



**MINUTES OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF THE
TOWN OF PINEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017**

The Town Council of the Town of Pineville met in Regular Session and Closed Session on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hut Meeting Facility in Pineville.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor: Jack Edwards

Mayor Pro-Tem: David Phillips

Town Council Members: Les Gladden, Debbie Fowler and Christopher McDonough

Town Manager: Ryan Spitzer

Planning Director: Travis Morgan was absent

Planner: Brandon Hackney

Town Clerk: Barbara Monticello

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Edwards at 6:32 p.m. He welcomed those in attendance and asked those that wished to speak to sign the speaker list.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro Tem David Phillips.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Edwards called for a moment of silence to remember the 9/11 tragedy along with the victims of the recent hurricanes, Harvey and Irma which devastated Texas, Florida and parts of the Caribbean. He added that the state had approved the naming of the bridge on Polk St. after fallen fire fighter, Richard Sheltra, and that there would be a formal presentation on October 5th in Raleigh.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Adoption of the Agenda:

Hearing no comments regarding the agenda, a motion was made by Council Member Debbie Fowler and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem David Phillip to adopt the agenda as is. There were ayes by all and the agenda was adopted as is.

Approval of the Minutes from the Regular and Closed Session Meetings of August 8, 2017 Council Member Les Gladden moved to approve the minutes with no changes. Council Member Debbie Fowler seconded the motion and there were ayes by all to approve the minutes as is.

Consent Agenda:

The following items were included: a) *Resolution No. 2017-09 for Surplus Items*; b) *Finance Report for August, 2017*; and c) *Set Public Hearing Dates for potential Micro-brewery and Conditional Plan Request*. Mayor Pro Tem David Phillips moved to approve the Consent Agenda with no changes. Council Member Debbie Fowler seconded the motion and there were ayes by all.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jane Shutt – Ms. Shutt stated she had lived in the Pineville area for over 30 years and had been part of the staff at the Pineville United Methodist Church for a number of years before starting Pineville's Neighbor's Place, an organization that seeks to unify the churches in Pineville to aid in making this a "help center" for residents to go to in time of need. There previously had not been a place in Pineville for residents to go to; they would have to go into Charlotte to seek help until now. They already been successful with a potato drop, providing Christmas gifts to children in need, assisted with Teacher's Appreciation Week and provided backpacks and hygiene bags for more than 600 students. On October the 28th they are planning another potato drop with an estimated 40K pounds of potatoes to be bagged. Ms. Shutt was asked to leave her information with Town Hall in case others wanted to get in touch with her.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Interior/Exterior Repairs to Fire Department Building – (Chip Hill).** Public Works Director, Chip Hill, spoke regarding the work being done on the fire department building. The contractor began demolition of the wall and discovered many problems not originally expected. At that point work was stopped and an engineer was consulted. They worked up plans with the engineer and will have an estimate after they meet with him again next week. Council Member Les Gladden asked how much the glass window and door would be to which Mr. Hill replied that it was already paid for and the cost of both came to \$3,500.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Awarding Badge and Service Weapon to Retired Police Officers – (Rob Merchant).** Police Chief, Rob Merchant, explained that NCGS allow retiring officers to take their service weapon and police badges with them with approval from Council by way of resolution. Three resolutions had been drawn up for two employees that had retired some time ago – Captain William Connell and Sergeant Walter Rorie – and one recent retiree, Sergeant Wes Rollins. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips moved to approve all three resolutions for each of the retirees. Council Member Debbie Fowler seconded the motion and there were ayes by all to approve all three requests. Council Member Les Gladden requested that something be in place recognizing the years of service before awarding the badge and gun.
- B. Structural Engineering Report of the Mill — (Ryan Spitzer)** – Mr. Spitzer presented a Power Point presentation on the structural integrity of the mill site. The engineer did an extensive walk-thru of the site. Each of the buildings within the 30-acre site were labeled to determine which buildings were salvageable to rehab and those that weren't. The majority of the buildings were found to be structurally sound enough to rehab while just a handful were not. The ages of the different buildings ranged anywhere from 1900 to 1920, 1940, and 1970. If the buildings were deemed to be historical, it would be important so that the buildings would be rehabbed back to one of those specific time periods. The next step would be to work with an historical consultant to get the buildings listed as historical.

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips asked that Mr. Spitzer look into fencing the rest of the mill property. Mr. Spitzer indicated that he had looked into it and that it would cost an additional \$22K to fence in the remaining 1600 linear feet to match the type that is currently there. All agreed it was too much money to go with the current type of fencing. Mr. Spitzer added that he was able to find similar screening from Amazon at a cost of just \$50 per roll. The consensus of Council was to give the screening from Amazon a try at \$50 a roll.

- C. Police Department Agreement for New Hires – (Rob Merchant)** – Lts. Corey Copley and Toby Calhoun presented a plan to attract new recruits to work for the Pineville Police Department. Police departments around the country are experiencing hiring issues due to negative news that is driving younger people away from a career in law enforcement. Enrollment in police academies is down and in some cases there aren't enough candidates to justify holding an academy so they are not being offered as often. In an effort to attract candidates and to remain competitive with other towns in the area, they were proposing a training agreement that essentially pays a new

recruit as an employee of the town while they attend the police academy. The agreement would lock them into a two-year commitment to work for Pineville after graduating from the academy. Town Manager, Ryan Spitzer, suggested a new job classification as a police trainee starting with lower pay. Council Member Les Gladden moved to approve the agreement which, once signed, would make the individual an employee of the town with a minimum two-year contract to work for the town once they graduated from the Police Academy. Council Member Chris McDonough seconded the motion and there were ayes by all to approve the agreement.

- D. Fire Department Radios (Mike Gerin/Ryan Spitzer)** – Chief Gerin explained that the radios the firemen currently use are at the end of their life-cycle. They are using Motorola radios which they will no longer be servicing or making parts for come 2018. Mecklenburg County is purchasing new radios from Motorola who offered them a 20% discount, which they decided to extend and offer to other agencies. There were several different payment options that Motorola was presenting including lease options.

Chief Gerin stated that he would like a total of 45 radios but that they already had 14 of the new ones, leaving the total needed at 31. After discussion amongst Council and Chief Gerin, it was decided that the Fire Department would be granted a total of 22 new radios. Council Member Les Gladden moved to approve the purchase of 22 Motorola radios for the Pineville Fire Department. Council Member Chris McDonough seconded the motion. There were ayes by all.

Before moving on to the Manager's Report, Mayor Edwards recognized a Boy Scout in the audience and asked him to introduce himself. Conner Stewart stood and introduced himself and stated he was with a troop in Matthews and he was in attendance to obtain one of the Boy Scout badges.

- E. Staff Update:** Town Manager, Ryan Spitzer, reported on the asbestos removal RFP that was due to go out on September 22nd with the bids due on October 27th. The company selected would then have 45-60 days to clean up and remove the asbestos. A total of \$300K was already appropriated for this task.

There was a kickoff meeting for the splash pad project. The survey and borings were to be completed by the end of the week and then three designs will be presented to the Park Advisory Board by October 2nd. There should be comments regarding the designs presented at the next council meeting as well as an Open House.

Mr. Spitzer is still waiting for feedback regarding the historical designation of the mill and he intends to interview three firms for town IT services next month. Body cameras were purchased for police officers with the decision made to use asset forfeiture money to pay the cost of \$73,600 for them. He announced that Signature Waste will be changing the recycling schedule to every other Wednesday started October 4th.

Mayor Edwards called for a break at 8:03 p.m. before moving into Closed Session.

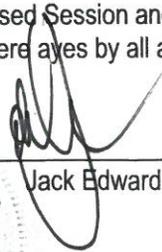
Closed Session: At 8:20 p.m. a motion was made and seconded to open the Closed Session Meeting. There were ayes by all and the Closed Session was opened. Two real estate issues were discussed as well as a personnel issue. The manager was given direction from Council on how to proceed with these items.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:44 p.m. Council Member Chris McDonough moved to exit the Closed Session and adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Phillips. There were ayes by all. There were ayes by all and the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


Barbara Monticello, Town Clerk


Jack Edwards, Mayor

