



**VILLAGE COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR WORK SESSION OF MARCH 08, 2022
ASSEMBLY HALL
395 MAGNOLIA ROAD
PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA**

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR MEETING

The Pinehurst Village Council held a work session at 5:37 p.m., Tuesday, March 08, 2022, in the Assembly Hall of Pinehurst Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The follow were in attendance:

Mr. John C. Strickland, Mayor
Mr. Patrick Pizzella, Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Lydia Boesch, Councilmember
Mr. Jeffrey Morgan, Councilmember
Ms. Jane Hogeman, Councilmember
Mr. Jeffrey M. Sanborn, Village Manager
Ms. Kelly Chance, Village Clerk

And approximately 9 attendees, including 5 staff and 1 press.

1. Call to Order.

Mayor John Strickland, called the Council work session to order.

2. Status Update on Downtown Customer Parking Program.

Jeff Batton, Assistant Village Manager, stated this item is intended to update Council and receive input on the downtown customer parking initiative. He presented council with a draft letter and employee parking location map, a sample sign, and a picture of the proposed signpost. Mr. Batton noted the draft letter would be sent to downtown business owners/managers/executives and would be signed by the Mayor on behalf of the Council. He stated this draft is a starting point and can be modified, edited, etc., in any way desired by Council. Mr. Batton noted the map that would be attached is intended to show preferred parking locations and walking distances to the flagpole. He stated the obvious intent is to demonstrate that the distance to walk from the parking areas to the employer locations is not that far.

Mr. Batton stated he attached a sample sign with the proposed language as well as a picture of what the pole would look like. He noted the pole and sign would be consistent with the look of the rest of the signs downtown. Mr. Batton stated that as this initiative was not originally planned and funded in the FY2022 budget, we will need to bring forth a budget amendment for \$16,000 to acquire and install all the items needed. He stated if Council chooses to move forward, staff will bring the budget amendment to the next Council meeting.

Mayor asked if there were any misleading areas of the letter that may lead the public to the wrong conclusion, either about the sign or the purpose of the parking plan itself.

Councilmember Boesch asked how we enforce the shop owners to continue to comply. She stated this has been an issue all along.

Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella stated he liked changing the sign to say reserved and he felt the permanent signs will provide a feel of permanence. He stated the rollout is very important and we need to find the best way we can to roll it out, both with shopkeepers

and owners downtown, as well as residents in general.

Councilmember Hogeman asked if Mr. Batton felt the program is going to work. Mr. Batton stated good attentions go awry and without some way of enforcing an ordinance, which there may not be any legal way to do that, he does not see how it will be doable. Councilmember Hogeman asked about applying time limits. Mr. Batton said yes, that was a discussion we had and would cause some cost.

Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella stated that likelihood of whether this will succeed should not keep us from trying it. He stated this is a good faith effort to try to reign in this problem. He stated that we put this in place and look at some sort of additional ordinance enforcement mechanism if it does not work. Mr. Batton stated that he does feel the signs saying reserved will be followed but the employees assume that all spaces not marked with the reserved are free to park in.

Councilmember Hogeman asked about one or two hour limited parking. Mr. Batton stated discussions were on timed parking and paid parking before with a cost applied. He stated if we take the timed parking look, and make an ordinance enforceable, all spaces will have to be marked the fine is \$5.00 and yet again, this requires enforcement and cost to collect the fee.

Councilmember Morgan stated he agrees that it is important to move forward with this that recognizing we do not necessarily have an enforcement process for when we are talking about enforcement in the past. He stated the message he got from this is that it is cost prohibitive. He noted if you have 240 parking spaces, it is probably worthwhile to have an ordinance in place, but we are talking about 24 parking spaces and he noted that number is not enough to justify a large enforcement process. Councilmember Morgan stated that Council is taking a step forward on this and it must also be up to the downtown businesses to step up and we need to partner up with other organizations to make this work.

Village Manager Jeff Sanborn stated a soft code enforcement approach would be a reminder letter from the Village on compliance if we receive an anonymous complaint through myVOP or another platform. He noted that a form letter could be generated if there is a complaint that states we have this program in place, for the benefit of all our downtown businesses, and we would like your cooperation.

Mr. Batton stated he will revise the sign to say Reserve to Dine, shop, or visit and will come back to Council with a lead-time on the production of the posts, which is the holdup. He noted after receiving a better idea on time of production, he will let Council know when this will be implemented, and they can begin reaching out to area businesses and shopkeepers.

3. Discuss Commemorative Flags and Banners Placements on Village-owned Flagpoles and Lamp Posts.

Jeff Batton, Assistant Village Manager of Administration, stated this item is to seek Council's feedback and direction on whether we should consider a policy related to requests to fly commemorative flags below the US flag on Village-owned poles and allow banners on Village-owned lampposts downtown. He stated currently there is no such policy statement to apply to any requests received.

Mr. Batton stated the Village rarely receives requests for such, but we received one recently to fly a commemorative flag and in 2014, the Village permitted US Open banners on the downtown lampposts. He stated staff feels we should develop a policy that governs such to either state they are not permitted or to establish the objective criteria for what would, or would not, be permitted. Mr. Batton stated based on Council direction, staff could draft a policy for Council to consider at a future Council work session.

Mayor Strickland stated he thinks this issue is two-part. The first is the flag poles where we fly the American Flag and the second, the banner issue, which is a whole different side of it from his point of view. He stated he felt we should not fly another other flag except the American Flag and the State of North Carolina Flag. He stated we did allow the US Open to fly their banners on the Village posts and with the Olmsted Ross Celebration, we can use those across the Village, but we need to comply with the federal regulations on flying the American Flag.

Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella noted we could allow, on the lamp posts, banners for events we host or co-host. Councilmembers Boesch and Morgan stated the person running the event, which we are co-sponsors for, should bear the cost of the time to put up the banners and take them down.

Council consensus was applicants may apply to place banners on Village lamp posts, if the Village is a co-sponsor, and upon approval by the Council, the party running the event will be responsible for the cost of putting the banners up and taking them down. Mr. Batton reported he would take Council's comments and come back to the next Council meeting with a proposed Flag Policy.

4. Other Work Session Business.

- Mayor Strickland stated he will be forwarding the General Marshall nomination letter to state representatives seeking their

support.

- Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella stated he would like the Village to put the names and bios up of those serving on our Advisory Committees. He stated at a minimum he would like to see all their names on our website. Village Manager Sanborn stated he did not see any reason to object to putting the names of all our advisory board members on the website, and about biology, it may wind up being a good practice. He suggested we reach out the current committee members and ask them how they feel about it.
- Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella asked Mr. Sanborn what the minor contract dispute was over with Design Collective. Mr. Sanborn noted it was just interpretation of contract language about whether something should have been covered under the base contract, or if we should have been charged on an hourly rate. He stated it was minor, not big dollars.
- Mayor Strickland stated he will sign an Arbor Day Proclamation to proclaim April 29, 2022, as "ARBOR DAY" in the Village of Pinehurst, and he urged all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands and to support our Village's community forestry program. Councilmember Boesch suggested Council may want to do a proclamation for Olmsted.

5. Potential Future Agenda Items.

- There were no potential future agenda items discussed.

6. 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 5-0.6:41 pm

7. Motion to adjourn the Closed Session and Re-enter the Work Session.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Pizzella, seconded by Councilmember Morgan, Council unanimously to adjourn the closed session and re-enter the work session, by a vote of 5-0.

8. Motion to Adjourn.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Boesch, seconded by Councilmember Hogeman, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the work session, by a vote 5-0, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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