



**VILLAGE COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
ASSEMBLY HALL
395 MAGNOLIA ROAD
PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA
4:30 PM**

The Pinehurst Village Council held a Regular Meeting at 4:29 p.m., Tuesday September 12, 2023, in the Assembly Hall of Pinehurst Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The following were in attendance in Assembly Hall:

Mr. John C. Strickland, Mayor
Mr. Patrick Pizzella, Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. Jeff Morgan, Councilmember
Ms. Lydia Boesch, Councilmember
Mr. Tom Hennie, Councilmember
Mr. Jeff Batton, Assistant Village Manager
Mr. Jason Whitaker, Chief Information Officer
Ms. Shannon Konstantinou, Village Clerk

And approximately 13 attendees, including 6 staff and 1 press.

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Strickland called the Village Council meeting to order. Mayor Strickland asked for Council approval to move item #2: Reports to item #3, and to move item #3: Oath of Office for Newly Appointed Councilmember Tom Hennie to item #2. All members unanimously agreed to adjust the agenda order.

2. Oath of Office for Newly Appointed Councilmember Tom Hennie.

3. Reports:

Village Manager

- Mr. Jeff Batton, Assistant Village Manager, announced the promotion of Ms. Shannon Konstantinou to the role of Village Clerk, and reminded Council to pick up their copies of the Community Survey reports for review.

Village Council

- Mayor Strickland reported on the August 09th, 2023 event installing Dr. Sandy Stewart as the new Sandhills Community College President, the ceremony to be held on Thursday, October 12th, 2023 at 02:00 PM renaming the Council Conference Room of Village Hall in honor of former Mayor and Councilmember Virginia "Ginsey" Fallon, and the ceremony held in Southern Pines memorializing the victims of the attacks and honoring those who served on September 11th, 2001.
- Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella reported on the September meeting of the Beautification Committee, the return of their Chairperson Ms. Janet Farrell, and the Committee's work to prepare for the upcoming

holiday season along with helping progress the Downtown Amenity Plan; the September 05th, 2023 Moore County Economic Development Partnership board meeting, which included a guest presentation from the new President of Sandhills Community College, Dr. Sandy Stewart; and the celebration of life for Ms. Allisha Watts.

- Councilmember Boesch reported on the Pinecones Pathway Program, which will return in fall for one day (Saturday, October 21, 2023) with 10 glass pinecones produced by Starworks being hidden on 10 trails in Moore County to commemorate Great Trails Day in North Carolina (for more information on the event and increased prizes, visit homeofgolf.com); Rock the Village; the railroad spur being installed next to the Cradle and the subsequent burial of the overhead electrical lines; and on former Councilmember Jane Hogeman's obituary in the Sunday, September 10th, 2023 edition of The Pilot.
- Councilmember Morgan reported on the August 23rd, 2023 Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC) meeting and the resolution made by the CPRC honoring former Councilmember Jane Hogeman's life and service.
- Councilmember Hennie stated he is honored to be part of the Village Council and will do his best to serve the community for the time he is able to serve on Council.

4. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda.**

All items listed below are considered routine or have been discussed at length in previous meetings and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will be held unless requested by a member of the Village Council.

A. Approval of Village Council Meeting Minutes

- August 8, 2023 Council Regular Meeting Minutes
- August 8, 2023 Council Work Session Minutes
- August 8, 2023 Closed Session Minutes
- August 21, 2023 Council Special Meeting Minutes

End of Consent Agenda.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Boesch, seconded by Councilmember Morgan, Council unanimously approved the Consent agenda by a vote of 5-0.

5. **Discuss and Consider Resolution 23-42 Appointing Thomas Schroeder as the Chairperson to the Board of Adjustment.**

Mr. Cameron, Planning and Inspections Director, discussed the vacant Chairperson position for the Board of Adjustment, and Mr. Schroeder's experience and eligibility for the position.

Mayor Strickland asked Mr. Schroeder to provide background on why he is interested in serving on the Board of Adjustment. Mr. Schroeder detailed his experience with quasi-judicial procedures from his six-year service with the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and 12 years as a judge.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella, seconded by Councilmember Morgan, Council unanimously approved Resolution 23-42 Appointment of Thomas Schroeder as the Chairperson to the Board of Adjustment by a vote of 5-0.

6. **USGA Presentation.**

A presentation regarding Golf House Pinehurst and the 2024 U.S. Open will be given.

Mr. Leighton Schwab, Director of Operations for the USGA, and Janine Driscoll, Director of Communications for the USGA, provided background on their professional experience with the USGA and experience within

the community of Pinehurst. Ms. Driscoll thanked the Council for their support of Golf House Pinehurst, congratulated Councilmember Hennie on his appointment, and recognized Councilmember Hogeman's contribution to both the Council and the community.

Ms. Driscoll reviewed a PowerPoint presentation outlining the progress of the development of the Golf House Pinehurst site. Ms. Driscoll stated equipment will start to be moved into the facility late November / early December provided everything goes as planned with the Certificates of Occupancy timeline for the site. Ms. Driscoll further reviewed the items and information that will be on display at the Visitors Center, Museum, and Hall of Fame facilities. Ms. Driscoll stated the inauguration into the Hall of Fame will take place on the opening day of the 2024 U.S. Open. Ms. Driscoll, also, highlighted the initiatives the USGA will be taking to be an engaged member of the Pinehurst community. Ms. Driscoll displayed a timeline of the remaining projects to be completed at the Golf House Pinehurst site with a soft opening of the USGA Experience being planned for May of 2024.

Mr. Schwab reviewed a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the U.S. Open Championship events, with the main Championship events running from June 10th to June 16th of 2024. Mr. Schwab highlighted the Volunteer, Hospitality, Tickets, and Parking & Transportation numbers and services. Mr. Schwab displayed a timeline of the U.S. Open Championship projects to be completed prior to the 2024 U.S. Open launch in June.

Council thanked Ms. Driscoll and Mr. Schwab for their presentations and verified the location, type, and installation date of the fencing to be installed around the Resort courses for the 2024 U.S. Open.

Ms. Driscoll extended an invitation to Council to tour the facility when the Certificates of Occupancy are issued.

7. **Discuss and Consider Updated Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.**

Fire Chief J. Carlton Cole provided a history of and background on the changes to the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.

Council and Chief Cole discussed the type of aid and equipment covered by the agreement, the process and procedures during an emergency, and the fact that an agreement has been in place since 2009 but has not been updated until now.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella, Council unanimously authorized the Village Mayor or the Village Mayor's Designees and all required staff to execute the North Carolina Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement on behalf of the Village of Pinehurst by a vote of 5-0.

8. **Q4 Update on the Status of the FY 2023 Strategic Operating Plan.**

Mr. Matthew McKirahan, Organizational Performance Director, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Q4 updates to the FY 2023 Strategic Operating Plan highlighting the timelines of the Update to the Pinehurst Development Ordinance (PDO), the Retrofit of the Current Athletic Fields with Synthetic Turf, the Expansion and Renovation of Given Library / Tufts Archives, and the OFI (Opportunity for Improvement) Evaluations / Projects.

Council, Mr. McKirahan, and Mr. Willardson, Assistant Village Manager, discussed the PDO update progress and timeline, the front gap in the fencing around the athletic field potentially being closed if issues arise in the future, the resident satisfaction with the quality of the community parks being 99%, and a presentation on the timeline and progress of the Library and Archives project being given at the September 26th, 2023 Council

meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella verified with Mr. Mike Apke, Public Services Director, that the Stormwater Improvement Implementation project will be coming before Council at the September 26th, 2023 meeting.

Assistant Village Manager Batton provided information on the Village Place streetscape enhancements and additional information on the stormwater improvements project.

Mayor Strickland recessed the Regular Meeting at 05:52 PM for an 8-minute break.

Mayor Strickland reconvened the Regular Meeting at 06:00 PM.

9. FY 2023 Financial Statements – Q4 Unaudited.

Presentation of the unaudited financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

Ms. Dana Van Nostrand, Financial Services Director, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Unaudited Q4 and FY 2023 Financial Statements highlighting the Budget to Actual Summary, Revenues vs. Expenditures, Revenues, Revenues to Note, Operating Expenditures, Operating Expenditures to Note, Capital Expenditures, Capital Expenditures to Note, Financial Position, Financial Outlook, Cash and Investment Balance, Fair Barn Revenues and Expenditures, Harness Track Revenues and Expenditures, and Library Expansion Capital Project Fund.

Council, Ms. Van Nostrand, and Mr. Batton discussed the year-to-year growth of sales tax, how Pinehurst differs compared to other communities regarding sales tax growth, the number of staff currently on payroll for both the Police and Fire departments, staffing fluctuating throughout the year, the difficulties facing the Village in finding staff for both the Police and Fire departments, what the Internal Services Charges listed were for, the change in the projected FY 2024 fund balance, the percentage of revenue allocated to the fund balance, the size of the fund balance in relation to other communities in the area, the allocation of fund balance funds for current and future capital projects, the fund balance increase for FY 2024 being driven by a decrease in expenditures, and the projected sales tax growth rate not including increased revenue from future development in the Pinehurst South and Village Place areas now that the moratorium has been lifted.

10. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Discussion.

Discussion on the MPO name and voting rules.

Mr. Doug Willardson, Assistant Village Manager, provided background information on the proposal to rename the MPO and on the debate over having a weighted vote as one of the MPO voting rules.

Council and Mr. Willardson discussed the proposal to rename the MPO to either SATPO (Sandhills Area Transportation Planning Organization) or SMPO (Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization) from SAMPO. It was agreed to propose changing the name to SATPO and, if this option was not favorable to the other municipalities, SMPO.

Council and Mr. Willardson discussed the debate over having a weighted vote as one of the MPO voting rules. One of the alternatives to having a weighted vote is to add an additional voting member for larger municipalities based on population, however this option is mostly used by smaller MPO's with fewer municipality members. It was agreed that a weighted vote based on population was preferable to Council.

11. Other Business

Mayor Strickland and Ms. Kristin Bunton, Communications Specialist, displayed the flag that Mayor Strickland will present to the Town of Dornoch, Scotland on his upcoming trip overseas. The 100th Anniversary seal of Pinehurst, which is the main design of the flag, is an apt depiction of the "Donald Ross: Birthplace to Workplace" theme of the Co-Operative Liaison of Mutual Benevolence Agreement entered into by the Village of Pinehurst and the Town of Dornoch, Scotland. The flag will be hung inside the Town of Dornoch's chambers.

Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella asked for an update on the project to update Village policies that have become outdated. Mr. Willardson stated all approximately 30 Village policies were reviewed (approximately a dozen of those policies were updated), all policies are currently up-to-date, and he does not foresee any additional policy updates happening in the near future.

Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella further asked Mr. Willardson and Mr. Batton to research a mailing that has been sent to several residents asking them to oppose Bill H.R. 3557 in Congress.

12. Comments from Attendees.

None.

13. Motion to Adjourn

Upon a motion by Councilmember Boesch, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the regular meeting by a vote of 5-0 at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shannon Konstantinou
Village Clerk

A videotape of this meeting is located on the Village website: www.vopnc.org

Vision: The Village of Pinehurst is a charming, vibrant community, which reflects our rich history and traditions.

Mission: Promote, enhance, and sustain the quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Values: Service, Initiative, Teamwork, and Improvement