



**TOWN OF PINE LEVEL**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**JUNE 3, 2019**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jeff Holt reconvened a regular meeting of the Pine Level Board of Commissioners at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 3, 2019 at the Pine Level Town Hall, after having recessed earlier on May 13, 2019.

**ROLL CALL**

   X COMMISSIONER KAREN ANDERSON-MILLER  
   X COMMISSIONER GREG BAKER  
   X COMMISSIONER JIMMY GARNER  
   X COMMISSIONER PHIL PITTMAN  
   X MAYOR JEFF HOLT

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Clerk Sharon Thompson

**BUDGET MEETING**

Mayor Holt stated that the purpose of the recessed session was to discuss the proposed upcoming budget for 2019-2020. He first informed the board that earlier today he signed the audit contract for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, with Andrew Harris, CPA. He then went on to summarize the proposed budget. He hoped all of the board members had reviewed it. He said they would hold a public hearing on the budget at their next regular meeting on June 10, 2019. The mayor pointed out the following:

- 10% increase in giving to the Fire Department, or an increase of \$8700 for a total of \$95700
- Plans to purchase two new police cars, as well as pay off the existing car loans, plus bullet proof vests
- New SKAG mower in the street department, as well as a payment for a garbage truck should it be needed, Ray Stuckey also wants to purchase a service truck
- Johnston County water and sewer costs are going up this year, will pass those costs along to customers
- Salary adjustments ranging from 4% to 9%; also affects retirement, social security, workers' comp
- Distributed salary study comparing salaries in towns of Four Oaks, Kenly and Princeton; found PL employees in police and public works are lagging behind

## **PL FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Brannan Barbee and Greg Johnson had arrived at the meeting and Mayor Holt asked them if they wished to address their budget request with the town. He explained that the board considered the request for an additional \$20000, but they proposed instead to increase their contribution to \$95700, which amounted to a ten percent increase over last year's giving. Fire Chief Barbee listed several needs the Fire Department has, as follows:

- Attempting to meet NFDA standards
- Physical exams for all fire fighters
- Replacement plan for gear and equipment
- Funding for increased staffing
- Increased fuel costs
- Fire prevention activities

Commissioner Pittman asked the two fire department representatives if they require anything when a new fireman comes on board. Chief Barbee said yes, but the physicals they get don't meet NFDA standards, which are close to NCDOT requirements. Commissioner Pittman asked what would be their next major purchase. Chief Barbee said they want to repair the back pad behind the fire station, where the trucks are staged. Fire Dept. President Greg Johnson said they have some drainage issues too. They reported that the department had an ISO inspection today and everything seemed to go well. They hope to get those results in a couple of months.

Mayor Holt told the firemen that they hear their issues and recognize the increased needs, because the town has big needs too. He said they town still did not have concrete figures on this year's tax re-evaluations, so they were kind of working in the dark on the tax base. He went on to say that he had just given a short summarization of the proposed budget, and he asked if the board members had anything to add.

## **INCREASE IN GARBAGE RATES**

Commissioner Pittman proposed to increase the monthly garbage rates by \$1.50 a month, and use the funds toward a new garbage truck. Commissioner Baker said he would second that proposal and the board voted unanimously to increase the rate as proposed. Mayor Holt said the town clerk would add those fees to the revenues and expenses in the budget. He also pointed out that a hearing would be coming up on June 10 on the budget proposal.

(Commissioner Baker had to exit the meeting at this point, at 7:26 p.m.)

## **MEETING ADJOURNED**

Immediately thereafter, and with there being no further business, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

*MOTION:* Pittman

*SECOND:* Garner

*VOTE:* unanimous

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**TOWN CLERK**

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**MAYOR**

