

Special Board Meeting

The Town of Pink Hill Board held a special meeting was on February 8, 2022 in the town hall board room at 6:45 p.m. 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, and Chief Michael Hoffman.

Visitors present were W. Clark Jr., Rodney Scott, Ben Jones, J.W Stallings, Carolyn Whitfield, Daniel White, and Morgan Howard.

Mayor Hill said I need a motion to approve the special meeting agenda. Commissioner Fantini said I make a motion to approve the special meeting agenda. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say “aye”, motion carried unanimously.

The next item was to amend the title of the General Regulations Chapter 94 of the Nuisance and Maintenance Litter Control Ordinance. Attorney George Jenkins said I made changes based on what you all discussed at the work session taking away the requirement of a bond. I think it also clarifies a civil penalty is discretionary. Mayor Hill said and the main part of the ordinance where it’s about the compost pile? Mr. Jenkins said I think it’s the last page. Mayor Hill discussed the ordinance and each member and visitor were given a copy of the new ordinance.

Mayor Hill asked for everyone to look at it and review it, if there were any comments to let them know. Visitor, Daniel White, asked if you change this ordinance now what about the stuff that is existing. Mr. Jenkins said that would be what you call an ex post facto law you can’t make something be illegal that has already been done. Another visitor said so basically it would be grandfathered in? Mr. Jenkins said yes and as it rots away you can’t add back to it. Mr. White said anything junk, metal, etc. that you say is not okay here, but already in place. Commissioner Fantini said we already have a town ordinance that specifically addresses that. Mr. Jenkins said junk cars, transmission, rear ends, and those kind of things that ordinance has been in place for probably 35-40 years. Mr. White said your addressing appliances here so anything that it isn’t addressing here you are saying unless they do something or changes. Mr. Jenkins said no that is not what I am saying, what I am saying is this law supersedes the old law, but the old law still makes it illegal to have junk in the town. Mayor Hill said if metal is put in a compost pile, or metal in a pre-existing pile, we would be taking care of it. Mrs. Carolyn Whitfield said we didn’t have an ordinance that was for the compost pile that was the reason for the whole hearing. Mayor Hill said yes ma’am the fines have been changed to get people’s attention. Mr. White said if this addresses what is a compost pile, but other than that what if it is a pile of dirt not a compost pile? Mr. Jenkins said if it is a pile of dirt I don’t think there is anything we can do. If there are logs and branches in it that will be the definition of a compost pile. Commissioner Fantini said I think you are talking about if it is a pile of dirt considered to be a nuisance to somebody. It would have to be brought up to the board. If you consider it a nuisance bring it up to the board and we will consider if it is a nuisance. Mrs. Whitfield said when we were clearing property and we had a

pile on the field we own some would call it a compost pile, is that a nuisance? We burned it and buried it how does that file under this ordinance on our own property. Mayor Hill said it would not be considered a compost pile it would be considered you clearing the lot. You are going to burn it and clear it out. Mr. Jenkins said is it still there? Mrs. Whitfield said no it was not permanent. Commissioner Fantini the big thing with the nuisance in town is it is our job to go around what is out there, but case by case basis. If you have a 90 year old it is upon us to help her out, but if you have a slumlord our issue is to take care of it. If you rely on the county it is a waiting game so we do need to get a person that is certified. The town enforcer will not be anyone from the board it will be someone else assigned by the board. Mayor Hill closed the public hearing.

Typed by Diana Rodriguez, Assistant Town Clerk

Approved by Crystal Heath, Town Clerk