

July 13, 2021

### Town Board Meeting

The Town of Pink Hill Board meeting was held on July 13, 2021 in the town hall board room. Present for this meeting were Mayor Carol Sykes, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Police Chief Michael Hoffman, Town Clerk Crystal Heath, Public Works Supervisor Timmy Kennedy and Public Works Assistant Phillip Swinson.

Not present for the meeting were Commissioner Mike Hill and Chief Tony Heath.

Visitor present for the meeting was Pete Fantini.

Mayor Sykes said I would like to call this meeting to order and I welcome everyone to the July 13, 2021 meeting. I would like to ask everyone to please turn your cell phones off. Mayor Sykes asked Commissioner Quinn to lead them in the pledge of allegiance. Everyone stood and said the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Sykes said I need the approval of the agenda, amendments, and the minutes. Commissioner Quinn said I make a motion to approve the agenda, any amendments, the consent agenda, and the minutes from the last meeting. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said any discussion, all in favor say "aye", motion carried unanimously.

The leash law/ordinance issue was up for discussion. Mayor Sykes said I do not see anybody here for discussion. Commissioner Murphy said did the lady get back to us on the questions we left her if it was going to be better or worse for us? What did she tell you when she got back with you? Mayor Sykes said to tell you the truth she never got back to me. Town Clerk, Crystal Heath, said she was supposed to get back with you if you guys adopted your leash law would you get more help or less help from the county? Mayor Sykes said I think we would get less help. Ms. Heath said she did send me an email, she sent me the ordinance for the leash law for the county, but she did not answer the other questions. Chief Hoffman said I think if we actually look at a leash law for where there is fines or repercussions. Mayor Sykes said my opinion is it's not right for us to put it on our people. George (town attorney) you were going to look up some dog stuff did you do it? Mr. Jenkins said I looked at so called leash laws in other places, but the ones I found were in bigger places like Raleigh or Wilmington. The laws are just like Kinston's. I did not see anything that indicated a whole lot of enforcement. Commissioner Murphy said should we have a repeat from a similar circumstance in our neighborhood who is the first person I need to contact? Chief Hoffman said call me I'll try to handle it. Mr. Fantini said the question I have is we are not doing a leash law because we are not a bigger city like Raleigh? Mayor Sykes said we don't have the money to hire one that is why we are with the county ordinance. Mr. Fantini said to hire animal control, we need to have them in order to have a leash law if we were proactive in getting the word out and giving fines? Mayor Sykes said are you saying we need a leash law? Mr. Fantini said I would not oppose one. Mayor Sykes said I think we have somebody Hoffman will be right there and so far we have not had many dog problems. Chief Hoffman I did follow up with Kinston since the last meeting and the reason they have an animal control unit was they have an attack once a month. They have a person severely

attacked by an animal. Commissioner Murphy said the situation we had was not a barking dog. If the same thing happens again in my neighborhood tell me what you can legally do about that dog? Chief Hoffman said I find out whose animal it is and explain it to them the dog has to be maintained. If the animal dog runs or charges at anybody else we will have animal control pick the dog up. Commissioner Murphy said good luck with that it will take three weeks. Chief Hoffman said we should have some kind of repercussion based program. I don't want to take anybody's dog. Mayor Sykes said I would have appreciated it if you had called me and I would have done something immediately. Commissioner Murphy said well I am telling you Carol it would have not done anything. My question what difference would it have made, at least a dozen of us called. Mayor Sykes it might have not made a difference, but I wish I would have known. Ms. Heath said the only thing I would have done different in that situation would have been contacting Hoffman simply because his presence would have made a difference. Mayor Sykes said he would get there quicker. Commissioner Murphy said but you are still not answering my question—Ms. Heath said she still wants to put an ordinance or policy in place. Mr. Jenkins said there is an ordinance in place with the county and he can enforce it just like the deputy or sheriff. Ms. Heath you're wanting the town to have its own ordinance in place? Commissioner Murphy said we need something to give him a little bit more bite—Mayor Sykes said well he has it. Commissioner Murphy said no he does not have it. He can't fine/charge anybody anything, but if we had an ordinance he could. Mr. Jenkins said no he can't fine/charge anybody anything because a law enforcement officer can't fine only a judicial official. Commissioner Murphy said there is nothing we can pass? Mr. Jenkins said yeah you can, but if they don't pay he would have to go court and prove it in front of a judge.

The fire report was the next item on the agenda. Chief Tony Heath was not present for the meeting. There were 9 calls from the last meeting to today. 6 EMS calls, 2 vehicle accidents, and 1 structure fire. It was only a two week period.

The police report was the next item on the agenda. Chief Hoffman said we were also a little less abundant due to the fact we only report for two weeks. Everything stayed the same as far as escorts and bank. We did have a BNE through a motor vehicle that is the only larceny we had this month besides simple shoplifting. We are progressing forward with the new hire. We also had an email that was sent from one of our officer's resignation.

The water/sewer report was the next item on the agenda. Mr. Timmy Kennedy said I have a lightweight update on North Central culvert it does have a sinkhole and a problem. I have been calling the contractor, Tarheel Concrete, at least three times a week to get a response. The secretary was telling me she would call me back when she got a response for me. She finally called me today and they had a representative the folks that built the actual culvert to see how it was installed. His analysis that the incoming sight was not put deep enough as far as on the grade. It was supposed to have been put a foot lower than it was and it's causing the water to come right up under it. You can plainly see that is what's happening. Tarheel's thing was that they put it in as it was designed by the Wooten Company which we hired. They put it on the same grade that was said on the spec sheet. I called Wooten Company and they are looking into it. Mayor Sykes said when did you call them? Mr. Kennedy said that was this morning, I got

word this morning so in turn I called the Wooten Company as soon as I got off with Tarheel. He said he would be investigating and would let me know. Everything else seems to be going well.

Town Attorney George Jenkins was asked to comment. Mr. Jenkins said he already said what he needed to say. Mayor Sykes said does anyone else have any comments? No one had comments. The meeting was adjourned.

*Typed by: Diana Rodríguez, Assistant Town Clerk*

*Approved by: Crystal Heath Town Clerk*