July 9, 2013

7:00 P.M.

The Town of Pink Hill held its monthly board meeting on Tuesday, July 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall board room. Present for the meeting were Mayor Carol Sykes, Commissioners Mike Hill, Donald King and Marion Mitchell, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Public Works Director Timmy Kennedy, Police Chief Joey Thigpen, and Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell.

There were no visitors present.

Mayor Sykes called the meeting to order. Mayor Sykes welcomed everyone to the meeting. Commissioner King then led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner King made a motion to approve all 7 sets of minutes from June 2013. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the agenda and amendments if needed as presented. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was Darnell’s Produce concerning a sewer bill. There was no one present at this time to speak.

The next item on the agenda was Wooten Company Inspect Broadway Tank. Commissioner Hill said they are still having problems with the water coming out of the Broadway Tank. He said the state inspector was out today and he talked to him. He said it seems like we need someone independent to come down here and inspect the tank and see if the work that was supposed to have been done was done. He said he was talking about Utility Services. Commissioner Hill said for some reason they keep losing their residuals on that tank and it keeps costing the town money to dump the tank and to fill it back up. Commissioner Hill asked Timmy how many times they have had to do this. Timmy stated three times after they have come and cleaned it out before. Mayor Sykes asked if any other places were having problems with this and Commissioner Hill stated no. Timmy replied that he has verified each time they have dumped the tank that good water was coming in from WASA into the Pinewood Tank. Timmy said the Pinewood Tank is holding as of right now. He stated most of the other places in town right now are holding except for that tank. Commissioner Hill said there is something in that tank that is killing it. Mayor Sykes asked if it was under Utility Services’ contract to come back and fix it. Commissioner Hill replied yes, but that he doesn’t trust the tank company and what they are saying. Mayor Sykes asked how much it would cost to get somebody else to do the job. Commissioner Hill said the Wooten Company would do it for $1,000. He stated that would include inspecting the tank, taking pictures, and writing a report up. Commissioner Hill stated that something needs to be done because if you dump 100,000 gallons at $3.34 per 1,000 that is a lot. Commissioner King asked if Utility Services was on-call whenever they needed them. Commissioner Hill replied yes. Mayor Sykes stated that she thinks Utility Services needs to be held accountable for their work because the town has spent a lot of money with them. Commissioner Hill said he would get Timmy to call Scotty with Utility Services to come out. He said then we can decide if we want the Wooten Company to come out behind Utility Services to inspect the tank. Commissioner King asked how long does it take for them to inspect the tank? Commissioner Hill replied probably about a half a day. Commissioner Hill said we need to keep the tank isolated and get it inspected. Timmy stated the problem has been going on since April of this year. Mayor Sykes asked if the problem could be coming from WASA. Commissioner Hill stated no because then Deep Run would be having the same problems. Mayor Sykes asked if Harry and his crew get done inspecting the tank, could they meet with the board and Scotty with Utility Services at Town Hall to figure out what the problem is. It was decided to let the State come first and do their samples and then have Scotty with Utility Services come. The decision to use the Wooten Company will be decided at the next board meeting.

The next item on the agenda was Police Updates. Chief Thigpen stated since the last meeting on June 11, 2013 they have had a total of 6 reported incidents, 2 arrest, 3 accidents, and issued 46 citations for a total of 57 charges. Mayor Sykes stated she appreciated what the police department does.

The next item on the agenda was the Fire Department Report. Timmy stated since June 1, 2013 they have had 4 brush fires, 4 vehicle accidents, 7 EMS calls, 1 vehicle fire, 1 service assignment, and 2 automatic alarms. He said they have put on three new people last month at the fire department. He stated one new Junior and two new fire persons. Mayor Sykes stated as of July 1, 2013 all the fire department’s income, expenses, purchases, monies, savings accounts, or whatever are on the town’s books just like the towns and Kim will be book keeping like she does for the town.

The next item on the agenda was Water/Sewer Updates. Timmy said they had their GRIT pump go down this past month. Timmy said in the meantime he has had it redone and put back in the ground and it is working. Timmy also stated that the water project started today. They did not get very far but they started. Timmy said as far as everything else it is going well. Mayor Sykes thanked Timmy and his guys for their work.

The next item on the agenda is Budget Amendments if needed. Kim stated there were no budget amendments but only transfers. Kim said transfers are where one line item is moved to another line item.

The next item on the agenda was Remarks by Town Attorney. George stated he appreciated the board having him to come back. Mayor Sykes said she appreciated him coming back. Timmy asked to speak about the cafeteria at the old school. He said there was a handful of people at the fire department that would like to keep it and the rest really do not care. Timmy said according to the budget they do not have any money to spend over there. Timmy stated he would like to know what he could do with the cafeteria. He wanted to know if he could sell it and is it the property of the fire department. George stated he did not know if it has been deeded. Timmy said if the fire department can sell it, rent it, or lease it to get the insurance off of them would be good. Mayor Sykes told Timmy that no matter what is done it will have to come before the board to be approved first. Timmy said he wanted to know because someone from the Pink Hill Wellness Center has approached him about possibly renting it. George stated he had not seen it until now and there is a deed to the Town of Pink Hill from Johnnie D. Sheppard for what is described as Lot #7 on a recorded map. Lot #7 is the cafeteria. Kim said to remember that they had a deed but there was a wrong address and they were supposed to get it fixed and the Town never got it back. George stated it shows the lunchroom, the driveway behind it, and then all the way to the corner and that covered walkway that walks into the back of it looks like about one third of that width wise is in the deed and then out to the street. George said it is deeded to 300 South Front Street. Timmy stated that is for the Fire Department. George said there is a deed to the town and it has absolutely no restrictions on it or conditions on it. George said before you do anything you need to decide if it is surplus and have a public hearing. Commissioner King said he thought they needed to wait a month and then if they decide to get rid of it, then start the ball rolling. Commissioner Mitchell asked if the lawnmower had been fixed. Timmy said it cost about $450.00. Timmy said it does some better.

The next item on the agenda was Comments by the Board. Mayor Sykes reminded everyone that the next Community Watch meeting would be on August 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. and Sheriff Chris Hill will be speaking. Kim stated the next Community Watch meeting is going to be in October and Ms. Deatherage is hoping that the Fire Chief or his assistant can go and speak on behalf of fire protection. Commissioner Hill read the letter he wrote concerning the water/sewer rate increases. There was a minor change that needed to be made to the letter and Kim was going to get it typed up on letterhead and have Commissioner Hill sign it before mailing them out.

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

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

With there being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned.