VILLAGE COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR WORK SESSION OF MARCH 23, 2021
ASSEMBLY HALL
395 MAGNOLIA ROAD
PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR MEETING

The Pinehurst Village Council held a work session at 6:36 p.m., Tuesday, March 23, 2021, in the Assembly Hall of Pinehurst Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina and via the electronic meeting platform ZOOM. The meeting was streamed in real time on the Village's website.

The follow were in remote attendance:

Ms. Judy Davis, Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Lydia Boesch, Councilmember
Mr. Kevin Drum, Councilmember
Ms. Jane Hogeman, Councilmember
Mr. Jeffrey Sanborn, Village Manager
Mr. Mike Newman, Village Attorney
Mr. Jeff Batton, Village Assistant Manager of Operations

The following were in attendance in Assembly Hall:

Mr. John C. Strickland, Mayor
Ms. Kelly Chance, Village Clerk

And approximately 2 attendees, including 2 staff and 0 press.

1. **Call to Order.**
   Mayor John Strickland, called the Council work session to order.

2. **Discuss Public Comment Procedures.**
   Mayor Strickland stated when this was originally discussed in a work session in March 2020, it was mainly around whether public comments would be heard at the beginning or end of the Council Regular Meetings. Following some discussion with Village Attorney Mike Newman and Village Manager Jeff Sanborn over the last two weeks, directly related to the comments I made earlier during the Regular Council meeting, Mayor Strickland said he felt it would be good to make sure we began to confirm policies we followed and enhance those as Council saw fit. Kelly Chance, Village Clerk provided the Council with documents combining the prior March 2020 work session notes with current suggestions. Councilmember Boesch stated she would like to see bullet 3 put back into the current policy, which would allow those who had not signed up to have the opportunity. Mayor Strickland agreed that it should be added.

   Councilmember Drum stated he agreed and also agreed with the 30 minute maximum time. Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated she would like to still encourage the ability to submit comments by email as we have adopted this practice during our switch to virtual meetings. Councilmember Drum agreed, but also stated he did not feel that if we received a lot of emails that they all would be read. Mayor Pro Tem Davis said we could state that a certain number were related to this topic and a certain number related to another topic to help shorten the list to be read. Councilmember Boesch stated this should be included in the policy and Mayor Strickland agreed. Councilmember Drum said this would guarantee they were all included in the public record, but not all would be able to be read. Mayor Strickland stated that the Village Clerk or Mayor could, at their discretion, read those most clear to the topic being discussed.

Village Manager Jeff Sanborn stated he did not want to set the Village Clerk to read 50 pages of comments and we should expect our community to be invested and want to come in. Councilmember Boesch asked if it was the purpose of the public comment period for the public to hear the comments or for Village Council to hear. Village Manager stated the public comments are supposed to address the Council directly and not the audience. Councilmember Boesch asked if Mr. Sanborn agreed then that the Village Clerk could announce that we have received this number of comments from emails and these will be forwarded to the Village Council. Village Manager Sanborn agreed this was the succinct way to proceed and Councilmember Drum agreed. Councilmember Boesch stated many of these emails are hard to read and this would help the Village Clerk.

Kelly Chance, Village Clerk stated that we need to be sure that we do clarify the statement with the additional language stating the emails will become part of the public record. Councilmembers Boesch and Hogeman agreed this was appropriate. Councilmember Hogeman suggested that the three minutes and maximum of thirty minutes be included. Councilmember Boesch and Mayor Pro Tem agreed. Councilmember Drum stated he liked the newer draft as it was last wordy and so he would like to stay with this feel. He suggested the Village Clerk clean the language up for conciseness.

Councilmember Boesch asked if the bullet referring to only comments that are within the jurisdiction of the Village Council can be heard is in the General Statute and Village Manager Sanborn acknowledged it was. He stated that the state statute may not spell it out that way, but it is a School of Government interpretation of this statute. Councilmember Drum stated his comment that we keep the comments limited to three minutes is for the benefit of the speakers waiting to speak. This time limit allows more people to talk. A discussion was centered on others using a light system, but Mayor Strickland said he would prefer just utilizing the three minute time limit and he will be more diligent about enforcing this. Village Attorney Newman stated that a three minute and thirty minute time limit gives a framework to get more views in proposed to allowing one individual to give a long speech. He stated we are trying to create a balance. Councilmember Drum expressed his agreement with a light timer, but Mayor Strickland said he would rather enforce it himself. Village Clerk Chance stated the handout that was included in the agenda will be placed on the website and will be placed on the rear table, as well as attached to the end of the agenda once completed.

Mayor Strickland asked Councilmembers if there were any further comments. Councilmember Boesch reminded Council to remember the Donald Ross and Olmsted celebration is next year. Mayor Strickland stated it was also the 100th Anniversary of the Women's Exchange next year. He stated will begin looking at these celebrations beginning next month.

Councilmember Hogeman asked if there was an update on the technical review committee status on the lodge. Darryn Burich, Village Planning and Inspections Director, stated they had went through one set of revisions and are awaiting them to respond to our questions. The parking demand was of the most important items and they would like to shoot for an April 8th public hearing. Darryn stated we are currently using the standard that is in the PDO to determine the number of parking spots. He stated they will need to give us the uses and we will use the ration we currently have to determine the number of required spaces. Councilmember Hogeman asked about the proposed USGA parking needs and Darryn responded that staff cannot look at that yet because of lack of information provided to them. He stated he believes they will be able to show substantial parking for the existing hotel and country club, but that he just could not give an answer on the USGA yet.

Village Manager Sanborn stated the Village may need to look at the conditions on the parking ordinance in the future and look at all their current needs. He stated we may have to also go back and relook when the USGA does submit their initial plans. Mayor Strickland stated we do not need to rush and if it takes more time than we should do that. Mayor Pro Tem Davis noted that Council could always call a special meeting if it gets close to the deadline. Village Manager Sanborn said if Council is interested in more parking they may need to look at more conditions on the rezoning. Mr. Burich stated that once staff feels they have checked all the boxes in the review process, they would release the staff analysis. Councilmember Drum asked why we would let them build a building if we thought they may not have the allotted parking area needed. Mr. Burich stated that again we cannot give any answers until we see their actual plan and make a call on the number of parking spaces there are. The site plan will help us have a more clear answer. Mayor Strickland stated they do currently have a lot of current parking spots, but with the building of the new hotel and the coming of the USGA, some spaces will be lost.

Councilmember Drum stated the back parking area behind the theater building needs cleaned up and acquired as to whether we are responsible for its cleanup. Assistant Village Manager of Operations Jeff Batton stated the owners of the Maples Building are the ones responsible to clean it up.

Mayor Pro Tem stated that at the Tri-Cities meeting they discussed the occupancy tax. It will be on the agenda for the County Commissioners meeting next week and she would like to see the Village Council come to a consensus on our view prior to the meeting on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. She further stated that both Aberdeen and Southern Pines appear to agree with the proposal commissioners came up with, but we have not voiced our view on support of it. Village Manager Sanborn stated that in the Moore County Managers Meeting there was support shown there as well. Councilmember Boesch asked if Mr. Sanborn would send the

latest update on what the proposal is and he stated he would. Councilmember Drum asked what the accountability is for spending the occupancy monies and Village Manager Sanborn replied the accountability is the annual report and it has to be spent on items aligned and approved by the CVB. He also said the accountability will be a part of the formula and framework once we get to the place of making a final plan. Mayor Strickland said he and Village Manager will attend the County Commission meeting and with regard to collecting views to come to a consensus answer can be sent via email this week.

Mayor Strickland stated Council was aware of the staffing challenges right now during the budget preparation time and encouraged Village Manager Sanborn to let them know what assistance Council could provide. With no further business, Mayor Strickland asked if there was a motion to enter Closed Session.

3. **Motion to Recess the Work Session and Enter Closed Session**
   Upon a motion by Councilmember Boesch, seconded by Councilmember Hogeman, Council unanimously approved to recess the work session and enter into a closed session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(5)(i) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease, by a vote of 5-0.

4. **Closed Session.**
   Council held a closed session to discuss the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

5. **Motion to adjourn the Closed Session and Re-enter the Work Session.**
   Upon a motion by Councilmember Hogeman seconded by Councilmember Boesch, Council unanimously to adjourn the closed session and re-enter the work session, by a vote of 5-0.

6. **Motion to Adjourn.**
   Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilmember Hogeman, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the work session, by a vote 5-0, at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Chance

Kelly Chance,
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