

## **Town Board Meeting**

**October 8, 2019**

Mayor Carol Sykes welcomed everyone out to our October Town Board meeting. She reminded everyone to turn off the cell phones and she said it is 7:00 I am calling the meeting to order. Mayor Sykes asked Commissioner Mike Hill to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and everyone stood to do so.

Mayor Carol Sykes said let me welcome the little scouts before we do anything else. If you are would like to stand and tell us your name we would like to hear it. What troop are you from? I am Brody Hamilton we are all from troop 37. Anthony Tadlock was next to introduce himself, Jesus Madlea, Samantha Drinkwater and Alivia Tadlock accompanied the scouts also. Mayor Carol Sykes said if you scouts want to come again, you all are welcome anytime to any of our meetings all you have to do is sign in. So, you can come back whenever up to you all.

Mayor Sykes said now the next thing on our agenda is approval of the agenda and amendments if needed, also consent agenda approval of last month's meeting minutes. Do we need any amendments Mayor Sykes asked? Commissioner Mike Hill said he needed to make a motion to change the agenda from number eight to the next item. I also make a motion to approve of the minutes from September's meeting. Mayer Sykes said alright, do I have a second? Commissioner Penny Murphy said I make a second to approve the minutes and agenda, amend the agenda number eight will be our next item. Mayor Sykes said okay is there any discussion on same if not everyone say "aye". All in favor said "aye", Motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sykes said okay Commissioner Mike Hill has the floor for comments. Commissioner Mike hill said my comment is towards all of the employees and the town board. Town of Pink Hill has been

used as an example nationwide. There was a whole lot of talk about small systems not being able to keep on their budgets. Small towns that don't meet their budgets and are in trouble with their General and Water funds. We were used as a national example by Daniel Wilson Our executive director with NC Rural Water Association. He took a copy of our audit and looked at it to make sure he was right about our town before he said anything. Daniel said The Town of Pink Hill was one of the best towns as far as the budget ability to pay our bills to fund our water, sewer, and general fund our ability to stay within our budget and take care of our small town. He used us as an example in a national meeting with the EPA and it went as far as Washington is what I was told. I think we all need to commend ourselves. Mayor Sykes said we need to thank Connie Huffman for all of her help also. Commissioner Mike Hill said for us to be an example nationally this is for all of the employees also thank you. We are known as using the Bible system by doing things the way they should be. Mayor Sykes said thank you Mike that sounds real good.

Mayor Sykes said next on the agenda is the fire report. Phillip Swinson said since Chief Tony heath can't be here I'm going to get out the call report. So from September 17's date until today's date October 8<sup>th</sup>, we have had four EMS assignments, three vehicle accidents, four structure fires, three brush fires, Four fire alarms, for a total of 13 calls for this month. Also, the truck we talked about at last month's meeting we did not get to purchase it, because it was sold before we could get back to the owner with the board approval to purchase. Mayor Carol Sykes asked Phillip if it had been sold. Phillip said yes that is what I am telling you it has been sold before we could get the go ahead from the board. Mayor Sykes said I'm sorry we had to wait that long and the department missed out on the truck. She said we just couldn't do it any quicker, I'm sorry. Yeah maybe another one will come along Phillip replied.

Mayor Sykes said next on the agenda is the police report, Joey your next. If everyone would just like to look at his report since it is so long Mayor Sykes stated. Chief Joey Thigpen said I can read through it if you want me to. Mayor Sykes said since it's so long and if there's nothing new don't worry about reading through it.

Commissioner Penny Murphy said there's not much on the agenda so let him go ahead and read it so we can know what has taken place. Chief Joey said September 17 through yesterday, we had two accidents which one was a hit-and-run, two alarms, an animal complaint, assault, one assist Duplin county sheriff's department, six assist Lenoir county EMS, six Assist Lenoir county sheriff's department one assist a motorist two assist Pink Hill fire department, two assist Lenoir county probation officer, One attempt service for a subpoena, Two attempt to serve an order for arrest, one child neglect, and 23 citations. Two civil issues, eight domestic disturbances, two investigation follow up, One suspicious activity, one suspicious person, six suspicious vehicles, one transport, two vehicle unlocks, six warning citations, and one welfare check. Total of 100 calls. Commissioner Mike Hill said well y'all have been busy. Mayor Carol Sykes said thank you Joey.

Mayor Carol Sykes said OK Timmy your next for a water department Report. Timmy said we went to look at a dump trailer and get cost for a new and used one being the ton trucks brakes are out again at H & H Farm Supply. We're not completely sold on it, I was just letting you know we're looking at. The cost is \$5600 for a used trailer, if you put the tags and everything on it. We would go through H&H, it'll be about \$6000 for get a trailer it will be more movable than our ton truck. A new dump trailer is going to run us about \$8,000. The big ton truck we've got, the brakes are going bad on it again, last time it was \$3000 just to fix the brakes. I think we'd be better off just going ahead and purchasing a dump trailer. We can't drive it in the field at the pump stations without getting it stuck in the field because it's too heavy for the ground and then we have to get the back how to pull ton truck out. I wouldn't trust driving it out of Pink Hill Timmy said, it's just not in good reliable shape. Now update on culverts, I hadn't really heard anything else about the Lynwood Ave culvert. We had a contract to sign with FEMA. We are waiting for it to go to Raleigh for the process of getting a check assigned to us for the cost of the culvert. We're getting close hopefully they'll soon send us the money. And we talked about this last month also about the high H<sub>2</sub>S gases at the deep run lift station. I had one of the chemical guys come and bring a meter to read the level of the chemicals. The levels average at 32

normal level is 15, it went as high as 178 on some occasions. I feel like that's the reason why the chemical is eating our cement and our metal. We've got to do something to control that level. I've talked to several guys and gotten several prices on chemicals. Chem Treat you got to buy the chemicals up front which is \$3600.00 Mayor Sykes asked it this what you need to do to fix this issue of corrosion? I mean I don't know nothing much about the lift stations and the work of the chemicals. Timmy said I have got to get the chemical level under control when it's sitting there with high levels it eats away at the cement. You've got to get that pump to keep working. We would have to maintain it with Chem Treat. State Chemical which was the second business I got a quote from said it would get under control if they were to treat station with two different chemicals. His professional guy came down and kind of looked at what we have he recommended two different chemicals at the lift station on John Green Smith Road, which it would start there and feed through pump station until it got to station one. We would not have to pay anything upfront we would have to sign a contract, everything is theirs they keep it running all year, and our cost is \$4600 for the whole year. One set up and will be doing this in our three stations instead of just one or two. Say it would kill that in every station it lasts for three months we could pay \$700 upfront just to try it for three months and if we don't like it then we do not have to sign a contract or anything that we would know if we wanted to use that chemical or not. I'm leaning more towards spending the \$700 to try the chemical out for three months. Mayor Sykes said that sounds good to try it out but you're saying we don't have to pay anything else after \$700 if we don't like it. Yes, in three months' time if we don't like it, Timmy said then we will go on to the other chemical. I feel like that's the best thing to do just to see how it does and its less cost efficient. Mayor Sykes said OK if we like it and decide to go with it what do we do? Timmy said well if you like that, then every three months it's \$700. Commissioner James Quinn said is that for all three lift stations. Timmy replied yes sir it is for all three live stations. Phillip said one chemical for three different stations. Timmy said he did say to use one more chemical to lift up grease out of the stations and corrosion but I can't remember everything he talked about. Mayor Carol Sykes says OK Timmy you're saying that's \$700 every three months? Timmy said it

just hangs in the lift station, you don't need to put up with it or anything. Timmy says sometimes we have high levels and we need to be aware that. Phillip said we just have to keep it above the water and I don't feel like we will have a problem with keeping it above the water unless we have a hurricane or something and if we know that one's coming we can just pull it out of the lift station. Mayor Sykes says so how soon do you need it. Timmy said how soon do we need it? Laughing, We needed it like yesterday. Timmy said I was just letting you know pretty much this is what I want to go with because it's cost-effective and I think it will work. Maybe in two months' time we can get this man bring us a meter to hang in there to keep track of the levels of the chemicals. Commissioner Mike Hill said I'll see what I can do about getting a meter to get a reading on that. What's the name of the company again Commissioner Mike Hill asked? Timmy said it is United. Commissioner Mike Hill said ok then I make a motion that Timmy proceeds with the company United Chemicals at \$700 every three months To provide chemicals in his lift stations. May your site said OK I have a motion can I get a second Commissioner James Quinn said I second it. Mayor Sykes said if there is no discussion all in favor say "aye". Motion was carried unanimously. Motion carried thank you Mayor Sykes replies. Anything else Timmy? He said well you never said if you liked my idea on the dump trailer. Mayor Sykes laughing said no we didn't. Commissioner Mike Hill said you're talking \$6000 for a used trailer versus \$8000 for a new one? Timmy said yes or we could just spend \$3000 and fix the brakes on the town ton truck. Commissioner Penny Murphy asked what the year on the used trailer is for \$6000. Timmy said I don't quite remember less than five years old but it does show some wear on it just a couple of minor scratches. Mayor Sykes asked is there a warranty with it like with a car? Timmy said not with the used one. He said that I'm not for sure either about with the new one but he said I can find that out. Mayor Sykes said yes, I need you to find that out if you will, if there's a warranty with a used trailer or the new one. Commissioner Mike Hill said my question is if you get the trailer do you still need ton truck? Phillip said I would use it until it completely quits just for odds and end jobs. Timmy said like I said earlier I wouldn't go out of pink Hill with that truck. You have to physically stomp the brakes to stop so it is just a slow roll when using it. Timmy said

we're leaning more towards getting the trailer than fixing the ton truck. We can hook the trailer to our back hoe/tractor and/or our work trucks to drive through the fields. Mayor Sykes said just check on the warranty and see if there is a warranty with it or not and will just hold off for until next month. Commissioner Mike Hill said I'd rather put the \$3000 in a trailer then keep fixing the truck. Mayor Sykes said I agree I do too. Timmy said I just need to let him know with or without a warrant if y'all still want it because H & H's plan is to make money off of it renting it out to customers. I'll just let him know and if it doesn't have a warranty we don't want it right now. Mayor Sykes said anything else on that right now Timmy? Timmy reply's no.

Mayor Sykes asked all if anyone has any comments. No one did, she says I just want to say thank you to Phillip for fixing the old police department building where the door was gone and replacing it with plywood to cover the entry way. Phillip said you are welcome. I am trying to talk the fire department members into fixing the building for use during Hurricanes or any recall situation. Ole okay Mayor Sykes says. Thank You. Mayor Sykes asked attorney George if he had any comments or anything he may want to bring up. He says no I don't have anything right now. Mayor Sykes says well I am proud and glad to be sitting here with you all tonight, I have a rough time with my health being sick but I am back to myself now, I am ok. I want to thank you all for what you do and what you continue to do. If there is nothing else from anyone to discuss I will now call this meeting adjourned. Thank you all.