

Town of Pink Hill  
7:00 PM

The Town of Pink Hill Board meeting was held on June 14, 2022 in the town hall board room. Present for this meeting were Mayor Mike Hill, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Pete Fantini, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Town Clerk Crystal Heath, Police Chief Michael Hoffman, Fire Department Chief Tony Heath, Public Works Supervisor Timmy Kennedy, and Public Works Assistant Phillip Swinson.

Visitors present were; Cierra and Josh Dunham, Rhiley and Brandon Marshburn, Maranda Heath, Daniel and Marie White, Robin King, Nina Patrick, Susan Meyers, Wendy Jones, Joe Baker, JW Stallings, Bill Turner, Yvonne Deatherage, Debbie Heath, Kristen Fantini, Jolene Hoffman, Daniel Hines. ( I am sure several are unaccounted for)

Mayor Mike Hill said I would like to call this meeting to order and I welcome everyone to the June 14, 2022 meeting. I would like to ask everyone to please turn your cell phones off. Town clerk, Mrs. Heath, called out each name for roll call, present were Mayor Hill, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Pete Fantini, and attorney George Jenkins. Mayor Hill asked everyone to join in the pledge of allegiance. Everyone stood and said the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Hill asked for a motion to approve minutes from the previous meeting in May. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say “aye”, motion carried unanimously. Mayor Hill asked for a motion to approve the agenda, consent agenda, and any amendments. Commissioner Fantini made a motion to approve the agenda, consent agenda, and any amendments. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say “aye”, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hill said we need a motion to pass the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget. Commissioner Quinn made a motion to pass the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say “aye”, motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the discussion of the ordinance for Daniel and Marie White. Mrs. White came forward to speak and said first and foremost I want to apologize to everyone here that you even have to listen to this. I’m sure the Town of Pink has far more important issues to address than the location of my businesses. I’ve been a member of this community for my entire life. Many of you knew at least one of my parents. Mayor Hill was my neighbor throughout my childhood, you obviously all know my aunt Penny. Daniel and I purchased our first home together in 2005 just outside the town limits. We had the opportunity to purchase our forever home in 2016 in the middle of town. Then 2 years ago we spent a very large amount of money renovating and improving the appearance of our home where we live with our three children. We had the opportunity of purchasing the rental property beside us last year so now we own and pay taxes on four properties in town. We also have three business in the town

of pink hill, Turner-White Properties is our rental business, Turner-White Photography is our photography business, and TWP Creative Studios which is a partnership for volume photography that was formed last year, and all of this is based out of our office on Jones Avenue. The TWP Creative Studios we service a number of dance schools, cheer gyms, preschools, high school sports, high school volume seniors, and other classmen. Through this business we give a portion of our sales back to of these local schools and businesses. This business has exponentially greater sales than our primary business Turner-White Photography. When we formed this business I insisted that it be based out of Pink Hill instead of Kinston where our partner is located. Since we knew the addition would make a far greater impact on the Town of Pink Hill instead of Kinston, which has so many large businesses already. Turner-White Photography is our boutique custom photography studio specializing in newborn babies, children, high school seniors, commercial photography, and we also do some family portraiture. We started this business, well I started this business in 2012. We moved into a commercial space in 2014, we left that commercial space in 2017. At the time there were no available commercial properties to move into at the time in the Town of Pink Hill. So we did our due diligence, we immediately went to town hall to check on the proper procedure for moving a business into a residential space. After speaking with the town, Kim did some research and she made some phone calls and directed us to speak with the county. The Lenoir County Zoning office issued us what they deemed to be a proper permit once they inspected and approved the location. Both the town and the county were satisfied at that time. Apparently they are not anymore the town that is, and I am very disappointed in the way this entire thing was handled. If I was suspected of anything it would have been professional, courteous, and adult-like to at least have given me the opportunity to address it in private before calling for a vote in a public meeting. It was certainly a good thing that I was present at that meeting so that I could address the situation before someone attempted to force me to move out of my business without even my knowledge. I'm not sure if we're trying to operate a town here or a homeowners association at this point. There was a cited example that was said to be comparable in that fair's fair and all, but not really a fair example. It is from my understanding the gentleman, some gentleman I don't know him, was told he had to remove a sign he had at his home. I'm not sure if it was on town record or if it was an official town decision from my understanding Mayor Carol at the time just told him on her own, and he took that as the gospel and went on. In speaking with the county, it is my understanding, if he did his due diligence I had done he did not indeed have to move his business, but if I knew him I would tell him myself. Back to Turner-White photography being in a residential home I would like to remind you right across the street on one direction is a dental office, directly across the street in another direction is a gas station, beside the gas station is a store the property is not completely in a residential area and the property's only neighbor is the owner of the property who obviously doesn't mind the little bit of traffic that comes through for business. This is 2022 and I believe this entire conversation is outdated, it's petty, and it sounds an awful lot like a personal attack. After our very colorful May meeting I immediately contacted the town, very next day actually, asking for the application of variants that had been mentioned by the town's attorney. There was no such application available and I was instructed to contact the county zoning administration. So I did according to the county I showed my due diligence almost five years ago by following all of the proper channels and doing exactly what I was told by the both the town and county to legally

operate a business out of a residentially zone location. As far as the county's zoning enforcement is concerned the location of my businesses is a non-issue and here's where the town can make a decision because of my TWP Studios it would be far more cost effective to move my business to Kinston. I love Pink Hill I have spent many days as a child walking around downtown while I went to work with my mom. It's obviously more convenient for me to have my business within walking distance of my home and I definitely want to support my town as I always have. It would be a shame for the town to lose out on all the tax revenue generated by both of my businesses, but if that is your wish I will move my two photography businesses over to Kinston. If and when I leave a new business will not be able to operate in my spot. I have operated a successful business in this town for 10 years now. I'd like to quote Commissioner Fantini's May 4<sup>th</sup> post in his official Facebook group, he says we've got to keep the businesses we have it's our duty to accommodate the businesses any way we can, and I hear a lot about how Pink Hill wants to treat businesses well and how we want to attract new business and I certainly hope that you treat the other businesses in town with far more respect and appreciation than you've shown to me. Thank you.

Commissioner Fantini wanted to speak on the discussion of the ordinance for Daniel and Marie White. He said let me start off to talk about family history and family I think we have walked that line pretty tight other than that I will go on to the more important things. When we talked about the regulation okay it does not matter what that man's business is and what capacity the Mayor at that time had she was the Mayor, and she made him stop that. I did not fail you and you can roll your eyes that's fine, but these regulations were here before I was here. They were implemented before I came here. When I came here my only objective was to move this town forward, and to clean it up, and to make sure whatever I think in black and white. So it's in black and white that's my job and priority to do for the town and the residents here and yes you are absolutely right. I am for the businesses in town and ma'am I promise you I will be happy to promote your business, but we have to do it right. It is not within regulation and I am going to tell you I have an email here from the county manager, there are no zoning verifications for home occupations within Pink Hill zoning jurisdiction. He has none in his records for that business. This is from Adam Short. Mrs. White said maybe you should speak with Mr. Whalen Humphrey. Commissioner Fantini said Mr. Whalen works for Adam Short, Adam Short is the manager. I go to the subject matter expert because now mind you I sought our attorney's advice before this meeting. I asked him five minutes before this meeting am I okay to proceed with this and he said absolutely. In that meeting I was kind of side blinded by well you know there's actually a variance. Had I been told that outside my conversation would have started with something different? Mrs. White said you would not talk to Daniel it is not Daniel's business. Commissioner Fantini said Turner-White Photography if I would have had that information I would have started my conversation with there's a variance and a permit that you are more than welcome to apply for and I will support, but that information wasn't given to me when I seek legal advice. It was given to me after I had already approached you so to let you understand I'm not here against you want to think that than that's okay, but I am dealing with what's on paper for us. You can spin it any way you want and you can think about it any way you want. I will support your business 100 percent like I do every other one I promise you that. But it has to be with guidelines because that is what I am working with. I don't think about you an enemy, you

think about me as an enemy, but I don't think about you as an enemy. I think about you as a citizen of this town that my family is going to grow up next to you. I get it you can be that way, and I am okay with that, but there is not one thing that I've done since I've gotten here that I've not tried to move this town forward and that's the bottom line. I will not do anything in this town that does not promote the best thing for this town and if you came to us with a permit with a permit and the right way in a residential home. You can speak that the place across the street is not residential it's commercial, this is zoning and that's what we have to go off on. Mrs. White said I'd like to ask a question, may I ask a question? Exactly what when the only people I've been directed to speak to, Mayor Mike told me to speak with Whalen Humphrey. That is what I did whenever I started my business I came to town. I said what do I need to do and they said you need to go to county zoning which is what I did. I have a permit in my office. Commissioner Fantini said did you bring it tonight? Mrs. White said I didn't but if you want to walk over with me I'll be glad to go get it. Commissioner Fantini said all I am saying is I don't have that prior information. Mrs. White said you would not talk to me, you haven't' once ever in your life had a conversation with me. Commissioner Fantini said I will ask you why that is. Mrs. White said you know where I live, I will give you my phone number. Mayor Hill asked both parties to calm down. Mrs. White said all I am trying to ask you is exactly what further due diligence could I have possibly have done, what variance, what form, what application. What is it that you will have me do because I'll be glad to do it? Mayor Hill said it seems like to me there's some discrepancy in zoning office. Whalen Humphrey is our zoning officer for Lenoir County and he gave her a permit. His boss checks it now five years later and wants to change things. Commissioner Fantini said why is the permit not on file in town? Shouldn't we be keeping those files on town? Mayor Hill said no they are kept in the county office. Commissioner Fantini said why if it is the town limits and it is our ordinance that is in violation. Again that is not on you that's on the town. Why should we not have a record of the different things that are being able to be permitted?

Attorney Jenkins said several years ago we had a zoning ordinance part of the deal was that the town would enforce the zoning ordinance. We would not have a zoning officer. We would not maintain zoning records they were maintained at that time in court now they are maintained in county zoning office. Commissioner Fantini said so if that is true than why do we have a town zoning and planning? Mr. Jenkins said because zoning a municipal function not town function. The county can provide the services so as in contracts, just like they do on building inspectors. Commissioner Fantini said well Adam said he is not going to divulge into the town's ordinances and instructions and over supersede those without talking to the Mayor and the board. Mayor Hill said well he needs to come to the meeting and speak. Mr. Jenkins said zoning issues are not confidential and he doesn't have the right to withhold the information. Commissioner Fantini said he is not withholding the information. Mr. Jenkins said he would not divulge the information. Commissioner Fantini said he didn't have any. On no record there is no record, no permit in the town of Pink Hill for a residential home to have a commercial business. Adam is the director and anything that goes through Waylon goes through Adam. So again I'll go back to the point is that Mrs. White and her company has a permit to function in the town as a commercial business in a residential home why do we not have it on file in town? Don't say it's because—Mr. White said the question is when we get everything everybody told us to why now

are you going back against it? Commissioner Fantini said because I have no information. Mr. White said why are going against appearance? Commissioner Fantini said because it is a zoning policy in our book. Mr. White said what is it doing to you other than helping the town? Commissioner Fantini said how is it helping the town? Mr. White said it is bringing people to the town and gives you sales tax dollars. Commissioner Fantini said does not give me any more sales tax, but the bottom line is this how do we distinguish who gets to do it and who doesn't get to do it. If Joe can do it and they decide they want to run a junkyard and you do it and you have a clean business where is the difference? How are we not setting ourselves up for a discrimination lawsuit that is the point I am making. Again if we don't want the ordinance I am 100 percent on page with that, but the ordinance is there right now and that is what we have to follow. So if you are saying why are you bringing it up right now I am doing it because did that is the bottom line. I came into this office to the right thing for this town and it is not against Turner-White Photography or Daniel and Marie. It's not against that the bottom line is had I know you had that permit on file because that's what I do I can tell you that. I know that book, I have read it, I come up here, and I know people can attest to that. I'm not doing it as a personal thing. There is nothing here that has personal here. I don't benefit from that, but the problem is the protection of this town in the long run because we open ourselves up for lawsuits and discrimination and things like that. So I mean I know your frustrated and my heart goes out for that, but I can't not do what is in our instruction book until we change that. Listen we have changed the instruction before have we not? Did I getting a page for that instruction did not go on record and say that was the right thing to do. Mrs. White said communication is at the center of all things and there's obviously—Commissioner Fantini said I understand communication is the center of all things but what I need you to understand. Mr. White said instead of mocking her you could have just asked. Commissioner Fantini said did I mock her yet. Mr. White said yes you did. Mayor Hill asked everyone to calm down. Commissioner Fantini said you can play the victim, but I am not the guy that is against you. I will support you in every way you need it to be. You need this permit I'll support you, but the bottom line is I am not going to sit here and be looked at and treated that way when all I want to do is to make the right call. Commissioner Quinn said if they have the proper paperwork shouldn't be it? Commissioner Fantini said if the paperwork is valid than absolutely if you prove that it is valid than I am good with it, but those things need to be here in town. Mayor Hill said that is why the county has a zoning officer is over there and they have to have the papers over there. Commissioner Fantini said so we need to throw the zoning and planning away. Mayor Hill said no. Commissioner Fantini said than why have a zoning and planning in the area if the county going to run it.

Visitor Carolyn Whitfield said it is not set up that way. Mrs. Whitfield said I have been to the planning board with my variants and they approved my asking it. Then I had to come to the town board and the town board did not approve it. I have sat in meetings before and Pauline King at Park Circle asked for a variance for a property to put a double wide trailer and none of that went to the county. It was done in this town. We have a planning committee and I am not on it but it is handled here in town. It is handled here with the board you all approve it or not approve it. I've been to three or four Dennis and Elizabeth Clark got their house on the corner changed from residential to mix use. It was zoned when the zoning went through as residential and if it was already residential we did not change them when I was on that zoning committee.

There was no changes to any house that was already a residence and then anything else that especially was on what you call the corridor, the highway, was a business unless it was a house and the only person like I said before that got hurt on that was Tom and I. The board would not second a motion to let change that lot. So I know how it goes we didn't go to the county, or Waylon, or Short we came to this board. I've said in other meeting when other people have sat in this with this board and had things either approved or not approved. I do know it has been known and said by people other than Daniel and Marie that they know that house is residential and it's not been for business. I don't know why Waylon's told anybody or even Short's told anybody because it was my understanding, unless it has changed in the last year or two, because Pauline came two years ago you all were on the board when did that right? Commissioner Quinn that's right when she wanted to put a double wide. Mrs. Whitfield said and that was variance asking for a variance of the zoning of our town because you're not supposed to put a mobile home in the city limits of Pink Hill. So I don't know where this other stuff about I mean I don't know why they told that because that is not accurate information and somebody that works or in this town should know that has a position. I mean I am just telling you what I had to do.

Commissioner Fantini said as Adam Short said it is up to the town, Mrs. Whitfield said and we do have a planning committee. They cannot make any decisions, they make recommendations to the board, and this this board is who decides yes or no. Mayor Hill said who is on the planning board now? Mrs., Whitfield said she did not know, but at one time Robin King was on it and Jeremy Whitfield before he moved, but unsure who was on it. Mr. White said I was on it I was at the last meeting all the last several meetings before the last three years. I begged for the planning board in several cases over the last six months because several things that have been approved here should have went to the planning board and at the time when I came to the town I even asked about the planning board. They called the county and they looked at the thing and it was not my thing to say this is what you should do. I said this is what we need to do you tell us what to do and we followed the chain, but yes the planning board should review things like that. Commissioner Fantini said does the planning board meet regularly, Mr. White said no the town runs that you guys plan it. Mrs. Whitfield said there is a book that has all of our zoning ordinances in it and there should be a copy here. Commissioner Fantini said a zoning committee shouldn't just be meeting up when there is ideas coming up, they should be meeting quarterly. Mayor Hill said how many town residents are supposed to be on that planning board? Mr. White said four residents and three out of city limits making it seven people. Mayor Hill said would anybody like to serve on the board that is in town? Mrs. White said I do want to clarify something our application and our permit is not to permanently change we have no intentions and no desire to change the location to a forever commercial location. This was a temporary, as long as we were there, situation not a permanent zoning. Mr. White said because if we move then its reversed just like the dentist's office it they move out its reversed to residency because that is not commercial property. Commissioner Fantini said so what you guys are saying the permit you guys have is a temporary permit and no time limit on it? Mr. White said we were not told a time limit, but I will for sure go back and look at it. Mrs. White said Mr. Waylon said we are good that is what we were told. Mr. White said he is actually more current with contracts than any other zoning officer. Commissioner Fantini I know who he is but he works for Adam. Mr. White said I don't care come up with something new we will do that we will do whatever. You are just

the one that immediately said kick them out. Commissioner Fantini said I brought you out for discussion. Mayor Hill said they will put it out on Facebook, town website, and post it outside town hall for anybody that wants to sign up for the planning board committee. He said is there any more discussion on this matter, they have a permit and the county signed up on it, please bring the permit to town hall from now on if we do any kind of zoning matter permits please bring it to town hall. Please bring your permits and make a copy to have on file.

The next item on the agenda was discussion of streaming the meetings for the public to view. Mayor Hill said I want to go live with them for the public to view it is up to the board so everybody can see them and not say we are hiding them. Commissioner Quinn said I am fine with that. I didn't realize that I was being recorded until I was told out there by the public. Mrs. Dunham said it is legal—Commissioner Quinn said I know it is legal, but I didn't know it at the time, but it'll be nice just to know that hey you're on candid camera. Mrs. Dunham responded well you are a public official. Commissioner Quinn said if we are streaming than I am fine with that. Mayor Hill said we are probably going to have to buy an iPad and some kind of stand. Mayor Hill said I need a motion to livestream. Commissioner Fantini said I make a motion to go livestream with our meetings. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say "aye", motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was resolution for mixed beverage on the ballot. Mayor Hill said even though we passed the mixed beverage vote to be on the ballot we still have a resolution to do for the board of elections. The town attorney, Mr. Jenkins, said I went and spoke to Steve Hines about this and he provided me with what I am providing you. You have to show up on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Hill said I need a motion for this to go on the ballot. Commissioner Fantini said I make a motion to put mixed beverage on the ballot. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say "aye", motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hill said Commissioner Fantini you have an item you want to bring up? Commissioner Fantini said I do. As we all seen we had a pretty good festival and I would like to continue that tradition next May, but also what I would like to call a Winterfest. Downtown being lit up and the Mayor had mention before doing a Christmas lighting. The Christmas tree lighting so that people that come to town can pass to see it, but what I learned from the was that it was very time consuming. What I was approached with is a committee and what I would like to do is give Mr. Reece, at the time we talked about this committee, put together a non-profit committee for events and festivals within the town. Mrs. Davis? came forward to speak. She first wanted to thank the board and the Mayor for allowing her to direct the town council. She said I would also like to thank Commissioner Fantini for a job well done at the Spring Festival. I feel the festival is a huge success and I know very large undertaking for one person. That is also what brings me here tonight some of us have been brainstorming and we believe one person should not have to be responsible for forming all the town festivals. We feel the town should have a festival committee which is inclusive to all who wish to participate. We feel this committee should be completely transparent and open to working closely with our commissioners and our Mayor. By working together as a community or a Pink Hill family, if you will, we believe the Town of Pink Hill to grow and prosper. The Pink Hill festival committee is a legal entity

established as a non-profit organization and will have a board of directors and bylaws. The board of directors will be assigned to help with the organization of town festivals, the forming of the festival committee does not by any means diminish the fantastic job that Commissioner Fantini did with the Spring Festival. As of now we have five members on the committee, Dr. Jennifer Murphy, Rod Howard, Rhiley Kennedy Marshburn, Cierra Dunham, and myself. This committee will be open for anybody who wishes to help with any festival and it is completely inclusive so we'd be happy to work with the town and get some festivals going. Commissioner Fantini said so the proposal for us to do the winter festival is we realize the Christmas Parade is the 4<sup>th</sup> first Sunday. We'd like to that 3<sup>rd</sup> the night prior the winter festival with Santa Clause and the Christmas tree lighting, and stuff for the kids. Mayor Hill I think the Fire Department has something—Mrs. Davis said they have Miss Merry Christmas dinner that night. Commissioner Fantini what time does that start. Mr. Kennedy, Water Supervisor and volunteer to the Fire Department said, usually after 6:30 PM. Commissioner Fantini said so this festival is going to go into the dark, but not go late. We are talking about 6 o'clock cut off for this festival. It wouldn't hinder the fire department. You guys also have gun raffle draw in November, but we couldn't do that either. This weekend it happens to be Saturday, Sunday, same weekend we get it done and it won't go the time frame of the fire departments stuff going on, but it just seems like a good time to do it. Mayor Hill said I think it is a good idea and maybe we can get a tree we can get a permanent tree we don't have to be buying one. The public commented on planting a tree and where to get one. Commissioner Quinn said I think everybody is on board. Commissioner Fantini said do we need to vote on that date? DOT already said they'd be happy if we at least gave them 30 days' notice because they are going to have to close it the very next day anyway for the parade.

Mayor Hill asked Commissioner Fantini about discussion he had on some grants. Commissioner Fantini said there are so many grants out right now for rural small town areas one of the grants that I got in touch with Mr. Lopez and he works for the state federal grant commission where they issue money. A bike path and sign grant roughly about six and a half million dollars. He'll come out here and do the planning and then come out here and do the work. That's one and the second one is for small rural development. Now this will actually help some our homes in town as it's the building demolition or reconstruction. They have about 16 million dollars left that we can do a grant for and we probably won't get near that much, but it helps with old buildings in town that can be redone or torn down if needed. It is separate from the CDBG grant. We qualify for all three of these grants, the one for downtown revitalization, the sidewalks and bike paths, and the homes to be either torn down or fixed. I believe that what we need is grant writer. We get a grant writer on retainer we don't have to pay him full time, but when we have a grant that is going to help out. Mayor Hill and Commissioner Fantini discussed obtaining a grant writer and would be up for discussion at the next meeting.

Commissioner Fantini said the last thing he wanted to discuss was ordinances. He said I am going to say this only because I feel like there no right or wrong. It is the job of the town commissioners to follow the ordinances that is our job. Those ordinances were placed in way before we came along and it is our job to do that to help keep this community this town clean and on the right path. When we talk about bringing businesses in here, we need to be attractive to

those businesses. If we are not attractive why would those businesses come in here? So when I say I that I've gone either after businesses or homes I started the second I got on the board. Not individually going after anybody. The house across from Jo's Café and next to the forest has been looking like that forever and it's the first house coming into town and now it at least looks decent. It just took somebody to do that. We'll talk Pineview I have spent hours back in Pineview because there are people back there really wanting their neighborhood back. We turned one home in to be put in foreclosure for taxes. The other home back in January we have sent a letter for them to start getting fines until they've torn down that home or fixed it. Along with Dennis Clark we have done the same thing with him and the trailer park. Now what I'll say is this every individual that we have done this to I have personally gone and talked to. Marion Mitchell, Dennis Clark, the man Adrian that owns the trailer park in Georgia, everyone. I went and talked to Mr. Salter so the hard subject here is we are targeting Mr. Salter we are not. I am doing what is in our ordinance. I had a conversation with him and asked him what we are going to do about that. His response to me was nothing I am too old to worry about that home. Well that is not exactly the correct response. I understand there is some animosity between Mr. Thomas Salter and the town because of a past agreement that isn't on record, but when he told me that I asked him to please come talk to us. Maybe we can redo that agreement, he doesn't want to bother with it. If the ordinance is good for one, the ordinance has to be good for all. It is fair and equal and that is how it goes. There is no target, I like Mr. Tom, but I can tell you if each and every one of you had that next to your home you would want the same conditions done, and that is all I meant. If it weren't in the book I would not do it, but it is. So when I say Marion, Clark, the place near the florist, trailer park I did not fail you not one bit the people that are here and the people come before me failed you, because they let it go. I understand you are a prominent figure here and you are a good man, but the difference is that cannot be overlooked. I am fair and equal, but it has nothing to do personally. I will tell you to take a personal inventory why weren't this things address four, five, six years ago and it's not because Pete Fantini just wants to do it, it's because Pete Fantini was elected to do and protect this town and do the right thing. I have a vested interest in this town I want to move forward and I want it to look beautiful. If I could go out and help every one of them that need the help I will. Commissioner Quinn said can I say something unless somebody else was complaining I don't anybody else has complained about it than I cannot be everywhere—we got worse areas in town besides Mr. Salter's house. Take it one piece at a time, that mobile home park where we can't even get first responders in there because of the trailers. Commissioner Fantini said but who brought that to the town— Commissioner Quinn said but you said that. Commissioner Fantini said but let me ask you if I am going to take one piece at a time who else is taking those pieces? Have you been back to Pineview, have you seen the violations back there, have you discussed it with the board. Commissioner Quinn said who has complained, who has brought it to us and complained? Commissioner Fantini said why does somebody have to bring it to you, you don't think it's a nuisance to me, why can't it be a nuisance to me? Commissioner Quinn said do you go by there every morning? Commissioner Fantini said I drive by there, is it in the regulations? Commissioner Quinn said all I am saying is I can't do everything all at one time. Commissioner Fantini said well do something. I have not seen anybody other than me do this so who is public enemy number one. So I'll go back and look through the minutes and we can do that. Who has

brought anything other than—Mayor Hill said it might not be in the minutes Pete. Commissioner Fantini said why is not presented to the board and taken care of. Mayor Hill said because most of the time a small town like this if I saw somebody whose yard is trashed most of the time I just walked up and asked them. Commissioner Fantini said and I just told you that I did that and when I get pushed off or shunned off what's the next request. Mayor Hill said then bring it to town hall. Commissioner Fantini said and that is what I did the deal is this that is our duty. Commissioner Murphy said there was something that was brought to my attention not too many weeks ago before we get too excited about telling folks what they've got to do about repairing and tearing down things you might want to do some reading about what has been going down in the last few weeks. A state law has been passed in North Carolina in regards to that and the homeowners won in Nags Head. Commissioner Fantini said that is great but Nags Head is not Pink Hill. Mayor Hill asked everybody to calm down. Commissioner Fantini said we can't bring other things in here and like I said if those are things you don't want to implement then those things need to be removed and I won't go and implement them, but I am not a half measure guy that's just and you said the reason I asked you come on here was because I knew you would do the right thing am I wrong here?. Mayor Hill said no you're not and I asked you one thing not long ago and that was to go to that trailer park—Commissioner Fantini said and I have. Mayor Hill said I have not seen a whole lot of results. Commissioner Fantini said hold one a second the last meeting is the time I came here and how many conversations have you had with Amir? Commissioner Fantini said I have continuously. Mayor Hill said I asked you as a Commissioner, I don't have the real authority to do that. Commissioner Fantini so now what you're going to do is turn this on me. Nobody has looked at the trailer park this whole time—Commissioner Quinn said he has—Commissioner Fantini said but did you come here and say anything about the runned down buildings. Mayor Hill said I have been here eleven years so don't tell me I don't know nothing about this town. Commissioner Fantini said I am not saying that—Mayor Hill ended the discussion.

The next item on the agenda was the fire report, Chief Tony Heath was absent so Phillip Swinson read his report for him, Since our last month's meeting, Phillip says, we have had 13 EMS assist assignments, 4 vehicle accidents, 1 fire alarm, 6 brush fires, and 6 service assignments for a total of 30 calls for the month of May 17- until todays date. Mayor Hill asks is everything going good at the department. Phillip says yes sir all is good, we are awaiting for the new truck we purchased to be lettered and tags on it to put it in service for calls. That is good, Mayor Hill says, thank you all for what you do for our town. Yes sir, Phillip replied. Commissioner James Quinn says thank you all.

Mayor Mike Hill says next up is the Police Report, Chief Hoffman. He says our incidences and criminal activity has dropped. We are still assisting Duplin Co. and Lenoir Co. with calls when they request our assistance. Our arrest have gone up, citizen complaints gone up, and our animal complaints have gone up, but all are being handled appropriately. Larcenies and domestic calls have dropped. Significant decrease in traffic charges and less calls for high traffic areas and I think it's in account for the new speed signs. Mayor Hill asks, anything else? Chief Hoffman says no sir, ok Mike, thank you for all you do.

Next is the public works report, Timmy. Timmy says I would like to give you an update on the tractor that we have been trying to purchase, I am still waiting for them to give me a definite date on when we can purchase. May be next budget year. Tile we put in on Carol Dr. is in and we are just waiting to repave it. Should be next week. We found a manhole in front of Dollar General that is severally deteriorated, I have a call in to our contractor to get things started to fix it. It will need to be taken care of as soon as they can because it is on main highway, Hwy 11, and that can't stay like that. While we were doing some locates we found another manhole by the old plant, the 2 inch main. We will take care it tomorrow. Anything else Mayor Hill asks, No sir I don't think so Timmy responds. Okay then, thank you for everything.

Next I am going to revert back to something I was supposed to read earlier, an amendment/transfer. 2021-2022 line item budget amendment request general fund, 6-14-2022; General fund revenue increase; fire fundraising income: 8,800.00. Fire Donations: 1,000.00. FEMA; 15,127.21. General Fund expense increase; Fire: Capital Outlay 4,900.00. Fire: repairs and maintenance; 4,900.00. Admin office supplies: 4,000.00. Police capital outlay: 4,000.00. Streets: nonpowell 7,127.21. This amendment is to recognize revenue collected that was not budgeted. Same is passed on June 14, 2022. George do you have anything? No sir, I don't. Mayor Hill says we received a grant to clean debris off cherry tree district, hopefully we will receive those funds soon to take care of that. We also applied for a 25,000.00 beautification grant, I don't know if we will receive that or not. WASA has also stated they will not be going up on water. I attended the DOT transportation meeting, we didn't have a quorum so we just talked. Also the county manager and board of commissioners for the county have appointed me to the Hwy 70 corridor commission, once I learn that then we find out it has been put on hold. The state don't have the money, one guy told me it was 1.9 million dollar project. It may be a while before we see a bypass in Kinston.

Public comment Mayor Hill says, signed up is Cierra and Josh Dunham. Cierra says I had this whole thing I was going to say but honestly I don't think any of it really matters so I am gonna let people form their own opinions. I just want to say we are having our movie night this Friday night and I hope all comes out to enjoy. We are praying for good weather, if it doesn't work out we can move it to Saturday night, I know it's not ideal but we will have to see. We tested it out last night and I don't think it will be dark enough until 8:45 but we will start serving hot dogs, for Free, around 7:30 ish, we do have Italian ice and popcorn that will be there too, so I hope to see everyone. Oh yea, Brewed on Broadway is staying open late to accommodate to those that may want iced coffee or anything. Thank you Mayor Hill says. Next is Kristen Fantini, she says I think a lot of what I say will fall on deaf ears as well, but I am sorry, no one in this room really knows my heart except Mrs. Carolyn, I am passive, non-confrontational and I sit back I observe, let it go it will all be okay. It will all work out on its own. But when there have been threats to my family, to include my children because people don't like my husband I can't do that. I am not gonna take up a lot of time but the complacency, the pettiness, the two faced, the lazy, no accountability is unacceptable. He came, he researched, and he is doing what he thought he was supposed to do. Nobody else, nobody else is doing what he is doing and thought he was going to be behind because he walked in not doing anything like this before. And to get the flack and be the target he can take it, and I can take it but when it gets personal. It is

unnecessary, when this is the heartbeat, this is the core and there is a divide and I just hope and pray that we can in some way get back on the same page and all do some good. Mayor Mike Hill says thank you.

Mayor Mike Hill says that is all that has signed up for public comment, if no one else has anything to bring then I do call this meeting adjourned. Thank you all.

*Typed by Diana Rodriguez and Crystal  
Heath. Approved by Town Clerk, Crystal Heath.*