VILLAGE COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2021
ASSEMBLY HALL
395 MAGNOLIA ROAD
PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA
4:30 PM

The Pinehurst Village Council held a Regular Meeting at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 9, 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 following were in remote attendance:
Ms. Judy Davis, Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Lydia Boesch, Councilmember
Mr. Kevin Drum, Councilmember
Ms. Jane Hogeman, Councilmember
Mr. Jeffrey M. Sanborn, Village Manager

The following were in attendance in Assembly Hall:
Mr. John C. Strickland, Mayor
Ms. Kelly Chance, Village Clerk

And approximately 28 attendees, including 3 staff and 0 press.

1. **Call to Order.**
Mayor Strickland, called the Village Council meeting to order.

2. **Reports:**

Village Manager

- All staff who wanted to take advantage of the Covid vaccine have now had their first dose. Current focus is on budget development and we are about two weeks out on internal review.

Village Council

- Mayor Strickland introduced Kelly Chance, the new Village Clerk and thanked Beth Dunn for the great job she has done and congratulated her on her new role in Human Resources. He stated the Covid situation continues to be severe, but is showing some improvement as we appear to be heading toward the 5% goal. He encouraged everyone to continue to wear masks, wash their hands, and stay distanced while we continue to follow state guidelines. Mayor Strickland and Councilmember Drum attended a meeting with the Aberdeen Carolina Western Railroad on Monday and stated we have an interest in their usage of rail passenger cars and may have future opportunities to partner with them during special events. He added that Rails and Trails had received a grant to improve their infrastructure and this would include adding a rail site in Pinehurst in a few months, which would indeed allow for their presence during special events.
- Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated she had no comments at this time.
- Councilmember Drum stated the Aberdeen Carolina Western Railroad did have quite an impressive operation at Candor and he appreciated the time and attention they were shown during their visit. He provided a Partners in Progress update, which detailed a lot of interest in data and analytics around the aging work force. Councilmember Drum said the work force

dynamics are changing due in part to more people working from home due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as an increased number of people retiring. He stated that we need to look further into early work force development for graduating students due to the upsweep of jobs that are coming to our area in the near future. He reported that data shows we have weaknesses in workforce development and working more closely with middle and high school students may be a great place to start.

- Councilmember Hogeman stated she had no comments at this time.
- Councilmember Boesch reported she recently presented to an area women's group about the Pinehurst Historic District and she looks forward to having more opportunities to share information with other interested groups.

3. 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.

- Approval of Village Council Meeting Minutes.
  - February 18, 2021 Special Meeting
  - February 23, 2021 Regular Meeting
  - February 23, 2021 Work Session

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

4. Motion to Recess Regular Meeting and Enter into a Public Hearing.
Upon a motion by Councilmember Hogeman, seconded by Councilmember Drum, Council unanimously approved to recess the regular meeting and enter into a public hearing, by a vote of 5-0.

5. Public Hearing No. 1.
Village Manager Jeffrey Sanborn stated there have been some changes to the Tree Ordinance the last discussion and stated that Darryn Burich, the Village of Pinehurst Planning and Inspections Director and his staff have been diligently working to develop a solid ordinance.

Darryn Burich, Planning and Inspections Director stated the Public Hearing No. 1 is a legislative public hearing per North Carolina General Statutes as it relates to the amendment of zoning regulations within the Village's jurisdiction. The purpose of these hearings are to solicit public comment on the proposed amendment. The public hearing was duly published and the record of this is on file in the Village Clerk's office. The proposed text amendments are to Section 9.5, Section 9.14 and Chapter 10 of the Pinehurst Development Ordinance (PDO) to address landscaping development standards. Definitions of the PDO updates are: **Section 9.5** will provide for purpose, definitions, clearing and grading applications and permits, tree survey requirements, tree removal standards, tree preservation credits, tree removal, exemptions and violations. (Undeveloped Lots) **Section 9.14** establishes buffer yard requirements for single family development versus existing tree requirements. **Chapter 10** most significant change relative to the definition of "development" which adopts the 160D standard.

Mr. Burich cited the VOP Original Land Use Policy (7/16/1981) states... The preservation of the environmental and aesthetic character of Pinehurst as it grows and develops will be controlled and accomplished by land use regulations made with reasonable consideration given to, among other things, the character of various areas of the Village and its environs and the unique suitability of these areas for particular uses, conservation and enhancement of property values, and encouraging the use of land in a manner which is most appropriate in view of the primary goal. He also shared how the Comprehensive Plans dating back to the 1995 Land Use Plan through the current 2019 Comp Plan has worked to enhance the character and charm of the landscaping throughout Pinehurst.

Mr. Burich stated the Planning & Inspections department has spent a lot of years working toward where we are now and this work continues to play a large role within the FY 2021 VOP Strategy Map for Planning & Inspections. He said current objectives under the plan are to enhance the current landscaping/buffering requirements with the PDO in line with the recently adopted 2019 Comprehensive Plan and specifically within the following areas: creating buffer yards for development, maintaining tree lined streets, updating landscaping standards for single-family development, allowing credits for existing qualifying trees to meet the landscaping requirements, and allowing tree removal to continue. Mr. Burich pointed out that the Village does currently have a

landscaping requirement, (SFD) 9.14.6 (A).

Alex Cameron, Village of Pinehurst Senior Planner explained that there were several NC General Statutes (NCGS) that outlined Enabling Grant of Power (Chapter 160D of the NC General Statutes (NCGS) and 160D-701) He stated that Statute 160D-702 specifically, states that a local government may adopt zoning regulations with specific exceptions, one of which is "*building design elements*." In line with the explicit purpose and grant of power from the enabling legislation, staff specified the purpose and scope of the proposed ordinance located in Section 9.5.1. Mr. Burich and Mr. Cameron showed several illustrations depicting areas in Pinehurst with visual character vs. some new development areas with little to no tree and landscape buffer. Requirements for landscaping will be determined by the yard type, defined as front, side, Side Street, or rear and credits will be used to incentivize retention of existing, mature vegetation. Existing developed lots that do not exceed 50% of the Principal building floor area will have different requirements than proposed development lots that will exceed 50% of the Principal building floor area. How do we handle existing developed lots – proposed development doesn't exceed 50% of the Principal building floor area.

The proposed ordinance creates a new section specifically to address clearing and grading of vacant parcels. It will require a "Clearing and Grading Permit" when there is no active application for a development permit as required by the PDO. The requirements of the information to be provided include a tree survey, proposed construction entrance and how the required standards will be met. Administrative Modifications may occur to satisfy tree preservation credits, to allow the preservation of trees within the building envelop if they are within a distance no greater than the required yard depth when insufficient trees are available for preservation, small trees may be used to avoid conflicts with overhead infrastructure, and may allow for credit of trees smaller than 8" DBH. Mr. Burich stated he felt the proposed ordinance is consistent with the 2019 Comprehensive Plan and cited page 124 under Guiding Principle 3 "Places to Live", and page 204 under Guiding Principle 7 "All things Green: Parks, Open Spaces & Natural Resources" as his measuring standards. He stated the Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval of the ordinance and adopted the Statement of Consistency with the 2019 Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Strickland stated that concludes the end of the staff report and opened the floor for Public Comments.

Public Comments:

- John Hoffman, present in-person, encouraged Mayor Strickland and the Members of Council, strongly support this effort to strengthen the effort and address tree preservation. Mr. Hoffman stated that builders and the Village must both absorb the blame for current conditions. He remarked about the wonderful memories of sand-clay pathways and alternating Magnolia and Holly trees and encouraged everyone to drive around the area of the New Pinehurst Elementary School and see the damage that has occurred. He encouraged Council to fix some of these barren areas and develop a TreeScape Plan
- Bart O'Connor of Donald Ross Drive, present in-person, submitted questions for review prior to the Council Meeting to all Councilmembers, the Town Manager, and Assistant Town Managers. Mr. O'Connor, a landscape designer who developed and worked on over 1000 landscape designs in Pinehurst, expressed his agreement with the objectives, and stated that he met with Alex Cameron and was provided with a better understanding of the proposed ordinance. He suggested that a landscape designer should have been part of the process and was ensured by Alex, this was not intentional. He further asks if the language could be made clearer, that a provision for circular drives be added, that language be included addressing newly planted trees that die, and that less strict mandates be included. Mr. O'Conner summarized his suggestions as, "Less verbiage, less direction, and less direction." Mayor Strickland thanked him for his many years of service to the Village as a landscaper.
- Leo Santowasso, present in-person, stated he saw this ordinance amendment proposal essential for the preservation of existing trees. He stated that in prior meetings it has been discussed and examples of instances of clear-cutting noted. Mr. Santowasso stated he would like to see some new material added to affect the manner in which trees are removed from residential properties. He noted that in years prior the Village of Pinehurst charged the Planning and Zoning Board to find a solution, and work through a subcommittee had been started. He stated that following a rule implemented by Senator McGinnis, the subcommittees work was ceased. Mr. Santowasso stated that in the Fall of 2018, a Tree preservation committee formed to take on this task again, by requiring areas to keep screening and buffering purposes gives the village its ambience and charm and helped protect the existing trees as well as help add to the charm and life in the Village. A great deal of research was done and a study of other areas, including Hilton Head, Charleston SC, and Aberdeen provided many items to consider for our Village. He argued it is essential to have a well thought out plan to help accomplish our goal, and because of this newness there must be jurisdiction to be able to take instances case by case (for example, circular

driveways) by a local administrator. Administration should have the ability to make that change without going back through the whole process. Lastly, Mr. Santowasso agreed the proposed ordinance does compliment the 2019 Long Term Plan and he strongly urges Council to approve it and he thanked all the folks at Pinehurst Inspections and Planning and Natalie Hawkins for putting so much time into this.

- Mayor Strickland, read from a public comment, submitted via email, by Larry Johnson. Mr. Johnson wrote, "I recently was informed about the upcoming vote on the new tree ordinance that would create a fee from the village if the homeowner has a tree removed. I understand the concern to keep the look of Pinehurst intact. However, with that said, this seems to be just a way to generate more revenue. First, the trees are part of the property which the homeowner owns, and are not owned by the village. So for the village to charge the homeowner a fee to remove something that belongs to the homeowner seems unfair. Second and more importantly, more homeowners have a tree removed either when the tree is not healthy or is a threat to property or life. It will be the homeowners who has to bear the responsibility of the damage that a fallen tree causes. I do not see the village standing up to take that roll. Lastly I will be following to see which members of the village council vote yes on this ordinance. It will help me make my decision on how to cast my vote the next election. I would encourage all other residents of Pinehurst to feel the same way when they go to the polls next time." Mayor stated the Village of Pinehurst will reach out to those making public comments and clarify and correct any misunderstandings about the purpose and content of the ordinance.
- Kelly Chance, Village Clerk, read from a public comment, submitted via email, by Allen Ashdown. Mr. Ashdown wrote, "I propose a definite NO to this Proposal."
- Kelly Chance, Village Clerk, read from a public comment, submitted via email, by Paula Nash. Ms. Nash, Executive Officer with the Moore County Home Builders Association stated, "The official comment from the Moore County Home Builders Association is, we appreciate our working relationship with the current staff and the Village Council. We have met and discussed the proposed ordinance at length. Alex and Darryn have been very helpful fostering a better relationship with our association. We would like to request that the ordinance be placed on hold to allow VOP staff to work with our association to come up with a solution that will prevent broad stroke clear cutting of lots mainly by large developments and not place the burden on our builders developing single lots. We understand that most of the issues come from major subdivisions and those are few and far between in our Pinehurst area. The single lot development will suffer the most when we do not feel this is the intent of the ordinance. We stand with staff on saving trees and preserving the appearance of Pinehurst. We request the Village Council help us build our community by working together. Please table the ordinance and let's find a way to accomplish the end goal without punishing the innocent builders that work hard to preserve our Pinehurst image. Again, we thank Alex, Cameron and Jeremy Hooper for their willingness to foster a beneficial partnership with our association and its members."
- Mayor Strickland paraphrased a lengthy public comment, submitted via email, by Bob Van Houten. Mr. Van Houten, President of BVH Construction said, "The bottom line is, I do believe as a builder we should do our best to preserve trees and the aesthetics of Pinehurst and surrounding areas where we can. I see few reasons for a clear cut lot outside of a lot that just had all Black Jack Oaks on it. If that is the case, then the owner should not be penalized for what Mother Nature gave them by having to plant thousands of dollars' worth of trees." Mr. Van Houten stated he found the new regulations confusing and cumbersome, and his main concerns were for the new potential of development in the ETJ, and for the added cost this is going to impose on the taxpayer and consumers. He noted we can't stop progress, but we can certainly work together to control it in a positive light that not only protects the current investments in our homes, but also that of the folks that want to move here and enjoy what we have.
- Mayor Strickland paraphrased a lengthy public comment, submitted via email, by Densel Williams. Mr. Williams, of Integrity Builders of the Sandhills LLC, expressed his concern about how a tree ordinance fits into the powers granted by a Municipality Charter, which he stated in its simples form, empowers the Municipality to provide for the health and safety of its citizens, while providing the necessary services. He noted he felt the ordinance, as proposed, was more than a "minor" change to the existing landscape guidelines and it appears to be a "one size fits all." Mr. Williams stated this could interfere with safe and sound construction practices and that engineers do not suggest large trees any closer than 15 feet to the foundation, especially pines, as their root system can cause damage to the foundation. He stated the amendments do not address the issue of drainage or legality issues, such as damage caused by a tree that a municipality requires to be left. Lastly, Mr. Williams stated it is illegal under current state law as Pinehurst has not received authority for a Tree Ordinance from the North Carolina legislature and our two state legislators are on record as opposed to the proposed ordinance. He asks that the vote be delayed to allow all affected parties time to study, if the real intent is to provide esthetic buffers on our streets.

Mayor Strickland asked if there were any questions from Councilmembers to staff. Councilmember Hogeman stated she had a question on 9.14.6, on page 20, which speaks to the spacing of trees. She inquired that if you needed a tree every 15 feet and if so, why do we space them at 7.5 feet. Staff explained that due to the tree's expansion width equaling 15 foot, they require planting at 7.5' on center to allow for this expansion to create a closed buffer. Councilmember Hogeman stated there are some neighborhoods, such as Pinewild, who have covenants in place already that do not want trees along the property line to look like a fence line, and they want to preserve lake and golf course views. She stated they also have actual easements on certain lots that keep owners from blocking their neighbor. She asked if the Village Planner could do a modification that states a subdivision with existing covenants are exempt so homeowners do not get caught in the middle. Darryn Burich acknowledged that they have not come to a definitive answer on addressing subdivisions with covenants. Councilmember Boesch said she has spoken to Pinewild representatives and she will forward those comments to him. Darryn stated that because subdivision lots are typically zoned R30, he did not feel they will be affected because of the size allocations.

6. **Motion to Adjourn Public Hearing and Re-Enter Regular Meeting.**
Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilmember Boesch, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the public hearing and re-enter the regular meeting, by a vote of 5-0.

Village Manager Sanborn suggested we pause the discussion on the Tree Ordinance to give staff time to look at the comments and review and address any misunderstandings about the ordinance. Mayor Strickland agreed and said we do need to reach back out to those who have commented to clear up those misunderstandings. Alex, Senior Planner stated that a lot of the comments are really regulations that they did not look at because they were not part of the conversation. Mayor Pro Tem Davis said she is grateful for the robust community comments and input and stated she would like Council to consider looking at areas that may need trees planted, such as along Midland Road, along our ride-away.

Councilmember Drum praised the innovative idea of giving quadruple credit for a large (Legacy) tree, which means if a property owner currently has large trees on their lot, they may not have to do anything. He agreed the proposed ordinance needs to be more simplified and clearer. Staff said they will take a look at it again and try to simplify a few suggestions but to do all sections will take several months. Councilmember Drum suggests that staff maybe do a summary document to better clarify the ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Davis said she admires the work that has gone into the ordinance, with protecting the parameters and allowing the owners to use the entire building envelope. Mayor Strickland said we should all acknowledge the amount of work the Planning and Zoning Board has put into this proposal over the past two or three years.

Council all agreed to place the proposed Tree Ordinance on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

7. **Consider Budget Amendment for Potential Land Acquisition.**
Village Manager Sanborn stated the purpose of this item is to discuss adding funds to the Fire Department's Capital Budget to potentially acquire land for a future Fire Station.

Brooke Hunter, VOP Financial Services Director stated the amendment is to move $162,000 from Fund Balance to the Fire Department's capital budget to increase the available funds for potential land acquisition to $180,000. She noted that the Village had originally budgeted funds in the Fire Department's budget in the event we found an appropriate parcel of land to acquire however, we transferred most of those funds to the Parks and Recreation Department earlier this year to purchase seven (7) acres adjacent to West Pinehurst Park. This action would restore those funds to the Fire Department's budget.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Boesch, seconded by Councilmember Hogeman, Council unanimously approved ordinance 21-05 amending the ordinance appropriating funds for operations, regarding revenues and expenditures of the General Fund for the Village of Pinehurst, by a vote of 5-0.

8. **Discuss and Consider a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Capital Assets.**
Village Manager Sanborn stated the purpose of this item is to discuss the sale of surplus assets.

Brooke Hunter, Financial Services Director, stated Village Ordinance #17-02 authorizes the Village Manager to sell surplus assets with an estimated market value of less than $10,000. The two items listed on the attached resolution could potentially bring over $10,000 at auction. These items include a 2004 Ford F-650 (formerly used as Fire Department rescue truck) and a 2006 Harley Electra Glide motorcycle (formerly used in Police Department). We are requesting that the Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the sale of the listed assets. These items will be listed on the Village's GovDeals electronic auction website.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Boesch, seconded by Councilmember Hogeman, Council unanimously approved resolution 21-06 authorizing the Village Manager to dispose of certain surplus capital assets for the Village of Pinehurst, by a vote of 5-0.

9. Other Business.

- Councilmember Drum suggested we follow up on Mayor Pro Tem Davis's recommendation to plant trees in those locations that need them and to work with staff to ensure we follow any existing procedures.

10. Comments from Attendees.

- Kelly Chance, Village Clerk, read from a public comment, submitted via email, by Linda Vandercook. Ms. Vandercook of Whispering Pines wrote, "Dear Village Council, Thank you for the opportunity to submit a public comment. Lydia Boesch represents the vast, and long-standing, majority of local residents in her efforts to expose the state mask mandate abuse. We support her fully and wish the council to join her in her efforts, guaranteeing us our constitutional rights."
- Kelly Chance, Village Clerk, read from a public comment, submitted via email, by James Huggins. Mr. Huggins of the Donald Ross neighborhood wrote, "Councilmembers, please consider incentives to private property owners when you consider Text Amendments to Section 9.5, Section 9.14, and Chapter 10 of the Pinehurst Development Ordinance to address landscaping and buffering standards. Frustrations must not lead to rules that seek to take away the rights of private property owners. If property restrictions are to be imposed, then any such restriction(s) should be placed before the Citizens of this great Village for their vote. Thank you for your consideration of our comment with Kind Regards."
- Kelly Chance, Village Clerk, read from a public comment, submitted via email, by Kevin Lewis. Mr. Lewis of Carthage wrote, "Village Council, I lived in Pinehurst for twenty five years and wrote over 600 articles on the village and county for over 10 years for The Fayetteville Observer and the Sandhills Citizen. I now live in the County Seat of Moore County, but I am proud of our tourist industry. Therefore, I was saddened to see the Village Councilwoman Lydia Boesch put her allegiance to Steven Woodward and the Moore County Republican newsletter over her oath to protect and serve the Village of Pinehurst and its merchants. She put her name as the point of contact on a false statement proclaiming that the mask mandate and social distancing is over. The merchants of Pinehurst and neighboring towns were threatened with economic ruin by Republican volunteers if they did not take the poster and display it on March 1. She overrode a state mandate on masks at the direction of Steven Woodward and his unnamed allies. If visitors to Pinehurst saw businesses not complying with health directives, our standing as a tourist destination would be compromised in travel publications. After The Pilot in April published the photo of Lydia Boesch handing over hundreds of handmade masks to First Health, I called her to applaud her only to be told that she herself didn't wear a mask on her trips to the hardware and supermarket stores. I asked her why she publicly participated in a photo opportunity when she didn't believe in the mask herself, only to be told "Oh well" and concluded the call. Lydia Boesch did not succumb to COVID, but I hope she remembers, as we should, the Villagers who did."
- Kelly Chance, Village Clerk, read from a public comment, submitted via email, by Steve Woodward. Mr. Woodward wrote, "Good evening. Mask enforcers do all of us a favor by concealing their expressions of self-righteous indignation. But consider their persistent disregard for the damage caused by capacity limits on restaurants and bars; by classroom closures, disregarding their dire consequences for children; and by the dangerous psychological effects of the stay-at-home mentality. These, sadly, are on full display even now, even as many states and communities are saying, simply, enough. I support Lydia Boesch of this Council, and Mitch Lancaster of Southern Pines, and the volunteers who lead Freedom Matters NC. The Pilot's characterization of Lydia, Mitch and their fellow patriots as bullies seeking to shame business owners is outright fiction. Lydia has repeated many times that we all need to behave responsibly. Responsibility is making an effort to separate truth from those peddling politicized falsehoods. Freedom is God given, enshrined in our Constitution and, thus, we must never yield to those driven by political agendas disguised as public safety campaigns."
- Justin Bradford, Pinehurst resident, present in-person, stated he wanted to speak on misinformation tonight. I want to point out that we are existing in a time where white privilege is prevalent, for example, I ask this gentleman to give me some space and he refused. I have never lived in a place where you can break a law and there is nothing done. I think it is appropriate that Mr. Woodward submitted comments tonight, as I have a degree in the same area as Mr. Woodward. This group "Freedom Matters" has a marketing campaign spreading propaganda. Steve Woodward uses words such as uprising and Councilmember Boesch put her name to it and she and this group went out and distributed flyers. I had a conversation with Village Manager Sanborn about it. The people I spoke with don't want their names out, but also don't want to be inconvenienced. 500,000 American's are dead and I deal with clients that I want to protect so I wear a mask. I don't have the luxury to stay home and work. One of the businesses I owned was completely destroyed. I have empathy for people who have lost businesses. At the same time, I have a Councilmember who has distributed propaganda flyers against mask

wearing in Southern Pines. If we talk about the values and mission statement for here in Pinehurst, how are we being a good team member if we have an elected city council official partnering with this group, handing out disinformation with no citations? I am going to keep wearing a mask. This is not a place I want to live anymore.

- Mayor Strickland reminded those in attendance in-person of the requirement to wear a mask for the safety of others and that if a mask is needed, there were some located at the back table.
- David Peter Green, Freedom Matters representative, present in-person, stated my wife and I live on Linden Road and have been here about six years and have had several businesses. I am a master mason I also work for Moore County school system. I am here tonight to declare that Freedom Matters is a peaceful bi-partisan group and our only goal is to stand up for the freedoms our constitution has provided us. We are peaceful and not insurrectionists. We feel it is our responsibility to educate when our civil liberties are being inhibited by one man in Raleigh. On behalf of the Freedom Matters, we would like to share our support for Councilmember Lydia Boesch. She has been degraded in our county and has been vilified in the Pilot. I have listened to the half-truths, which I know are not true because I know what goes on at these meetings. I would like to see the Mayor and the council stand with Boesch. It seems to me that we are letting Raleigh dictate how Pinehurst needs to be run. We have failed to put our kids back in school, let long-standing businesses disappear. There are mandates that there are provisions in the mask mandate that allow for medical reasons for not wearing a mask. It is sad that the community has come to allow bullying. We would like to see council to concentrate more on moving our community back to safety and economical security instead of a tree ordinance. I hope that just because you have councilmember in front of your name you do not think you are infallible. Do not let one man in Raleigh dictate what we do in our community.
- Mayor Strickland again reminded those in attendance in-person of the requirement to wear a mask for the safety of others but, it is noted that many present refused to comply.
- Alan Bench, Freedom Matters representative, present in-person, stated Justin was right about one thing. There is a lot of misinformation on both sides. What is right, is getting everything back to normal. The numbers show other areas are opening up. Why are we not doing the same thing here?
- Sue Forsythe Green, Freedom Matters representative, present in-person, read from a statement from Mr. Rayes, another Freedom Matters representative that stated, Village Council must see the harmful and unconstitutional restrictions that have been imposed on us. Covid-19 restrictions have placed a heavy burden on our community and our school children are suffering from depression. There is an increase in alcohol abuse and domestic violence. We the people are fully capable of assessing the risks and I ask you to hold a public meeting and get the community's input. I would like to see the Council declare Pinehurst a sanctuary and uphold your constitutional duties.

Mayor Strickland advised that Council will take all comments into consideration.

11. Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilmember Drum, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the regular meeting, by a vote of 5-0 at 7:09 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