

Pink Hill Town Board Meeting Minutes January 16th, 2024

The Town of Pink Hill Board of Commissioner's meeting was held on January 16th, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Police Bay. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Mike Horne, Commissioner Pete Fantini, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Commissioner Michael Whitfield, Town Clerk Lauren Smith, Police Chief Michael Hoffman and Officer John Weaver.

Mayor Horne called the meeting to order & asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Lauren Smith, the new town clerk to be sworn in, was introduced and conducted roll call.

Visitors present were: Tony Esposito, Carolyn Whitfield, Josh and Cierra Dunham, Kristen Fantini, Suzie Baker, Teresa Horne, Joe Baker and Rodney Scott.

Mayor Horne stated that the conflict of interest statement on the agenda is implied & need not be read aloud at each meeting - no Commissioner had any conflict of interest.

Public Comments:

Mr. Esposito took the podium to propose the creation of a neighborhood watch committee made up of no more than five volunteers to meet once a month, and, once established, hold a public meeting to get the Community involved. There were questions raised and a discussion about an existing neighborhood watch program already in place, but all agreed that it has been inactive for some time and Tony is requesting Community volunteers to help revive the program.

The podium was then approached by Suzie Baker who, in light of the accidental shooting death of a child in Pink Hill over the weekend, proposed creating a gun safety program for parents who want to have access to firearms while still keeping their children safe. The request was met with approval and ideas and suggestions were discussed.

Approval of the Agenda:

- Commissioner Fantini made a motion to approve the January agenda
- Seconded by Commissioner Whitfield
- Vote 3-0
- Motion Carries

Approval of the Minutes:

- Commissioner Fantini made a motion to approve the December 2023 Minutes
- Seconded by Commissioner Whitfield
- No discussion
- Vote was unanimous
- Motion carries

Approval of the Financial Reports:

Mayor Horne made the board aware that December's financial reports were incomplete per Connie Huffman Accounting and therefore not included in the binders, noting that the issue should be resolved for January reporting. There was no further discussion.

Department Reports:

- Mayor Horne gave Water Department updates including ONWASA contracted services and the return of Cody Murphy to the department.
- Commissioner Murphy read PHVFD's call report since last meeting, which consisted of 36 total calls (there was no report provided for binders):

EMS Assignments – 24	Electrical Fires - 0
Vehicle Accidents – 4	Fire Alarms - 1
Vehicle Fires -1	Brush Fires - 5
Structure Fires -1	Service Assignments -0

- The monthly Police report for December was included in binders and read by Mayor Horne on behalf of Police Chief Michael Hoffman.

Old Business:

- Mayor Horne spoke about the newly installed stop signs on Old Craft Rd being the wrong size. He asked Commissioner Murphy if she knew whether new signs have been ordered and she did not, but offered to find out before we order new ones. Commissioner Fantini has contacted Adam Short with the DOT and obtained the correct dimensions and installation requirements.
- Mayor Horne & Commissioner Fantini gave an update following their meeting with the DOT on January 16th about the upcoming repaving of Broadway St.

New Business:

Mayor Horne conducted the swearing in of new Town Clerk, Lauren Smith, and announced new Assistant Town Clerks Kay Holmes and Jessica Goodman.

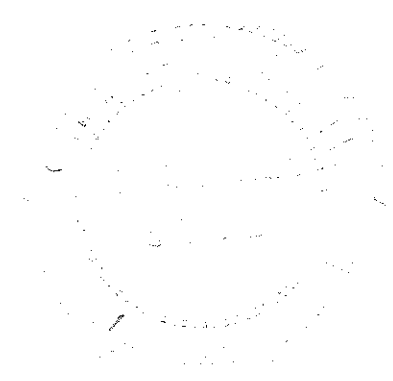
Mayor Horne expressed the need for an additional part time utility employee to assist Cody ahead of the upcoming mowing season. Board members were supportive as the department is currently under budget. Commissioner Fantini suggested advertising the position on the town's website.

Mayor Horne requested Board approval to be added to the CDBG program's signature card as checks are time sensitive and require 2 signatures from readily accessible town staff.

- Commissioner Fantini made a motion
- Seconded by Commissioner Whitfield
- Commissioner Whitfield requested clarification on the locations of the 2 houses involved in this particular CDBG project.
- Vote 3-0
- Motion carries

Dr. Jennifer Murphy gave an update on the upcoming Easter "Egg"stravaganza to be held on March 23 from 11am-3pm. The Pink Hill Festival Committee is requesting road closures on Hwy 241 between (but not including) Broadway to Macon, Jones between Walnut and E. College and the side streets of W. Walnut from Hwy 241 to Jones and E. College from Hwy 241 to Jones with considerations made to not block the Fire Department. Requests have been made to businesses and churches to utilize parking and shuttle services will be provided via golf carts. All expenses are to be paid by the Festival Committee and their sponsors with the exception of proceeds from vendor spaces. An adult "Easter Bunny After Dark" fundraising event is being added this year with proceeds funding the Christmas Festival and future Easter Festivals. A "Community Egg Stuffing" will be held on February 8th at Tower110 at 6pm. Dr. Murphy requested additional volunteers and sponsors and spoke about the importance of these types of Festivals to our Community.

- Commissioner Whitfield made a motion to approve contacting the DOT for road closures as necessary
- Seconded by Commissioner Fantini
- Vote 3-0
- Motion carries



Mayor Horne spoke about the need to utilize the unnamed park that was cleaned up and gifted to the Town in the late 90's for community events like the Easter Festival. He suggested street lighting and power poles for events, and proposed Community input to come up with a name and add a (potentially donated) sign.

He then discussed the fact that the Town is obligated to provide utility line locating for NC811, but there is no one to do this following Timmy's departure. Cody has compiled a list of several contractors and has reached out to see who Deep Run is utilizing for this service.

Suzie Baker asked about the status of the water billing. Mayor Horne explained the December "averaging" of bills and that it may take several more months for everything to get back to "normal". She also asked about where the Town is planning to post the live streaming of town meetings. The Mayor and Commissioner Fantini explained which Website and Facebook accounts that the town will be updating.

Carolyn Whitfield asked about street lighting and who is responsible for paying for what. Mayor Horne responded that he would contact Duke Energy to find out more information and if anything has changed over the years.

Comments by BOC:

Commissioner Whitfield commented that the PHVFD was very well represented at the Funeral for DJ this past weekend. There were no other questions or comments.

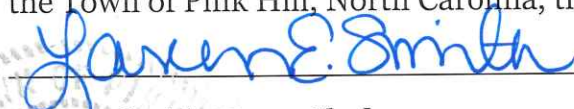
Motion to Adjourn:

- Mayor Horne made a motion to Adjourn.
- Seconded by Commissioner Whitfield
- Vote was unanimous
- Motion carries

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

I, Lauren Smith, Town Clerk of the Town of Pink Hill, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes from the Town of Pink Hill Board of Commissioners January 16, 2024 regular board meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official Seal of the Town of Pink Hill, North Carolina, this the 13th day of February, 2024.



Lauren Smith, Town Clerk

Attest/Seal