

## Special Meeting

October 19, 2021

The Town of Pink Hill Board special meeting was held on October 19, 2021 in the town hall board room. Present for this meeting were Mayor Mike Hill, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Commissioner Pete Fantini Town, and Town Clerk Crystal Heath.

Mayor Mike Hill said I would like to call this meeting to order and I welcome everyone. I would like to ask everyone to please turn your cell phones off. I need a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Murphy said I make a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say "aye", motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hill said we need to discuss the money from the American Recovery Act. I come up with some suggestions and Crystal has wrote it down here. We can use this money to cover loss revenue and Connie gave us a figure debt of \$20,000. Commissioner Quinn said for water and everything? Mrs. Crystal Heath said for water and sewer that is what we loss in revenue. Commissioner Quinn said that will put us back in check? Both Mayor Hill and Mrs. Heath said yes. Mayor Hill said looking back at it lets put back \$30,000 back in loss revenue because we just lost our truck it's totaled. We might could use that money to replace that truck. Commissioner Quinn said we are not through this year so I agree with you.

Mayor Hill said Timmy gave me a wish list. A lift station on Smith Grady Road, that water we got to treat and it is building a headwall up two feet. The other two, he has two valves that are not working. They are open right now, sometimes they go the other way, freeze open, but after a while rust. Commissioner Quinn said is it like the check valve? Mayor Hill said valves where we screw down and cut the water off. The Police Department needs new computers because they are way outdated. I put \$10,000 there to replace all the computers. Commissioner Murphy said what was Timmy's figure? Mayor Hill said \$25,000. The Fire Department when we have a power outage or hurricane, the EMS and fire department stay in the building. We don't have enough room so we are supposed to get a generator for the cafeteria. That way they can split the crowd up and have some over there and over here. We are looking at about \$10,000.

Mayor Hill said I am supposed to give \$5,000 to broadband that is to help them. Commissioner Quinn said do they have to have like fiber optic? Commissioner Murphy said what is in here says they have to have fiber optic and they are not fiber optic. Mayor Hill said what I am proposing is to give them some money to build their own tower. Commissioner Quinn said I recuse myself in this because it is a conflict interest for me so I do not need to be involved. Mayor Hill said that was fine. Commissioner Murphy said what is your logic behind that? Mayor Hill said everybody else that I have looked at has given money to broadband because of the situation of people not having access to internet. I do not want them on my water tank unless they are going to pay for it. Commissioner Fantini said I do know that there are a bunch of farmers in need of this service was it ever presented to them to pay \$8,500 to maintain those towers. Mayor Hill said when I was working in Rural Water I talked to three tank companies and

they proposed to tell them \$500 a month to put antennas on the tower. We brought it up to a meeting and they did not want to pay it. Commissioner Murphy said they also wanted exclusive rights to the tower. Commissioner Fantini said that was the only thing I was going to say I could not agree to exclusive owner because if someone else comes in here why not offer it to them too. Mayor Hill said I do know a tower costs about \$30,000 because you have to have it to withstand a Category 5 Hurricane. Commissioner Murphy said so how are you going to get around the fiber network? Mayor Hill said it would have to be fiber network. Commissioner Murphy said they can't do that they are out of sight. Mayor Hill said well they are going to have to put fiber going into it. Commissioner Murphy said that is not considered fiber network internet. Mayor Hill said out of sight they are going to have put other antennas around. Commissioner Murphy said James what is fiber network internet? Commissioner Quinn said you are looking at fiber to the pre-em, fiber to the curb, and fiber to somebodies house. What you are saying for them is there is no cost to them, another company would put the fiber there for them, and once it gets to them they are broadcasting from another internet company. My personal opinion, I don't see how to give them the money unless they are building a fiber network themselves. Mayor Hill said the county is giving their provider how much? Mrs. Heath said whomever their partner is 1 million dollars. Mayor Hill said I am just throwing it out there if you want to do it. Commissioner Murphy said I don't see how you could do it with all the stipulations.

Mayor Hill said ok next is we have 6 employees that work full time I am proposing to give them a bonus of \$2,500 gross pay. Commissioner Quinn said I have no problem with that. Mayor Hill said the employees are Crystal, Diana, Michael, Timmy, Phillip, and Jason.

Mayor Hill said which one would you like to start off with first? Commissioner Fantini said I think we should start off with the bonuses first? Commissioner Fantini said I make a motion to give the employees of the town for COVID their bonuses. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say "aye", motion carried unanimously. 25,000 to the water/sewer department to fix the headwall and two valves. Commissioner Quinn said I make a motion for the money appropriated for the water/sewer department and headwalls. Commissioner Fantini seconded the motion. Mayor Hill said any discussion, all in favor say "aye", motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hill said one thing I left out is upgrading the office a little bit. My proposal is to put a steel door down the hall down there with a keypad on it. Crystal has asked about a quote, but they haven't gotten back to her. There is a keypad so the only that would have it is the board members, Mayor, and employees. \$5,000 more dollars that we can put towards loss revenue that way if we buy the truck we can pay for it down. Commissioner Murphy said how much was the office upgrade? Mayor Hill said \$2,000. Mrs. Heath said I have to give a plan together and present it to the Department of Treasury. The board discussed the budget as follows, the Fire Department \$9,000, Police Department \$9,000, \$18,000 employees, \$25,000 water/sewer infrastructure, \$20,000 loss revenue, and \$2,000 office upgrade that would be \$83,000. Commissioner Quinn said would we get the same amount of money next time? Mrs. Heath said it is just a little bit less \$67,000 and next July we will get it. You have until 2024 to spend it all. Commissioner Quinn said so we are not going to spend any money until we have it correct?

Mayor Hill said we have the money in the account. Mrs. Heath said I had to make a separate account for the ARP money because you have to show how each transaction out of the account. Commissioner Fantini said do they have to approve the spending on what we are voting on now? Mrs. Heath said no you just have to go by these guidelines and then I have to send proof to the Treasury on what we are putting our money towards.

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