Mayor Jeff Holt

Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Baker

Board of Commissioners Jimmy Garner Phil Pittman Bill Radford



TOWN OF PINE LEVEL MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING JANUARY 10, 2022

Town Clerk Connie N. Capps

Police Chief Ashley Woodard

Public Works Supt.
Ray Stuckey

Rec. Coordinator Scottie Hayes

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeff Holt called the regular meeting of the Pine Level Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 10, 2022 at the Pine Level Town Hall.

ROLL CALL

- √ Mayor Jeff Holt
- X Commissioner Greg Baker
- X Commissioner Jimmy Garner
- √ Commissioner Phil Pittman
- √ Commissioner Bill Radford

STAFF PRESENT

Attorney Chip Hewett, Consultant Dan Simmons, Police Chief Ashley Woodard, Public Works Superintendent Ray Stuckey, Recreation Director/Zoning Adm. Scottie Hayes, and Finance Consultant Marla Ashworth, and Town Clerk Connie Capps.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE

The invocation was led by Mayor Jeff Holt.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Attorney Chip Hewett.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion to approve: Commissioner Bill Radford

2nd- Commissioner Phil Pittman

Vote- Unanimous

MINUTES- DECEMBER 13, 2021

Motion to approve: Commissioner Phil Pittman

2nd- Commissioner Bill Radford

Vote- Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Recreation- Recreation Commissioner Bill Radford gave a report on behalf of Scottie Hayes, due to Scottie was overseeing the recreation basketball games. He said the basketball games started this past week and games will continue until the end of February. He said there are eight basketball teams. He also reminded everyone that the recreation committee members were still selling raffle tickets for \$5, and the 50/50 drawings are held monthly at the town board meetings. He said the drawing tonight would be held at the end of the meeting. He stated that registration for spring sports will begin later this month and will continue until the end of February. Commissioner Radford informed the board that one shelter at the park had been replaced and the work on the other shelters will begin in the coming months.

Commissioner Bill Radford asked Public Works Superintendent Ray Stuckey if the existing drainage problem would prevent the repairs being done to the concession stand. Ray said it would not because the drainage problem is about 10 to 15 feet from the concession stand. He said they could start anytime on the repairs. Ray also said the Lions Club had stated they would also contribute to some of these repairs.

<u>Water/Sewer-</u>Consultant Dan Simmons reported that the water and sewer project was moving forward. He said there will be a loan closing the end of February. He stated that the loan is closing with 1% less than what was committed.

Streets- Public Works Superintendent Ray Stuckey reported all was going well.

<u>Police</u>- Police Chief Ashley Woodard reported all was going well in the department. He said he had received complaints about large trucks and tractor trailers continuing to knock down signs on West Pine Street. He said he had contacted the NCDOT and received approval to put up "NO THRU TRUCKS" signs. He said the signs would be up in a few weeks. The Chief stated there is a sign posted at the east end of Pine Street but not at the West end of the street. The Chief and the Public Works Superintendent agreed these trucks are turning on West Pine Street thinking that is the route to Selma instead of going over the railroad tracks then turning left to go toward Selma. He said this has become a problem because these trucks are also damaging West Pine Street.

Staff- Attorney Chip Hewett stated that the town clerk and I are working on a renewal that is coming from the USDA to the town board concerning a bond note the town has for a balance of \$2,020,000. He said the good thing about this is that the interest is 2.25%. He said we will soon be getting sporadic information from Bond Council Charlie Steele and we will bring this information to the board at the February meeting. He also stated that the board would need to adopt a Resolution at that time for authorization. He said the closing will be held on February 24, 2022. Attorney Hewett stated that at this time Charlie Steele has not received his instructions from the USDA. He said he just wanted the board to know what was coming up.

Mayor Holt stated that the General Statutes require elected board members to take an Ethics training class. He said in the past board members had gone to Clayton for training or taken the training online. He asked Town Clerk Connie Capps if she had received any information on the dates of the training. She said she had not, but would let the board members know as soon as the dates were released.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Recreation Director Scottie Hayes arrived at the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Mayor Holt stated that no one from the Recreation Committee came to report on the repairs to the concession stand. Scottie said he had received a couple of estimates to paint the concession stand and polish the floors. He said if we don't move on this project now, we will miss the opportunity and it will be summer. He said we have now until March to complete the project. Commissioner Bill Radford made a motion to move forward on the repairs and for the expenses not to exceed \$8,000.00. Commissioner Phil Pittman seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Finance Consultant Marla Ashworth informed the board that the town's Procurement Policy allows the board a threshold up to \$500,000.00 for informal bids. She suggested the board get two or three people to submit bids within a time frame and document them. She said you only have to receive one bid but it is a good practice to receive more. Attorney Chip Hewett agreed.

Marla also reminded the board to be thinking what projects they would like to spend the three million dollars toward. She said some items the board has mentioned were (1) items left out from the water and sewer project (2) drainage at the park (3) treatment at the new well. She said an engineer will be needed to help with these plans whether it is your current engineer or consider other engineering firms. She said now is the time to ask for requests for qualifications for engineering firms and receive references. Mayor Holt stated that the town's consultant, Dan Simmons has informed us he will be retiring soon so the timing is right to consider engineering firms. Dan said he would be glad to assist in helping with selections if needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Jeff Holt next stated that February is Heart Health Awareness month. He said this is a county-wide campaign entitled "ALL IN RED". This campaign is held every year in support of the Johnston Health Foundation Heart Fund. He stated that Friday, February 4, 2022 will be proclaimed as "National Wear Red Day." He encouraged everyone to wear red to support this important campaign and fundraiser. Mayor Holt stated that he had reached out to all fellow mayors asking them to adopt the Proclamation for "ALL IN RED" month. Mayor Holt next read the Proclamation. Commissioner Phil Pittman made a motion to adopt the Proclamation and Commissioner Bill Radford seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Mayor Holt then shared the following statistics:

- Every 30 minutes 50 people in the United States die from cardiovascular disease
- It is the #1 cause of death in Johnston County
- 100 people die every hour from strokes, heart attacks or any cardiovascular related issues
- One dollar out of \$6 healthcare dollars is spent on cardiovascular disease each year.
- 80% of all cardiovascular disease is preventable and it starts with education.

Mayor Holt stated it is our goal to raise awareness. He said he appreciated everyone's support! (The Proclamation is included and made a part of these minutes)

MAYOR'S MINUTE

Mayor Holt said he was glad that everyone here was doing good and healthy. He encouraged everyone to get the vaccine.

RECREATION RAFFLE DRAWING

Recreation Director Scottie Hayes next held the drawing for the 50/50 raffle. He said there were 101 tickets sold and the winner would receive \$252.50. The winner was Connie Capps.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:45p.m.

Motion to adjourn: Commissioner Bill Radford

Second: Commissioner Phil Pittman

Vote: Unanimous

Connie N. Capps, Town Clerk

Jeff Holt, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the well-being of our community is of paramount importance and maintaining excellent health among our citizens is a top priority, February marks the one month, county-wide heart health awareness campaign entitled "ALL IN RED", presented by Johnston Health and Aramark, and organized by the Johnston Health Foundation; and

Whereas, In the United States, North Carolina, and Johnston County heart disease is the leading cause of death among men and women;

Whereas, Heart Disease and Stroke ranks among the top five health priorities in Johnston County; per the 2019 Johnston County Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan; and

Whereas, per the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 80% of deaths from premature heart disease and stroke could be prevented by changes in physical activity, diet, education and management of common medical conditions, and;

Whereas, ALL IN RED is an opportunity to increase heart health awareness, while addressing the growing needs of local heart patients; and

Whereas, the ALL IN RED campaign invites all Johnston County residents, business owners and visitors to participate in this initiative by wearing RED on February 4, 2022, National Wear Red Day, and/or running a RED promo or fundraiser in February; and

Whereas, the financial challenges of a heart patient are enormous; all funds raised within this campaign period will benefit local heart patients through the Johnston Health Foundation's Heart Fund; and

Whereas, on this day, we recognize heart disease and stroke survivors, those battling the disease, their families who are their source of love and encouragement, and applaud the efforts of our medical professionals who provide quality care; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Honorable Mayor Jeff Holt and Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim **February 2022** as "**ALL IN RED MONTH**" and encourages businesses, industries and citizens in the community to support and participate in this event.

Duly proclaimed this 10th day of January 2022, while in regular session.

OF PINE LELEN

Jeff Holt, Mayor

Town Clerk