

September 20, 2016
7:00 P.M.

The Town of Pink Hill held its monthly board meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall board room. Present for the meeting were Mayor Carol Sykes, Commissioners Mike Hill and James Quinn, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Public Works Director Timmy Kennedy, Police Chief Joey Thigpen, Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell, Assistant Clerk Shelia Ezzell, and Fire Chief Tony Heath.

Visitors present at the meeting were Susan Myers and Andrew Odom.

Mayor Sykes called the meeting to order and requested for all cell phones to be turned off please. Mayor Sykes welcomed everyone to the meeting. She then asked Commissioner Hill to lead everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the agenda and amendments if needed. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the consent agenda with regular board meeting minutes from August 9, 2016. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mayor Sykes asked George to explain to Commissioner Quinn what the consent agenda was and how it works.

The first item on the agenda was Tiny House N.C. Festival with Susan Myers and Andrew Odom. Mr. Odom said that on April 21st, 22nd, and 23rd Tiny House N.C. is sponsoring the 2017 Tiny House N.C. Street Festival which is the state's first exclusive celebration of tiny houses and alternative houses in the state. He said there are very few things that they are asking for from the town but there are a few and are outlined in the letter that was handed out and then the addendum map behind it. The event itself is a pretty special event taking place in Pink Hill. He said the reason for wanting to host it in Pink Hill is because whether or not most people know it he and his wife lived in a tiny house in Pink Hill back in 2012 and 2013. Mr. Odom said because they got their start here and they have become so instrumental in the tiny house movement, they thought it would be fun to have the street festival here. He said especially because there are other cities like Raleigh and Asheville and Winston Salem and those sort of areas that would typically host something this large, we thought it would be really a great turn of events to bring it back to coastal Carolina and even to bring it here to Pink Hill. The event itself is really rather large and we expect about 5,000 or 6,000 people mostly statewide but certainly well outside of our states. We will have in excess of probably 11 or 12 tiny houses on display and a number of speakers. He stated right now they are looking at about 16 or 17 speakers over the course of the two and half days. We are working with the school system even though they are on spring break to have a community day which will also allow Lenoir County residents and Duplin County residents to come and visit the houses for free during a set amount of hours. Mr. Odom stated that was about it and the rest is kind of on the letter that everyone had been given. He did say that there was an article that came out about two weeks ago whether they liked it or not which had a few minor corrections that needed to be made where they changed the entire scope of what the festival was about. Mr. Odom said they have garnered a lot of interest already through social media outlets and even through speaking to people and traditional media. Mayor Sykes asked George does the town need to approve this being in town formally. George said he thinks if you are going to close streets, then you definitely need to. Mr. Odom said for the few requests that

are in the letter in terms of some closures then yes. Commissioner Hill said one question he has is that he sees Central Avenue is going to be closed in front of Dr. Little's office and have you talked to him about being closed that Friday? Susan Myers said she has been calling him but he is actually at Myrtle Beach staying in our Time Share right now and he doesn't get service. She said anything that needs approval will be contingent to Dr. Little but he closes at 12:00 noon and we are not looking for the streets to be closed until he is closed. Commissioner Hill replied okay. Mayor Sykes stated we have plenty of time too, we have got until April. Mayor Sykes said she just wanted to know what the town needed to do. Mr. Odom said there are just a couple of things outlined on the map that we are asking from the town and other than that the festival is pretty self-sufficient. Susan said because the houses are so small they don't take up that much space which is pretty interesting. She said they are going to be renting some of their tiny fest infrastructure and other things so that it will kind of help both of us, it will help both of us market. So we are going to have it along where we built infrastructure for the Rose Fest. Susan said they are looking at Central Avenue being closed from the edge of Broadway but not closing Hwy. 241 and then down where it affects Pink Hill Pharmacy and then it really won't affect the doctor's office since the streets won't close until noon but she is going to talk to Dr. Little. Susan then pointed to the map and said down here on the adjacent property I own this property, and I own this property, and I own this property so that it is going to affect as few people as possible but still be in the center of town and still be able to use some of the utilities that we had put in.

Mayor Sykes said she knew about the streets but she didn't know if the town needed to do anything. She said since she has finally heard about it and what it is, she has heard more about it and people are excited. Susan said that probably people are going to want to rent rooms and will be an opportunity for people to make extra money around here instead of people going all the way to Kinston to stay in a hotel. Mayor Sykes asked you are talking about renting rooms here. Susan replied yes, renting rooms and spending the night here. Mayor Sykes asked if she was talking about renting a room in the little houses. Mr. Odom replied no, for if they have extra space or something like that. He said as Tiny House NC, as the entity, he is not advocating that, I don't have an insurance policy to cover anything that may happen but if people decide they want to rent their front lawn for people to park on, that is their business. Mr. Odom said he is not going to be advertising that nor is he asking anyone to do that. He said there are some residual opportunities for people to if they wanted. Mayor Sykes said she is sure they will hear more about it as time goes by. George said you are talking about fee admission on Friday, from when to when? Mr. Odom said it would be typically from about 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. for free admission. George said that would be eliminating the school children. Mr. Odom replied that they will be on spring break. George asked if all schools would be on spring break. Mr. Odom said as far as he knows. George asked if that was Easter weekend and Mr. Odom replied it was the week after Easter. George asked what the admission fee would be. Mr. Odom said typically festivals for the tiny house kind of conference, they have an admission fee that essentially pays for the speakers to come in and the utilities of the houses. There is no profit to be gained. Tiny House NC is an LLC and it is not a for profit venture. There is no one pulling a salary out of this. It all goes back to the infrastructure of the festival itself. George asked if there was an admission price to each of the tiny houses or is it to the festival itself. Mr. Odom replied it is an admission to the festival itself. Mayor Sykes asked how they are going to control keeping people off the public streets. Mr. Odom said the area that they are doing the festival in will have some

sort of to be determined barrier whether it be rope, tape, or something like that and they will have a main gate. He said you will be able to buy tickets on line first or you can buy tickets at the gate. We will have all of that in place. Mr. Odom said it will be like going to a music festival or something like that, there is a central way in and a central way out and plenty of egress in case there are emergencies or something of that nature. George asked what the admission price would be. Mr. Odom said the admission price hasn't been completely determined yet. It usually is based on how many opportunities to see tiny houses there are. It will range probably where an individual day will be about \$10 to \$12. For the weekend pass which will really be Saturday and Sunday will be about \$25.

Susan said that Andrew is aware that if this area is not roped off or fenced off, there are going to be people that sneak in and Andrew says most of the people in the community will be pretty honorable. Mr. Odom said it is not something that if someone wanders in that he is going to call out the guards and we are going boot them out unless they pay the money or something. If they do, they do and it is an opportunity for them to see something. Mayor Sykes said she thinks we are pretty honorable here in Pink Hill. George asked wouldn't you be able to control it better if like you had ten houses and it was \$1 per house to go in, whichever house you want to go in. He said is there that much to see outside the houses? Mr. Odom said if you figure that you have twelve houses and on a Saturday you will have 4,500 people, then you will have lines in each house that will range about 275 to 300 all the time during the entire day. So if you try to collect money at the door from each person, then you are going to completely minimize the amount of people that actually get to move through the house.

Mayor Sykes asked how long the presentation is generally. Mr. Odom said they will officially open the gates at 3:00 p.m. on Friday and it will close on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Sykes said if she goes to see that tiny house, how many people will be in that tiny house at one time looking at it. Mr. Odom said usually they will let in groups of about 3 or 4. Mayor Sykes asked so it doesn't take but about 5 minutes to show it or 10 minutes. Mr. Odom said it depends on how many questions they want to ask, it depends on how curious they want to be, or if it is a real option for them and they want to look at finishing details and that sort of stuff. He said most people are what he calls "looky loos", they kind of go in and say oh this is cute and then they are right back out.

Susan said the people with the tiny houses are tiny house vendors. Mr. Odom said the builders will present their own houses. It is the equivalent of a traditional home show, it is outdoors and it is small houses. Chief Thigpen asked if the vendors would be inside the area. Mr. Odom said there will be a vendor walk which is where the traditional vendors will be and then there will be main street side where the tiny houses are and then there will be a speaker stage and also be a few food trucks. Chief Thigpen said but everything will be in that area and Mr. Odom replied yes. Susan said the tiny houses will be surrounded around the pharmacy and the speaker stage will be down at the media center. Mr. Odom said the average tiny house is about 14 to 16 foot long. The ones that you see on TV that are 30 to 34 foot are not the average tiny house. He said so you figure every two parking spaces there is a tiny house that is parked just like a car would parked.

Susan said that Andrew may need to use some of the town property for truck parking and we wanted to get the board to approve it but he may not use it. She said he is also going to talk with Johnny D. about his fenced in area but she knows that we are building the tower over on Jones Street and that may or may not be available. If not, then they could use the one at the corner of Old Beulaville and Hunter. Mr. Odom said and by truck parking the largest truck would be a 3500 dually. He said it would be just regular pickup trucks. Mayor Sykes stated she is sure that it would be fine but they can look at that closer to the time. Mr. Odom said all those details as they find out how many houses are coming will be flushed out so that they are represented. Mayor Sykes thanked them for coming and wished them good luck on their endeavor. Commissioner Hill made a motion to close the streets on the designated map for the Tiny House Festival. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mayor Sykes said certainly the town will work with them in any way they can.

Fire Chief Tony Heath said since we are looking at 4,000 to 6,000 people is there any objection to the fire department selling barbeque plates or something to help benefit the fire department. Mr. Odom said there is potential. The way everything works is through application process. So any street trucks, any food trucks, or that sort of thing they fill out an application on line which is a thorough application. There is a very small entry fee that covers our stuff that we have to handle. He said they have a full insurance policy that has liability for everyone that is involved in the festival, so they have to pay those overheads. Mr. Odom said but as long as those things are met, you are on par with everybody else and you are welcome to sell. Mayor Sykes stated it is a traditional thing and would the fire department per say have to pay admission because they are the Pink Hill Fire Department and they need to keep the fire department going too. Mr. Odom said sure but we have to think about for every one that we allow to not to pay the application fee. Mayor Sykes stated they would be the only one. He said let's say they out sale every one of our food trucks, then our budget we have to charge more to make the payments of all the other vendors. Mr. Odom says it has to balance out so that there is no real profit or loss. He said he would have to charge the other street vendors more. Fire Chief Tony Heath said he had to ask because with that many people expected to come it would certainly help boost the fire department budget or at least help it. Mayor Sykes stated we would have to discuss this later then. She said we have plenty of time to discuss this since the festival is not until April.

The next item on the agenda was B.F. Grady School Sewer District. George said he would suggest that we put this in closed session for contract negotiations and attorney/client conversation. He said he doesn't know if there is anything all that earth shattering about it but Timmy has raised a couple of issues he thinks the board needs to discuss in closed session. George said any time he drafts a contract he doesn't particularly want to do that openly, he would like to have that with his clients. Of course, once we get the contract then it becomes public. Commissioner Hill made a motion to move agenda item #6 to agenda item #18. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was appoint WASA board member. Commissioner Hill said it is just a formality of appointing somebody to the WASA Board every three years. He asked Timmy if he would like to do it. Timmy said he did not mind filling in as an alternate. Commissioner Hill explained to Commissioner Quinn what members are for and told him that he is more than welcome to go to any of the meetings. Commissioner Quinn made a motion to

appoint Commissioner Mike Hill for a three year term on WASA board. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was accept annual settlement of property taxes collected for FY 2015-2016. Mayor Sykes said according to this report, there was 95.85 percent collection done for our 2015-2016 taxes which means we have collected that many taxes that were billed. She said that is a good number but she would like to see it higher. Mayor Sykes stated that years ago the town did their own billing and then we started letting the county do it so that is why we have got this report from them. We get this report once a year and they will still be collecting some, late taxes. Commissioner Quinn asked who gets the interest on the taxes. Mayor Sykes stated the county does and they charge the town 1.5 percent for the collection. Kim said we just pay the county the collection fee for collecting and they take it from what they collect. Commissioner Hill made a motion to accept the Annual Settlement of Property Tax report for FY 2015-2016. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Police Updates was next on the agenda. Chief Thigpen said since he was not able to attend last month's board meeting he did his report from July 12th through September 19th where they have had a total of 9 incidents, 12 total offenses, 2 arrests, 5 charges, 3 accidents, issued 14 citations with a total of 15 charges, and 18 warning citations. He said that Byrd's Café was broken into on July 26th and that was one of the reported incidents. Chief Thigpen stated they made the two arrest and one was a girl that worked there who actually gave the other girl the key and she has already plead out yesterday in court. Mayor Sykes asked what does that mean. Chief Thigpen said she actually was wanted in Virginia so she has got a Governor's Warrant from Virginia and she has got to go back there because she skipped her parole there. The other girl lived in the trailer park and she is still pending in court. He said they tried to rush the other girl on through due to the Governor's Warrant and they wouldn't take her until these charges were disposed of here. Chief Thigpen then said on September 8th they had a robbery with the clown and teenager. He said it is still an open case because nobody saw anything. Chief Thigpen stated he had a couple of tips that people told them, mainly the kids, but nothing panned out and nobody would come forward to actually give a written statement. He said they don't have any more leads on it. He stated other than that that was the two main incidents. The other was just like vandalism, damage to property, a cart actually hit someone's car in the parking lot. Chief Thigpen said other than that his car has some lights on which he thinks is the speed sensor and the other car they had the radiator fixed. He said they have had to replace the radiator in his car also because it was plastic and the heat busted it. Chief Thigpen said other than that he has not had anything else going on. Mayor Sykes and the board thanked Chief Thigpen and his department for what they do.

The next item on the agenda was the Fire Department Report. Fire Chief Heath said over the last thirty days they have had 11 EMS assignments, 1 vehicle fire, and 2 automatic fire alarms at the rest home. Mayor Sykes and the board thanked Fire Chief Heath and his department for what they do. Mayor Sykes said they may not tell you enough but to all of you, we appreciate you and all of you sitting here. She said she really does appreciate everyone.

The next item on the agenda was drainage and sewer repair on N. Front Street. Timmy said that is the creek crossing close by Ms. Barbara Jenkins. He said they have two bids. Timmy stated there is a sewer line that crosses parallel with the street there and he thinks it is five foot of storm sewer that goes across the street there and they had a washout. He stated when they were investigating the washout they saw that the sewer line was damaged and it is under the bulkhead which is the cement part. Timmy said he didn't want to tear the cement part out without doing some work to the tile. He said there is a very big hole in the galvanized tile and it has probably been in there a long time. Timmy stated he has gotten two bids and one of them he thought was kind of far-fetched but he knows he is DOT minded and it is going to be a number one top job but we still have got to have enough money to pay it. Commissioner Quinn asked if that was one on Hwy. 11 going through town. Timmy explained that it is on Front Street which is actually one of our streets and not Hwy. 11. He said it is right across Hwy. 11 by Shane's store on Front Street. Commissioner Hill said the cemented bubble they put in there was probably 20 years ago in 1993 or 1994. Timmy said you are going to have to tear the bulkheads out to replace the tile. Commissioner Hill said there is only one 5 foot piece in there now. Timmy stated he told them to bid for two because we already know that that one is not big enough. He said he has seen fish across that road before since he has been here. Timmy said if the board wanted him to get more bids than that, he would. He stated the two bids did not bid apples to apples". Mayor Sykes said that is what they need is for the bids to be "apples to apples" so we can see what is fair here. Timmy said he asked for detail and Taylor did give him detail but R&B did not. He said he could ask for that and bring it to the next meeting. Timmy stated they do have a washout there and there is a sewer line involved. He said they can do a patch on a sewer line but it is not a forever fix. Commissioner Hill said Taylor did 60" and R&B did 48" but he said with an option of a 60" for \$4,400 more which would make his \$45,000 dollars. Timmy said that Mr. Taylor did call him around 6:30 p.m. and he knows the bid is kind of high and he knows that he is working in a small town. He said Mr. Taylor mentioned not putting the bulkheads back but going back with rip rap and that would knock a lot of your price off. Mayor Sykes asked if this is what needs to be done and is everything that is in Taylor's what needs to be done there. Timmy said everything except the sewer lines on there. The sewer lines are on R&B. Mayor Sykes told Timmy what he needs to do is have both of them look at the requirements that he needs to have done and let them both be on the same page. Timmy replied that he understood what she was saying. Mayor Sykes asked the board if that is what they thought would be the best thing to do, compare "apples to apples". Timmy said that both of them are precast, they are going to buy the bulkheads and put them in place. Taylor is planning on putting a footer down under the pipe which would last a whole lot longer and hold up a whole lot better. R&B is just going to put back pretty much what is there just the way it is. Mayor Sykes asked what he thought was the difference in the length of time. Timmy said both of them are precast but R&B is not going to have a footer. Mayor Sykes said she knows it needs to be done as soon as possible but is it an emergency, would have time to get a couple more bids or let them rebid or whatever. She said she would like to know what R&B would charge to do the very same thing that is on this paper. Timmy replied okay. Mayor Sykes asked the board what did they think, and at least we would have a fair comparison.

Commissioner Quinn said he has seen where the DOT went and cut Hwy. 903 over there not too long ago and they had some kind of aluminum bulkhead that the pipe and all fit right into and they sat it right in the hole and then they just backfilled it in. There wasn't no footer or nothing in there and that was the DOT that did that on Hwy. 903. Commissioner Quinn said what that would cost or how you would go about getting that, I have no clue. Timmy said all he knew to do was to call both of these guys and ask about it and even call maybe somebody from DOT and ask. Mayor Sykes said she just hated for us to get into the \$40,000 one and come to find out that we need \$30,000 more dollars. Kim said whichever one we go with she has typed up a budget amendment because it is going to have to come out of savings. Mayor Sykes asked Timmy if he was satisfied with R&B's bid. Timmy said he did good work and they have used him before and we have used Taylor before too. He said R&B did very good work on the sewer line that he worked on. Mayor Sykes said she just wanted to make sure that we are covered no matter who does it and it may be good to look into that DOT. George stated we have three weeks between now and our next meeting. Commissioner Hill made a motion to table this issue until the next meeting. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Water/Sewer Report. Timmy said since about the 20th of last month we have been running off of mostly well water and he did that to prove a point. We can feed a little bit higher residual chlorine from our well than what we are getting from WASA and it has proved to hold up all the way to the end of our system. He said the tanks are holding fairly well as far as the residuals. Timmy said he had a meeting with Harold Herring and Kyle back six or eight months ago because we were having trouble holding residuals and what we were getting in from WASA was not bad water but was lower than what would hold up in our system. The best he understands they are feeding somewhere close to 4 parts chlorine from out of the plant and by the time it gets to most of the folks closer by their plant it is 3.5 to 3.8. Timmy said by the time we get what we buy here which is only 60 or 70 thousand a day which is a small amount, we are still paying for it and we are paying the same that everybody else pays for it which is \$4 a thousand. Mayor Sykes said so you are saying that when we get it from WASA the residuals are not right. Timmy stated they are half of what he was just telling. He said he was asking for a booster station for them to look into it and they told him that they were looking into it. Timmy said he hasn't never heard anything else and that is about it. He said he doesn't get constant residual at our incoming site which is right in front of the Food Lion and that upsets him because we are paying just as much as anybody else is paying. Commissioner Hill told Timmy that they will get up with Harold and Kyle for a meeting. Mayor Sykes said that is just not right for us to have to pay like that. Commissioner Hill said he thinks what they were hoping was that Deep Run would be pumping enough water to keep the residuals up but they don't. Timmy stated he spoke with Jamie about the situation and he was letting him know that he was not made with him because the water that is at the edge of Jamie's system which is coming into us is not bad water, it is not just high enough in residual to last all the way through my system. He said by the time it gets to his Broadway tank which is the center of town, it is low and he has to run his well two or three times a week just to keep it boosted up and he doesn't think that it is right because we are only actually using and selling 60,000 a day. Mayor Sykes asked Timmy if he has to send a report into Raleigh about that. Timmy said they have to take a residual every day in the distribution system. He said with a booster station there in place working all the time, we would get the same residual all the time and that was what he was shooting for. If that is not feasible, then he thinks it needs to be.

Timmy said the other thing he needs to discuss is a sink hole at the end of Commissioner Quinn's street on Circle Court. He said whenever our sewer system was put in, we had a line that crosses that street right there and it kind of goes across at an angle and where it went across it went right through a piece of drain tile. Timmy said he could say that it was not patched so good but it has held up since 1970. He said it took them all day to get it patched back. Commissioner Hill asked Timmy where it was at. Timmy stated it was at the intersection of Circle Court and Park Circle. He said he didn't think that it bothered that drain tile with what they were doing on Ms. Del Holt's old property to get rid of the water. Mayor Sykes asked did it get rid of the water. Timmy said they probably don't have any water running under the house there anymore as far as storm water.

Timmy said one more thing, whenever we get lower residuals, we have to do a lot of flushing and put a lot of water on the ground. He said if you get right down to it, they are probably putting a pretty good portion of what they are buying on the ground and then we are using what he is pumping out. Commissioner Quinn said when you say residuals is that when your numbers are not up or something or your chlorine. Timmy replied yes sir and they have to keep them to a certain number to where it is got good residual and good disinfection. He said since he has been running his well over the last four weeks, he has had to put very little on the ground. Mayor Sykes thanked Timmy for his work.

The next item on the agenda was Budget Amendments. Kim said we were going to have one but then you tabled it, so we will not have one right now.

Remarks by Town Attorney was next on the agenda. George said nothing for open session.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss Commissioner Grady's open seat. Mayor Sykes asked, if everyone had read their minutes and thank goodness everything has turned out alright, did they want to discuss Commissioner Grady's seat. Commissioner Hill said the only thing he wanted to say about it is if nobody shows up let's just keep trucking the way it is. Mayor Sykes said she certainly agreed but she does not have a vote. Commissioner Quinn said he could go along with that. Commissioner Hill said until somebody comes in this room and says that they want to be on the town board. Mayor Sykes asked do we have to fill the seat right now. George replied that they needed to fill the seat. Mayor Sykes asked how long do they have to fill it. George replied again that they needed to fill the seat.

Comments by the Board was next on the agenda. Mayor Sykes asked the board if they have anything to say. Commissioner Hill replied he didn't have anything. Mayor Sykes then asked Commissioner Quinn if he had any comments. He asked is it comments about anything in general? Commissioner Hill replied yes and Mayor Sykes stated it is our time to comment. Commissioner Quinn asked have we got past Commissioner Grady's seat type deal. Mayor Sykes said well we have gotten an open seat and Commissioner Hill said to wait until someone comes. She then asked George what they should do. George replied if somebody comes or the board knows of somebody that you think would be a good commissioner and you talk to them and they consent to having their name put into consideration is what he would suggest. Commissioner Quinn said what if you have one or two people. George said what he would suggest is let's just start with the one person. Mayor Sykes asked could she say one thing and it

is in the minutes. She said she had already mentioned Konya and then there was another mention. Nobody disapproved of me calling her, because in the minutes it said that I would talk to her. Nobody said no don't and so I assumed that it was alright. I did call her back and told her that there might be somebody else interested, but I didn't know and you are welcome to come to the board meeting tonight or you are welcome to wait or do whatever. She decided that she would wait. Mayor Sykes stated she felt like she had done something that she shouldn't have done, but although she didn't do something that she shouldn't have. George said what he would suggest is if you have one person that you think would be somebody who would be good for the town, who lives in the town, who is qualified and registered to vote. He said I would suggest that you talk with that person and just make sure that they are interested and if they are, then put their name in nomination at the next meeting. George said it is going to be on the agenda because it was tabled and you can put that name in nomination. Mayor Sykes said say if "John Doe" says yes I want it but then comes somebody else has mentioned it. George stated he hasn't gotten to that yet. Mayor Sykes said ok that is what I need you to get to. George said let's just talk about "John Doe" and you bring his name up and nominate him and Commissioner Hill could seconded the nomination, then you all would vote. In this case it would have to be unanimous because there is only two of you. George said let's say you have two people that are interested. He said to talk to each one of them and see if they both are interested. Commissioner Quinn asked do we talk to them here. George replied you could talk to them here but I suggest you do it in private before the meeting. He said if you want to interview them, then you each talk to them but then you can nominate each one of them and vote. It might end up being a one/one tie or it might be that one of you nominates one and it might be your brother-in-law's nephew that you don't really much care for and you vote against him. George said but then you nominate somebody and Commissioner Hill votes for him too and then you have the seat filled. Mayor Sykes asked if she would be the one to break a tie and George replied yes she would be the one to break a tie. Commissioner Hill said that one person had called him and he told her to come to the meeting tonight. He said well she is not to the meeting so that kind of means to me that she is not interested. George said unless there is some extenuating circumstances you find out about tomorrow. Commissioner Hill said he doesn't feel real right about talking to nobody one on one. He stated he wants the whole board. George said he is just saying to talk to them to make sure that they are interested in their name being put up. He said he doesn't want you as a commissioner put in a position where you nominate "John Doe" and they say ain't no way under the sun that I would do that. Mayor Sykes asked couldn't they find and discuss it at the meeting and kind of come to a consensus before you have to vote on it. She said that seems like would be the best way and then you don't have the other. George said when he says talk to them he doesn't mean encourage them or all of that, just see what kind of interest is there. He said he just doesn't want you embarrassed by somebody turning you down flat after you have voted on them. Mayor Sykes said she did agree with Commissioner Hill that you can kind of get a feeling if they are here in front of us. Commissioner Quinn said then we will all be on the same page. George said Mayor this has been one of your pet peeves as long as I have been the attorney for the Town of Pink Hill. The people that are here every single one of them is either an employee of the town or somebody that is on the agenda. There have been a couple of people that would come on occasion but for the most part these folks are the ones that are always here and I know that is one of your concerns. Mayor Sykes said it is and she would like for when people come in, and they don't have to be a part of it and she knows it is up to these two, but is she wrong in wanting her employees to have a little opinion. George replied he did not think so. Mayor Sykes said she

wants everybody to try to be on the same page and we may not can be. George stated he should not call names but Debra Grady came to board meetings before she was elected and Bill Turner comes to board meetings sometimes but other than that who are the ones regular in attendance. Mayor Sykes said we had one of them tonight. George replied yes Susan was here. He said you have had only three people over a number of years. Mayor Sykes said she is hoping once these minutes that were approved tonight get put online that hopefully people will read them. She said if they read them and come to the next meeting do we have to make a decision next month. Commissioner Hill asked if he and Mayor Sykes talked about somebody and then he and Commissioner Quinn talked about somebody does that make it a meeting. George replied technically yes. Commissioner Hill said but that is only two of us and we can't make a decision. George stated he understands but technically that violates open meeting status he believes. He said the way he has read it in the past and I haven't read for this number, it has always been if you have a majority of the votes on the board that that needs to be a meeting. George said he will reread the open meetings act in that regard. Mayor Sykes said she liked what they had said about having them here and interview them. Commissioner Hill said like you just said it, the minutes will go on the website and what do you think about putting on the website if anybody is interested in filling the position of Debra Grady to come to our next board meeting. Commissioner Quinn said that he would encourage anybody interested to come to the next board meeting. Mayor Sykes asked how Kinston handled theirs because they had a whole bunch of people and she was thinking about that. George said they invited anybody that wanted to. Mayor Sykes said did not bring in a resume or something. George said he thinks that they send a letter or something stating why they would be a good candidate. Mayor Sykes stated she thinks that would be fair to everybody and to us and that is her opinion. Commissioner Hill said it wouldn't be for the next meeting because these minutes don't go online until after the next meeting. George said that is right until they are approved. Commissioner Quinn said that he would recommend that anybody that wanted to be considered should submit a statement as to why they should be considered. Commissioner Hill stated that he thought that was a good idea and we ought to encourage people to submit statements as to why they would be a good commissioner. He said they would have to follow the constitution of the United States and the laws of Pink Hill and the state and if you are not going to do that, then you do not need to sit on the board. George said yes because you would have violated your oath and that should disqualify you. Mayor Sykes stated she thinks that is the right thing to do. She said she just wants somebody on this board and she knows that they have the mindset to get somebody on here that wants to do for the Town of Pink Hill and doesn't want to do for Carol Sykes, James, Mike, or any of us but they want to do because it is the Town of Pink Hill and because they want to be a part of the town and they want to do what is right for the town and not just be on the good buddy system and just because I don't want anybody to be in anybody's hip pocket.

The next item on the agenda was Public Comment Period if needed. There were no public comments at this time.

The next item on the agenda was Closed Session if needed. Commissioner Hill made a motion to go into closed session to discuss B.F. Grady Sewer Project and the contract. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hill made a motion to come out of closed session. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

With there being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned.