can also use money for grants.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:34 p.m. Council Member Amelia Stinson-Wesley made a motion to adjourn with a second made by Council Member Les Gladden. There were ayes by all and the meeting concluded.

Jack Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Snyder, Town Clerk