

Town of Pink Hill
Special Budget Approval Meeting
June 19, 2023

Minutes

The Town of Pink Hill Special Budget Approval meeting was held June 19, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Police Bay. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Yvonne Deatherage, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Pete Fantini, Town Attorney Will Gray, Jr, Town Clerk Lisa McGee, Daniel White Planning Chair, and Police Chief Michael Hoffman.

Visitors present were: Kevin McGee, Carolyn Whitfield, Kristin Fantini, Daniel White, Brett Smith, Joshua Eing, Jolene Hoffman, and Jayne Zesiger

Mayor Yvonne Deatherage called the meeting to order. Mayor Deatherage asked everyone to join in the pledge of allegiance. Everyone stood and said the pledge of allegiance. Lisa McGee, Town Clerk, gave roll call: Mayor Deatherage, Commissioner Murphy, Commissioner Quinn, Commissioner Fantini, Attorney Will Gray, Jr and Town Clerk Lisa McGee, all were present at the meeting.

Michael Hoffman, Chief of Police, made a statement addressing everyone:

“Cut off all mobile devices as the meeting is being recorded. Please refrain from speaking unless you have the floor. Any outburst could be the cause for you being asked to leave the meeting. Be it noted that our meetings are being recorded. Let’s conduct ourselves in a professional manner. Thank you!

Mayor Deatherage asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Fantini said I make a motion to amend the agenda, to have the closed session before you go into approving the Budget. Seconded by Commissioner Quinn. No discussion vote was 3-0. Mayor Deatherage said we are now going into closed session. Attorney Gray state the NCGS # 143-318.11 (6) that’s why we are going into closed session.

Mayor Yvonne Deatherage, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Pete Fantini, Town Attorney Will Gray, Jr, Town Clerk Lisa McGee all went into closed session.

Mayor Deatherage said we just came out of closed session back into open session. Budget approval. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve the budget with a 7 1/2% raise across the board with the exception of Cody and the Town Clerk. Seconded by Commissioner Quinn. No discussion. Vote was 2-1.

- Commissioner Murphy and Commissioner Quinn - Yay
- Commissioner Fantini - Nay

Mayor Deatherage said the other thing that was contingent upon the budget being approved was to sign a contract with ECC and so, can I get a motion for that too. Commissioner Fantini said that was not on the agenda ... Attorney Gray said she asked me about that and I said if it was contingent upon the budget being approved then it would be appropriate to entertain that motion. Commissioner Fantini said well I voice my opinion that this should not be something that we budget in the year, but now we're going to put it in there at the very end. Mayor Deatherage said it was already in there. Commissioner Fantini said but the real way to purposely do that is to amend the agenda to have that put in there, since you (Mayor Deatherage) knew that it should have been on the agenda ahead of time or we discuss it the next meeting. Attorney Gray stated that you can do it either way it's just the signing of the contract was contingent upon allocation of the funds. So, you can know the funds was there so, I mean it would be appropriate to entertain a motion if you wanted to, if you wanted to wait. Commissioner Quinn asked where is the money for the contract. Mayor Deatherage said the money is in the budget that was just approved. Commissioner Quinn made a motion to approve the ECC contract seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Vote was 2-1. Commissioner Quinn and Commissioner Murphy "yay" and Commissioner Fantini "nay". Discussion came from Carolyn Whitfield she wanted to know where ECC was on the Finance Report. Town Clerk, Lisa McGee, got up and went over to Carolyn Whitfield and showed her on the financial report what line item it was under: it is under line-item Land Use/Zoning. Town Clerk, Lisa McGee, stated that is the line item it has to be paid out of. Carolyn Whitfield stated that this had not been discussed any budget workshops. Mayor Deatherage stated that it had been mention in all budget workshops. Mayor Deatherage said we have a first and a second and we have had discussion. The vote was 2-1. Commissioner Quinn and Commissioner Murphy "yay" and Commissioner Fantini "nay".

Meeting adjourned.