

August 21, 2018
7:00 p.m.

The Town of Pink Hill held its monthly board meeting on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall board room. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sykes, Commissioners Mike Hill, James Quinn and Penny Murphy, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Public Works Director Timmy Kennedy, Police Chief Joey Thigpen, and Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell. Fire Chief Tony Heath was unable to attend the meeting.

Visitors present for the meeting were Daniel White, Turner White, Hailey Jones, Brandon Jones, and Michelle Taylor with Neuse News.

Mayor Sykes said I would like to call this meeting to order and welcome everybody that is here tonight our visitors that is on the agenda. We will get to you shortly. Mayor Sykes asked Mayor Pro-Tem Commissioner Hill to lead everyone in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Everyone stood and said the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Sykes said okay the approval of agenda and amendments if needed. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the agenda and amendment 5a and consent agenda with regular board meeting minutes from July 10, 2018. Mayor Sykes said do I have a seconded? Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said any discussion, if not, all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was Woodington Middle School FFA Butterfly Garden Project – FFA Officers. Mayor Sykes said whomever is the speaker you may come up here. Turner if you will come up and here kind of so we can be sure and get it all. Mayor Sykes said if y'all would like to introduce yourselves that will be good. Turner White introduced himself. Hailey James introduced herself. Mayor Sykes said well welcome to both of you and I thank you for what you are going to do. I haven't heard anything about it until I saw it on the agenda but I know it is going to be good. Turner said the Woodington FFA Chapter is in its second year. Our officer team would like to give back to our local communities. Our FFA Moto is learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live, living to serve. We are interested in developing a Monarch butterfly habitat. In the last 20 years, the Monarch population has decreased by 90 percent. This has mainly been due to the lack of milkweed plants. We would like to create a small butterfly habitat for the Town of Pink Hill Park. Hailey said this project would promote an aesthetic and environmental impact on the park. This would include 4 rustic barrel planters, 1 white butterfly bench, soil, and milkweed plants and seeds. We are applying for an FFA Living to Serve Grant totaling \$400.00. We will be notified September 15th and would like to complete the project between October and January. Thank you for your consideration of our proposal. Is there any questions?

Mayor Sykes said hopefully you will get the grant and that would certainly enhance the looks of our park. I am sure and we appreciate you thinking about us. George Jenkins asked if he could ask a quick question. Mayor Sykes replied sure. George said are you all going to buy larva, like in the spring, Monarch larva, to release in the area or to put in the area or just going to let the milkweed attract it. Turner replied yes we are going to just let it attract them. Commissioner Hill said it looks good and I appreciate them thinking about Pink Hill to do it in. Mayor Sykes said I appreciate that too.

Mayor Sykes said I guess we need a motion to accept this. Commissioner Hill said I make a motion to accept the Woodington Middle School FFA Monarch Butterfly Garden Project. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said okay we have a motion and a seconded is there any discussion, if not, all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Sykes said thank you all so much. We look forward to seeing the butterflies.

The next item on the agenda was Annual Settlement Lenoir County Property Taxes collected FY 2017-2018. Mayor Sykes said we have the Resolution Accepting the Annual Settlement of the Lenoir County Tax Collector for 2017-2018 Fiscal year. She read that the Town Commissioners acknowledge with appreciation the diligent efforts of the Tax Collector that has resulted in a 96.83 percent collection for the fiscal year 2017-2018 which is good. So I guess we need a motion to accept this resolution. Commissioner Hill said I make a motion to accept the resolution from the Lenoir County Tax Office. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said is there any discussion, if not, all in favor signify by saying "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Library requesting Pine Street to be closed from Broadway Street to Clay Street on the following dates: 09/22/18 for the Local Craft Fair and 03/30/19 for the International Food Festival. Mayor Sykes said Kim can somebody bring me up to date on what this is. Kim said the librarian Sheree called Shelia and spoke with Shelia about it. These are events that are coming up and she wanted to go ahead in advance ask if they could close Pine Street to Clay Street like we normally do. Mayor Sykes said so they have done this before. Kim replied yes it is like the back to school bash and stuff like that that they have recently had. She said she didn't have the times for these yet but. Mayor Sykes said do I have a motion to accept this. Commissioner Hill made a motion for Pine Street to be closed from Broadway Street to Clay Street on 09/22/18 and 03/30/19 for the library. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said okay is there any discussion on this motion, if not, all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Resolution Supporting Farmers. Commissioner Hill said the Town of Pink Hill has really depended on farmers over the years. We have kind of being seeing lately about some lawsuits and I asked Kim to look at a resolution to support the farmers of North Carolina especially the ones out here that are getting bombarded by lawsuits. Commissioner Hill said just read over it. He said farming has been real good and still is real good to our town. Mayor Sykes said well it is to our community, I mean it is not only our town, it is just good. Commissioner Hill said I make a motion to present the resolution in support of North Carolina farmers. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said I have a motion and a seconded is there any discussion, if not, all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Hill said and I think also Kim found out we are probably one of the first towns that has done this. Mayor Sykes said really. Kim said just off of doing this on my clerk serve. She said Pender County had done one but of the towns that responded back we were the first ones. Mayor Sykes said where do we send this. Kim said I am not sure on that. Mayor Sykes said okay. Kim asked George you said the house bill had already...George said the legislature has already passed this bill. Mayor Sykes said okay. Kim said but he is just wanting to show support, that the town is showing support. Commissioner Hill said to let the farmers know we support them. Mayor Sykes said I think we need to get a sign and put out there. She asked where do you get the signs from. Kim said you talking about the support the

farmer signs. Mayor Sykes said yes. Kim said I am not sure. Commissioner Hill said there is a place in Beulaville that has them. He said you probably could ask Carolyn Whitfield. Mayor Sykes said let's do that. Commissioner Hill said okay. She said if y'all are okay with that, I will see Carolyn. Commissioner Quinn said I know one of my friends is one. Mayor Sykes said I mean if we didn't have farmers around here, what would we do. Commissioner Hill said they are in the Future Farmers of America Club whether you are a farmer or not. Mayor Sykes said that is right.

The Fire Department Report was next on the agenda. Mayor Sykes asked Timmy if Fire Chief Heath was coming. Timmy replied no he had class tonight. She asked Timmy was he going to do his report. Timmy said no because I was unaware. Mayor Sykes said alright we will skip it.

The next item on the agenda was Police Department Report. Mayor Sykes said Chief Thigpen will be here in a little while. Kim said you have got his report. Mayor Sykes said I do? Kim said yes in your book. It is number 9. George asked Mayor Sykes do you want me to read it. Mayor Sykes said go ahead and read it if you've got it. George read they had had 1 accident, 3 alarms, 2 animal complaints, 3 arrest, 1 assault, 3 assist to the Duplin County Sheriff's Office, 7 assist to Lenoir County EMS, 10 assist to Lenoir County Sheriff's Office, 5 assist to motorist, 2 assist to NC Highway Patrol, 8 assist to Pink Hill Fire Department, 3 breaking and entering to a motor vehicle, 2 breaking and entering to a residence, 1 building check, 5 domestic, 1 funeral escort, 6 larcenies, 3 suspicious activities, 4 suspicious persons, 11 suspicious vehicles, 1 trespassing, and 5 unlock vehicle for a total of 87 calls. The board commented he has been busy. Mayor Sykes said yes he has been busy. Thank you George for doing that. Mayor Sykes said yes he has been and we always thank the Fire Department and everybody else and I thank the Police Department too. I mean I just thank everybody that is here with us.

The next item on the agenda was Water/Sewer Report. Timmy said whenever we were doing our budget stuff this year I wanted to put in some well rehab for it and we did and whenever I got a price from Utility Services. He has sent a proposal and the bid came in a little bit higher than what I was expecting. It is going to be, and I don't know did you make copies of this and put in everybody's packet or not. Kim said no because I didn't know if you were bringing it up tonight or not. Timmy said okay I understand but it is going to be \$17,707 per year for the next 20 years. It is a contract kind of thing. They would rehab the well and bring it up to par and come back every year and make sure. During this contract we would have if it failed and anything went wrong, I would just call and they would send out a crew. If they didn't come, it would be their job to make sure somebody did come and make sure our well was back up to par. So it is something that needs doing as far as the well rehab and this is a fair price I feel like but it came in a little bit high. I didn't feel comfortable just signing without bringing it before the board again because of debt service and other bills that we have every year that is costing on the budget. I want everybody to really realize that it is going to be almost \$18,000 a year that is continuous. Mayor Sykes said and that is the only bid you have got right. Timmy said this is the only bid that I have. Mayor Sykes said can we try for another one. Timmy said I can. Mayor Sykes said call Pearson, I mean they have done work on that well too so I trust them. Commissioner Hill said do you want me to call Jerry? Timmy said no I will call him and let him know that I am serious about trying to go ahead and get something done to bring it up to par so to speak. Commissioner Hill said okay and I may see McKiver next week? Timmy replied okay. Mayor Sykes said who is McKiver. Timmy said one of the main guys that does a lot of the work. Commissioner Hill said it is his son. Mayor Sykes said oh really well it has been a long

time. Commissioner Hill asked Timmy if it was his son or Jerry's sister's son. Timmy said I am unsure about that. Commissioner Hill said it may be his sister's son. Mayor Sykes said but I mean he is with Pearson. Commissioner Hill replied yes he works for Pearson. His son works there too. Timmy said Utility Services does our tank maintenance now but just like the tank maintenance it is going to be a continuous bill every year. Right now, you help me Kim, it is around \$9,500 a year per tank. Mayor Sykes said so WASA doesn't have any charge in this. Timmy replied no our well is our well. Mayor Sykes said okay.

Timmy said just so you know we are using our well every day, a few hours every day to keep residuals up and to keep it running. Commissioner Quinn said yes I saw the water out there running the other day. Mayor Sykes said let's try to get a price on that and come back and bring it back to us. Timmy replied okay that is fair. Mayor Sykes said I mean it is not too long away. Timmy said the bid as far as the proposal it says 30 days. Mayor Sykes said do we need a motion to do that or is it just information, just get another bid and bring it back and put it on the agenda for the next meeting. Timmy said everything else seems to be going well, that is all I had to bring up. Mayor Sykes said thank you Timmy so much. Timmy replied thank you.

The next item on the agenda was Budget Amendments if needed. Kim said I have a one budget amendment. It is the first of the year and I have had some computer issues up front so I had to amend my computer service maintenance. So that is the only budget amendment I have got. Mayor Sykes said I need a motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the budget amendment for computer service maintenance. Mayor Sykes said do I have a second? Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said I have a motion and a seconded is there any discussion, if not, all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously.

Remarks by Town Attorney was next on the agenda. Mayor Sykes asked George if he had anything. George said just one thing. He said like all of us I am going to miss Donald King. Mayor Sykes said that is true. He said that is all I have to say.

The next item on the agenda was Comments by the Board. Commissioner Hill said like George I am going to miss Donald and when I was at his service the other night I heard a song I have never heard before. It was called the American Christian and I think it fitted right in with the way Donald lived his life. Mayor Sykes said okay thank you for mentioning that. Commissioner Quinn said and I am glad to see Carol back. Commissioner Murphy said absolutely. Mayor Sykes said thank you it is good to be back and I am going to really be back next time.

The next item on the agenda was Public Comment Period if needed. There were no public comments at this time.

The next item on the agenda was Closed Session if needed. There was no need for a closed session at this time.

With there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.