Town of Pink Hill Board Meeting

7:00 PM

June 14, 2020

The Town of Pink Hill Board meeting was held on July 14, 2020 in the town hall board room. Present for this meeting were Mayor Carol Sykes, Commissioner Mike Hill, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Attorney George Jenkins, Public Works Director Timmy Kennedy, Public Works Assistant Phillip Swinson, Police Chief Michael Hoffman, and Town Clerk Crystal Heath.

Visitor present was Clint Britt.

Mayor Sykes said I would like to call this meeting to order and I welcome everyone to the July 14th, 2020 meeting. I would like to ask everyone to please turn your cell phones off. Mayor Sykes asked Commissioner Mike Hill to lead everyone in saying the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Everyone stood and said the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Sykes said I need a motion to approve the agenda and amendments if needed and consent agenda with the regular board meeting minutes from June 2020. Commissioner Hill said I make a motion to approve the agenda, consent agenda, and the minutes of the last meeting and any new item that needs to be added. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes asked if there was any discussion on that motion. No motions made. Mayor Sykes said okay, all in favor say "aye". Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sykes said there has been concerns or questions about an insurance claim over the fire department, and I went to see Clint who said he will come in and answer any questions. I've been called about it and I couldn't answer any questions so I thought I could get the man with the plan. Mr. Clint Britt said before I start any questions I have some different stuff here and I don't know if everybody is aware of what is going on. Mayor Sykes said just go ahead and tell everybody. Mr. Britt said I will give a quick rundown, but if there is something that doesn't sound right, I know I've been talking to Timmy, Timmy let me know. Timmy came to me May 6th, and he said they had a lost at the fire department. We put May 5th as the lost date when he came the next day we use the date prior. I turn the claim in to DFIS and so you can follow my path here, DFIS is the insurance carrier, but they use a company called Glat Felder Claims Management to handle the claim. They started that and I think the guy met with Timmy and some other members from the fire department on May 11th. The claim was filed May 6th they met with him May 11th. Mr. Britt said that about a month later on June 9th he got a call and Timmy got a call basically that they were not going to cover the damage. Mayor Sykes said is this for the commode? Mr. Clint said yes that was what Timmy said it was for the commode had run over and there was some damage and that is what they filed. Mr. Britt said you will see whenever we pass other document around. The inspector went out there, I don't know if it was Timmy or whoever was with him that day, showed him a couple of other places that had leaked. There is three separate things you will see and I got the report here. The main thing is the commode in the women's bathroom which is what we started with. After they did their investigation they contacted me on June 9th and they said they were also going to contact Timmy and tell them they

were denying the claim because it had been something that had been happening over a period of time. Mr. Britt said being in the insurance business for several years that is the worst claim, the ones that cause me headaches and everybody else are leaks that happen over time. There is nothing you can do about it a lot of times if it is under the floor or behind the wall you may not know about it, but there if there is mold or rotten wood they will deny it. So that is what they are saying on all three of those items, the commode and the other two. Mr. Britt said Chief Tony Heath called him he believes the same day and asked him what was going on, what he thought, and talked to him and gave him the adjuster's number. He said he knows Chief Heath is in the building business and knows to call the adjuster and talk to him, which Chief Heath got the same decision. Mr. Britt said the decision came from Greg Massimo he is the inside guy, he's not the one who came and looked at and is not the say all, but does his research and goes to his boss before denying. Timmy came back to his office around June 30th and talked to Mr. Britt. Mr. Britt said he asked me if we could do anything about it. I told him that these claims are denied all the time I have seen them, but after he left, I haven't told anybody about this, I emailed the president of DFIS. Mr. Clint said he told him that he understood about denying the claims and talked, but that Timmy brought up a good point. He understood the two separate leaks from the ice machine would not be covered that it had been happening for a while, but his thing was the commode he really thought they would cover it. I emailed the president and asked him to reconsider the commode or review it again. Mr. Clint said the president of DFIS did not get back to him right away, but you'll see in this email that he will not make any promise. In the email it says "as indicated earlier I have requested the claim for the leakage associated with the toilet supply line coupling be reconsidered" and goes on to say "hopefully they have made repairs by now and have receipts if so please provide as that will help me move this along." Mr. Britt said he is trying to get this reconsidered, he is the president, but still he has his people to answer to too. They are going to relook at the commode issue and see if they can reconsider, the other two there is no question they are not going to cover those. The president from DFIS is going to go back and talk to the adjusters. Mr. Clint said they give the benefit of the doubt most of the time to the Fire Department because I would dare say DFIS they insure about 95 percent of the departments in North Carolina, they are there to help the fire department and I as well. Mr. Clint said with that being said if it's something that is not supposed to be covered as an insurance agent I do not want to cover it for Pink Hill or Albertson, if it's something that needs to be covered then yes, but if not that is not the way it works. He said he was hoping to hear back from him before tonight, but the adjusters are still looking at it but did not have any word for him. Mr. Britt said he told him to put a rush on it and he is looking at it. Mayor Sykes said well at least he is looking at it.

Commissioner Murphy asked if those three leaks are going to cause practically every wall in the building to have mildew like behind the wallpaper. Mr. Britt said he has not been to the fire department but has seen some pictures. In the report the biggest place is the bathroom I'm assuming that hits several walls then there is a hallway, but there is something connected to the hallway, Timmy said a water heater on the backside. Mr. Britt said the water heater is the one that evidently has been leaking a while. Commissioner Murphy said we didn't know we had that leak either? Mr. Randy Byrd, whose in the fire department, said mainly what it is the way the building is built the sheet rock is sitting right on top of cement and the way you build it, half inch

off the cement and anything that runs on the floor it isn't going to soak up to the wall. Mr. Byrd also said that the adjuster cannot tell him that the women's bathroom leak was fourteen days old be the reason to deny it. Mr. Clint said that is why he asked him to reconsider that part because he also read about the fourteen days. Mr. Byrd said he cannot look at it and say fourteen days old, he said he is 90 percent sure it is not fourteen days old because as soon as Timmy found it he cut the water off, he called and got the plumber to fix it. Mr. Byrd again said he cannot tell me it is over fourteen days old and then the adjuster told us it was neglect on our part well because of COVID we don't go to the fire department. Mr. Byrd also said he does not walk into the women's bathroom to start with. Mr. Britt said that is why I asked him to reconsider regarding the fourteen days that is throwing red flags what's happens is a sunburst leak there is no doubt well there was no sunburst leak that we know of. The water heater and the other thing. They do not know when it happened so they are saying fourteen days is hard to determine. They use these moisture meters, I was not there, but I can guarantee you what he did is he took the moisture meters and checked the moisture that ran up the wall. Mr. Britt said that does not give you the amount of days it tells you how much moisture is in the wall, and how long it takes to happen I do not know. That is maybe why they are reconsidering that portion of the claim. Mayor Sykes said well thank you for looking into it until we get something. Mr. Britt said well I will notify you or Timmy. Mayor Sykes thanked him for his time.

Mayor Sykes asked for Phillip Swinson to provide the fire department report. Phillip stated that the call report for the Pink Hill Fire Department for June 14th, 2020 through July 9th, 2020. There is 1 EMS assignment, 6 vehicle accidents, 1 structure fire, 1 fire log, 2 brush fires, and 3 service assignments; a total of 14 calls. Mayor Sykes said thank you and if anybody had any questions. Timmy Kennedy said he had something to add. He said they have been working on trying to get some bids on what it takes to fix the building. They have some bids here to show everybody. Timmy said they are asking for receipts just for one little section, but they are trying to get the whole building fixed. Timmy said he would be glad for all of them to do a walkthrough of the building. There is mold behind all of the wallpaper and it has to come out. Mayor Sykes said the library had mold behind their walls too, which it has nothing to do with this but still they had mold. Timmy said that the price is almost $12,000. Commissioner Quinn said that the library is almost 100 years old. Mayor Sykes said well the paper in there is not a hundred years old, but I am not going to argue about that, I just wanted to make that comment. Timmy said he knows that the fire department does not have it in their budget to cover all of that, and was hoping the insurance would have kicked in. Timmy said that it sounds like they may or may not, but it has to be fixed either way. Mayor Sykes said but you don't have to do it until we hear from them or do you have to? Mayor Sykes said can you paint it instead of putting wallpaper up? Timmy said we are tearing out what needs to be tore out and take all the wallpaper down. Timmy said after talking to some guys that do moisture and mold issues which is what we have over there, wallpaper is the worst thing for it. Timmy said we are taking all the wallpaper down. Mayor Sykes said so are you going to put wallpaper back? Timmy said no it is going to be paint on sheet rock. Mayor Sykes said who were the contractors I know Wooten Company handled the bids. Timmy said Jackson Builders is the one that built the building is that what you are asking? Mayor Sykes said yeah I could not remember I know the Wooten Company is the ones that were looking after it. Timmy said he got a bid from a mold and tear out guy and he is going to come in

and dry everything and treat it. He said also I got a sheet rock man and do what sheet rock needs to be replaced and fixed and then we have the painter. Timmy said so that would be three bids. Timmy said it is all local guys, he asked what are the chances of the town picking up half of the building ? Mayor Sykes said I think we need to. Timmy said that the whole building is the towns, but either way we are going to have to do a budget amendment to cover any of it because we did not budget to do any repairs to the building. Mayor Sykes said well we will look and see, yes it is certainly it is our problem too. Timmy said hopefully our insurance will come back with some money. Mayor Sykes asked does that include the commode deal, is that included in this figure? Timmy said yes. Mayor Sykes said well I figured if we get some money from that, which I kind of feel like we will. Timmy said I do not know how much money we will get, because they are wanting receipts and we don't have any receipts yet. He said because we are starting we are going to go ahead and do the whole place. Mr. Byrd said he can go back to shop, Jake, and the painter and tell them that to just give me a price on the bathroom. Mayor Sykes said I have a feeling that they will come back. Timmy said that he would personally would like to go ahead and get fixed, especially with a building with mold issues. It is not fitting for someone fitting to go over there. Mr. Byrd said we cannot have anybody out there that does not belong to the fire department because the town gets sued for it. Chief Hoffman said also what if a fireman gets sick? Mayor Sykes said well I am not going to let it go there we are going to fix it. Timmy said I do not know how to handle a budget amendment. Mayor Sykes said well let me talk to Connie Huffman tomorrow and do you have a figure? Timmy said it is $11,901.30. Commissioner Hill said that the contractors can break it down each job. Mr. Byrd said I can get you a figure just for the bathroom. Mayor Sykes said do that because they are going to need it anyway. Mayor Sykes said we will get it amended and get $12,000. Commissioner Murphy said once you get in there you know how the floor sits pretty close to the sheet rock are we going to be able to take care of that problem. Mr. Byrd said the sheet rock man can go in there and cut it around the bottom floor about a half inch so if anything floods it won't soak in the walls. Commissioner Murphy said that is what I wanted to see if we could at least take care of that problem too while we were addressing this. Timmy said Randy has met with all three of these contractor. Timmy said do we need to do a budget amendment? Mayor Sykes said no I will take care of it tomorrow if I can. Timmy said ok I just do not want to spend money that we do not have in the budget, and get her in trouble. Mayor Sykes said I will talk to you tomorrow I will see if Connie and find out. Timmy said I just want to make sure the money is there before we said they can start working. Mayor Sykes said the building is going to be fixed one way or the other. Timmy said when can I put the men to work? Mayor Sykes said let's find out from Connie and I will tell Timmy. She said she would feel better if she knew where it was coming from and that is the way it needs to be done. Commissioner Quinn said he makes a motion to let the mayor handle the budget amendment and talk with Connie on the fire department. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said is there any discussion all in favor say 'aye" motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sykes asked Chief Hoffman for an update on our new guys what has happened. Chief Hoffman said so this is our report call volume and I'll get to that in just a little bit. We had more people getting out and we had no positive cases that I know of, within the past two weeks hopefully it will stay that way. Chief Hoffman said that the national crash database has come

back and the department is 100 percent compliant. He said they are one of the 13 or 14 in the state that are compliant. All of the crash reports and everything that needs to be sent in are in time. Chief Hoffman said that the two gentleman that we had looked at have been Okayed, and their paperwork has been sent off as we speak. Mayor Sykes asked why it was taking so long that was back in May, but we didn't start until July. Chief Hoffman said they have been approved and are working very diligently to get them started. Mayor Sykes said is there anything else you need to say? Chief Hoffman said no there was not.

Mayor Sykes asked for Timmy Kennedy to provide the public works report. Timmy said they had a major repair on their little tractor. The hydraulics they were having trouble would not pick up the bush hog. Timmy said they made some calls and finally got a place to work on it in Wilson. He said the bill was $1200 and is hoping to pick it up the next day. Timmy said that after the budget amendments tonight he is hoping to have the two culverts done. Town Clerk Crystal Heath said to Timmy that the reimbursement forms were signed and sent out today to David Tuten. Timmy said that the new curtains that he talked about for the lagoon at the last couple meetings have been installed. Mayor Sykes asked what they do with the old ones. Timmy said they just drove them to edge and were put in the dumpster. Timmy said that the surveying done in the plant has been finished they guys have finished finding all the points. He said that he is now just waiting on the report, as soon that one is provided he will bring it to the earliest meeting. Timmy also said that the mower he was planning on lasting this whole summer and was waiting to buy a new one before next years' budget the deck has weld out of it. Timmy said it has been welded a couple of times. Mayor Sykes said is it the next years' budget from now? Timmy said yes he was planning on making the mower last this summer, and before the next cutting season in 2021 going to buy a new one. Timmy said he would like to go ahead and buy one. Mayor Sykes said well it is in the budget already.

Mayor Sykes asked for Commissioner Hill to comment. Commissioner Hill said he has had a lot of complaints about the speed bump on Lynwood Avenue. Mayor Sykes said she did not want the speed bump to start with. Commissioner Hill said he did not want it either and is suggesting putting a four way stop either at Central Avenue or Front Street and take the speed bump up. Mayor Sykes said she does not agree with no four way stop sign. Commissioner Hill said if you want traffic to slow down you have to do something. Mayor Sykes said that the traffic goes by there is crazy now. Commissioner Hill said if you put the four way stop they are going to have to stop. Chief Michael Hoffman also said if you put the four stop, and as far as the speed bump we are already missing one. Commissioner Hill said yeah it has been washing the road down. Commissioner Murphy said that she was not trying to play devil's advocate, but if the four way stop sign does not do it anymore good then the one sitting in front of the gym I don't think it is necessary nobody stops at that stop sign because I looked around several times. Mayor Sykes said that is why people do not know in that stop who goes first a lot of people do not know. Commissioner Murphy said well most folks going straight do not even bother pretending to stop. Chief Hoffman asked if they could put a stop on one side and maybe they are just not seeing the sign. Commissioner Hill said everywhere I always see a big sign that says "always stop ahead." Mayor Sykes said to Attorney George Jenkins do we have to have a public hearing for this George? She said she knows they did one for the speed bump because Carolyn Whitfield and a

bunch of others were here. Commissioner Murphy said so we have to have a public hearing to put it there, but we do not have to one to take it down? Mayor Sykes said that is why I am asking. Attorney George Jenkins said he does not remember it has been long enough ago he does not remember. Commissioner Hill said the only children out there are Michael's grandchildren. Commissioner Hill said he asked Michael if they took the speed bump up would it be alright with him, Michael said take it up. Mayor Sykes said well Carolyn Whitfields grandson is right there and Commissioner Murphy also said Carolyn Whitfields grandson is right there where that speed bump is. Mayor Sykes said that is yall's decision I am not saying a word. Commissioner Hill said he rather see a four way stop. Chief Hoffman said we have two marked patrol cars now we can sit one of them out on the side lot. Mayor Sykes said well I have not seen one there before because I have said before a lot of cars speed there. Chief Hoffman said he feels that he is not as worried sitting up there that something is going to happen to the patrol car. Commissioner Hill said that he would just like for everyone to think about it, because it is not on the agenda but he wanted to bring it up and at the next meeting they will discuss. Chief Hoffman said that many neighborhoods has a stop at every intersection, he means four way stops. Mayor Sykes it is their decision and she is not going to change it. Mayor Sykes said also she would like to have a patrol car out there, not just on weekends, every night and pull them a time or two. Chief Hoffman said that is fine, but the moment he pulls away and somebody sees up there it will be a complaint the moment they rode off doing something else. Chief Hoffman said they do not have all hours of the day it would be wonderful. Mayor Sykes said she know he does not have all the hours of the day, but if someone could go up there one or two days can see the traffic going by. She says that the speed like crazy going up there when they turn off on that street. Chief Hoffman said is there a speed limit sign on that road too? Commissioner Hill said I think the speed limit there is 35. Mayor Sykes said it is 35. Chief Hoffman said I know the speed limit is 35, but is there a sign if not we need to get one of those up too. Commissioner Hill asked Timmy if he knew, Timmy said I would have to ride out there I do not know. Town Clerk Crystal Heath said I do not think there is. Commissioner Hill said I will ride by there and let you know. Chief Hoffman said inside every municipality the speed limit is at least 35 unless otherwise posted. Attorney Jenkins said the standard is 35 unless otherwise posted and downtown is 20 unless otherwise posted. Commissioner Quinn said that 35 would be pretty fast on Lynwood Avenue. Mayor Sykes said well they go that fast and it is too fast. Commissioner Murphy said it is if you hit that speed bump. Mayor Sykes said even with the stop signs there we could still use the 20 mile an hour speed limit sign. Chief Hoffman said as far as inside the city limits we can control what we want. Attorney Jenkins said except on state maintained roads. Timmy said that one is not state maintained. Mayor Sykes said she suggest a 20 mile an hour speed limit sign before they put the four way. Commissioner Quinn said that 20 mile an hour especially if the speed bump is taken down. Commissioner Hill said he would probably take the speed bump down and do something else and get rid of the speed bump. Commissioner Hill said I think it should be 20 and actually on Central Avenue I think it is supposed to be 20. Mayor Sykes said I do not believe one is posted there. Chief Hoffman said that is what it is supposed to be. Mayor Sykes said I do not believe one is there, in fact there is not one on Central, Front St, or Lynwood. Commissioner Hill said Front Street has one that says "children at play 20 miles an hour." Mayor Sykes said there has been one of those on my street at one time. She said do you have to put "children at play"

because if they do not see children they are going to go on by. Commissioner Hill said no just put 20 miles an hour. Commissioner Hill said everybody think about it and we will make a decision at the next meeting. Commissioner Murphy said do we have to get some kind of special permission to have the four way stop sign? Mayor Sykes said not if it is on town property. Timmy said do you need me to change anything, take the speed bump sign or put up the four way? Commissioner Hill said do not change anything let everyone think about it and wait until the next meeting. Attorney Jenkins so there is no motion? Commissioner Hill and Mayor Sykes both said there was no motion just discussing. Commissioner Hill asked Town Clerk Crystal Heath to put it down on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mayor Sykes said George do you have any remarks wait until the closed session. Mr. Jenkins said he did not have any remarks. Mayor Sykes said well I need a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Hill said I make a motion to go into closed session. Mayor Sykes said any discussion, all in favor say "aye, motion carried unanimously.

The board reopened the meeting. Mayor Sykes says if no one has nothing else to be discussed I adjourn this meeting.

Typed by Town Clerk Assistant: Diana Rodriguez

Crystal Heath Town Clerk 8/10/20