



**Village Council  
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 09, 2025  
Assembly Hall  
395 Magnolia Road  
Pinehurst, North Carolina  
4:30 p.m.**

The Village of Pinehurst Village Council held a Regular Meeting at 04:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 09, 2025, in the Assembly Hall of Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The following were in attendance in Assembly Hall:

Mr. Patrick Pizzella, Mayor  
Ms. Barb Ficklin, Councilmember  
Mr. John Taylor, Mayor Pro Tem  
Mr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Councilmember  
Mr. Jeramy Hooper, Councilmember  
Mr. Doug Willardson, Village Manager  
Ms. Shannon Konstantinou, Village Clerk  
Mr. Paul Conners, IT Systems Specialist

And approximately 7 members of the audience in attendance, in addition to 3 staff and 1 press.

**1. Call to Order.**

Mayor Pizzella called the Village Council meeting to order at 04:29 p.m.

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.**

**A. Invocation by Mr. Brady Smith, Stake President of the Fayetteville NC West Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**

**B. Pledge of Allegiance by Village Council and Staff**

**3. Reports:**

**Village Manager**

- Mr. Doug Willardson reported on the December 5, 2025, Christmas Tree Lighting event in Tufts Park; the November 29, 2025, Pinehurst Pop-Up Holiday Market event at the Fair Barn; the November 24, 2025, Shop Small This Season & Small Business Saturday event at the Welcome Center; the progress of the Magnolia & Chinquapin improvements project; Ms. Nicole Benbow, Parks & Recreation's Recreation Program Coordinator, completing the 36<sup>th</sup> cohort of the Moore County Leadership Institute; the Youth Basketball program having 610 signups; and the issuance of a Donald Ross commemorative stamp being considered by the USPS Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.

**Village Council**

- Mayor Pizzella reported on Councilmembers Fitzpatrick and Hooper taking the oath of office at the Special Meeting held earlier today; the December 5, 2025, Christmas Tree Lighting event in Tufts Park and Village staff's success with the event; a recent lunch at the Sandhills Women's

Exchange with Mayor Pro Tem Taylor and Councilmember Ficklin; and the recent Home Owner's Association meetings for the No. 6 and No. 7 communities.

- Mayor Pro Tem Taylor welcomed Councilmembers Fitzpatrick and Hooper and reported on a recent lunch at the Sandhills Women's Exchange with Mayor Pro Tem Taylor and Councilmember Ficklin; the December 5, 2025, Christmas Tree Lighting event in Tufts Park; and the December 3, 2025, TCC (SMPO) meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor verified with Mr. Willardson that the Youth Basketball program has 62 teams that practice and play games at both the Cannon Park Community Center and the Pinehurst Elementary School.

- Councilmember Ficklin welcomed Councilmembers Fitzpatrick and Hooper and reported on the winner of the Beautification Committee's "A Pinehurst Christmas Decorating Contest" (Commercial: 1<sup>st</sup> place – Gentry Team @ 5 Chinquapin Rd., 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Cameron & Co. @ 105 Cherokee Rd., 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Coldwell Banker @ 30 Chinquapin Rd.; Residential: 1<sup>st</sup> place – Ashley @ 350 St. Andrews Dr., 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Gouty @ 165 Dundee Rd., 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Maher @ 115 Baltusrol Ln.) and the December 8, 2025, Pinehurst Business Partners Holiday Party.
- Councilmember Hooper thanked fellow Councilmembers, Village staff, and the Village of Pinehurst community for the opportunity to serve on Council; reported on the December 5, 2025, Christmas Tree Lighting event in Tufts Park; and thanked Village staff and the Beautification Committee for the beautiful holiday decorations throughout Downtown.
- Councilmember Fitzpatrick thanked fellow Councilmembers, Village staff, and the Village of Pinehurst community for the opportunity 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**
  - November 18, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
  - November 18, 2025, Work Session Minutes
  - November 19, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

- B. Approval of the 2026 Council Meeting Schedule**

#### **End of Consent Agenda.**

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved all items listed and considered routine on the Consent Agenda by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Willardson announced the Village begin holding its main 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States of America (America 250) celebrations and events with the following two Mayoral Proclamations starting things off.

#### **5. Proclamations**

- A. Proclamation of December 15th, 2025, as Bill of Rights Day**

Mayor Pizzella read aloud the Proclamation of December 15th, 2025, as Bill of Rights Day.

**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION  
VILLAGE OF PINEHURST**

**WHEREAS**, on December 15, 1791, the Commonwealth of the United States took a defining step in the cause of liberty with the ratification of the first ten amendments to the Constitution, forever known as the Bill of Rights; and

**WHEREAS**, these amendments enshrine essential freedoms—including freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly, and petition; the rights to due process, fair trial, and equal justice; and protections for personal privacy and individual dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bill of Rights stands as a beacon of democratic principle, affirming that government derives its authority from the people and must remain accountable to them; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than two centuries, these rights have guided the nation through conflict, growth, and transformation, serving as a safeguard for all who call this country home; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting that we honor the courage, vision, and perseverance of those who insisted that these fundamental liberties be secured for future generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Patrick Pizzella, Mayor of the Village of Pinehurst, do hereby proclaim December 15th, 2025, as Bill of Rights Day in the Village of Pinehurst and call upon all residents to reflect upon the enduring importance of these protections, to celebrate the freedoms they secure, and to recommit ourselves to the preservation of constitutional liberty for all.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the Village of Pinehurst, this the 9th day of December 2025.

- B. Proclamation of January 01st, 2026, as Emancipation Proclamation Day**  
Mayor Pizzella read aloud the Proclamation of January 1st, 2026, as Emancipation Proclamation Day.

**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION  
VILLAGE OF PINEHURST**

**WHEREAS**, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that all enslaved people in states rebelling against the Union “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free,” marking a turning point in the pursuit of liberty and human dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Emancipation Proclamation stands as one of the nation’s most transformative and courageous acts, not only altering the course of the Civil War but laying the foundation for the eventual abolition of slavery with the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, this landmark proclamation affirmed the principle that freedom is a universal right, and it strengthened the moral purpose of the nation, inspiring generations of Americans to continue the ongoing work of justice, equality, and civil rights; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting and proper that we honor this historic moment, pay tribute to the perseverance and resilience of those who endured enslavement, and recognize the continuing responsibility to advance freedom and equal opportunity for all people.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Patrick Pizzella, Mayor of the Village of Pinehurst, do hereby proclaim January 1st, 2026, as Emancipation Proclamation Day and encourage all residents to reflect upon the meaning of freedom, to commemorate the struggles and sacrifices that shaped our nation, and to renew our commitment to the ideals of equality, justice, and human dignity.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the Village of Pinehurst, this the 9th day of December 2025.

**6. Public Comments.**

Mr. Bob Coates, Pinehurst resident, read a prepared statement in opposition to the proposed Planned Unit Development amendment to the Pinehurst Development Ordinance being discussed later during the December 9, 2025, Work Session.

Mr. John Webster, Pinehurst resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Planned Unit Development amendment to the Pinehurst Development Ordinance being discussed later during the December 9, 2025, Work Session.

**7. Ordinance.**

**A. Ordinance 25-19 Amending the FY 2026 General Fund Budget for the SAFER Grant**

Ms. Dana Van Nostrand, Financial Services Director, reviewed and discussed a memo detailing the request to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 General Fund Budget for the SAFER Grant.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved Ordinance 25-19 Amending the FY 2026 General Fund Budget for the SAFER Grant by a vote of 5-0.

**ORDINANCE #25-19:**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF PINEHURST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, REGARDING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF THE GENERAL FUND (SAFER GRANT AMENDMENT).**

**THAT WHEREAS**, the Village of Pinehurst was awarded a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on September 20, 2025 in the amount of \$837,495 to fund six firefighter positions over a period of three years to add a quick response unit (QRU) to the Village’s Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Council accepted the SAFER Grant and authorized the six new firefighter positions at its October 14, 2025 Regular Meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, expenditures are anticipated in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 for salaries, benefits, uniforms and equipment for the six firefighter positions added; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village did not appropriate these funds in the original budget adopted for the year ended June 30, 2026 in Ordinance #25-09; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated revenues for the SAFER grant and fund balance appropriation for the Village’s share of the costs were not included in the original budget adopted for the year ended June 30, 2026 in Ordinance #25-09.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, in the regular meeting assembled this 9th day of December 2025, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** To amend the General Fund budgeted expenditures, the following amounts are to be added to the current expenditure appropriations for FY 2026:

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:		
Fire	\$	<u>293,200</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROPRIATION	\$	<u>293,200</u>

**SECTION 2.** To amend the General Fund estimated revenues, the following amounts should be added to the current estimated revenues for FY 2026:

GENERAL FUND REVENUES:		
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenues	\$	156,300
Fund Balance Appropriated		<u>136,900</u>
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	\$	<u>293,200</u>

**SECTION 3.** Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Village Clerk, Village Manager and to the Financial Services Director for their direction and implementation.

**THIS ORDINANCE** passed and adopted this 9th day of December 2025.

**8. New Business.**

**A. Review and Approval of the 2026 Key Partners and Collaborators Assignments**

Mayor Pizzella reviewed the suggested Council Liaison assignments from the November 18, 2025, Work Session meeting.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved the 2026 Key Partners and Collaborators Assignments as presented by Mayor Pizzella by a vote of 5-0.



**2026 PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS**

The term "partners" refers to those key organizations or individuals who are working in concert with the Village of Pinehurst to achieve a common goal or to improve performance. Partners are typically formal arrangements for a specific aim or purpose such as to achieve a strategic objective or to deliver a specific product.

The term "collaborators" refers to those organizations or individuals who cooperate with the Village of Pinehurst to support a particular activity or event or who cooperate on an intermittent basis when short-term goals are aligned or are the same.

Partners:	What We Partner On:	Council Liaison(s):
NCDOT/**SMPO *	Regional transportation planning and improvements	Pizzella & Taylor
North Carolina State Government	Legislative Actions	Pizzella & Hooper
Tri-Cities Work Group (Pinehurst, So. Pines, Aberdeen) *	Regional planning and cooperative services	Pizzella & Hooper
Moore County Economic Development Partnership	Economic development services	Pizzella & Taylor
Collaborators:	What We Collaborate On:	Council Liaison(s):
Pinehurst Resort / USGA*	Major golf events; Marketing and promotions	Pizzella & Fitzpatrick
Moore County, NC *	NCDOT	Taylor & Hooper
Moore County Schools*	Temporary school site; P&R events/programs	Fitzpatrick
**Central Pines Regional Council	Inter-governmental issues and policies	Fitzpatrick & Ficklin
Pinehurst Business Partners*	Business in the Village	Ficklin
Convention and Visitors Bureau	Welcome Center services; Marketing	Taylor
Chamber of Commerce	Business in the Village	Ficklin
National Park Service (NPS) / Landmark Status (NLS)	Historic District	Fitzpatrick & Ficklin
FirstHealth	P&R/ Health and Fitness	Fitzpatrick
***Regional Land Use Advisory Commission (RLUAC)	Growth & Environmental Sustainability Issues	Hooper
Dornoch, Scotland (Mutual Benevolence Agreement)	Honor the Work & Legacy of Donald Ross	Pizzella & Taylor
VOP Committees:	What We Collaborate On:	Council Liaison(s):
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee	Village programs and services	Hooper
Beautification Committee	Village programs and services	Ficklin

\* Denotes a KEY partner or collaborator  
 \*\*\* SMPO, Central Pines Regional Council, and RLUAC require Resolutions

**9. Resolutions.**

**A. Consider Resolution 25-55 Appointing a Delegate and an Alternate Delegate to the Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC)**

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Hooper, Council unanimously approved Resolution 25-55 appointing Councilmember Fitzpatrick as the Delegate and Councilmember Ficklin as the Alternate Delegate for the Village of Pinehurst on the Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC) Board of Delegates by a vote of 5-0.

**RESOLUTION #25-55:**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DELEGATE AND AN ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE CENTRAL PINES REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**THAT WHEREAS**, the Councils of Governments system was created by the State of North Carolina in 1970 by Governor Bob Scott designating seventeen Regional Councils to serve across the state and Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC) as the regional entity serving Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Orange, and Wake counties, and the municipalities within those counties; and

**WHEREAS**, CPRC is governed by a Board of Delegates and an Executive Committee comprised of representatives from the member governments. Board membership is a chance for local leaders to set regional policy, learn from peers, and develop programming to assist their community. Local elected officials can participate as their government's Delegate or Alternate Delegate; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delegate is the community's voting member on the Board of Delegates, and the Alternate Delegate stands in for the Delegate when they are unavailable.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina that:

Councilmember Fitzpatrick be appointed as the Delegate and Councilmember Ficklin be appointed as the Alternate Delegate for the Village of Pinehurst on the Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC) Board of Delegates.

**THIS RESOLUTION** passed and adopted this 09th day of December 2025.

**B. Consider Resolution 25-56 Appointing a Voting Member and a Voting Alternate to the Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMPO)**

Upon a motion by Councilmember Ficklin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved Resolution 25-56 appointing Mayor Pizzella as the Voting Member and Mayor Pro Tem Taylor as the Voting Alternate for the Village of Pinehurst on the Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMPO) Governing Board by a vote of 5-0.

**RESOLUTION #25-56:**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A VOTING MEMBER AND A VOTING ALTERNATE TO THE SANDHILLS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SMPO)**

**THAT WHEREAS**, on December 29, 2022, the US Census Bureau released 2020 population estimates for Urban Areas (UA); and

**WHEREAS**, the Pinehurst-Southern Pines Urban Area was determined to have a population of 50,319 which meets requirements for a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in accordance with applicable provisions of Title 23, United States Code (USC) Section 134 and 135 and 49 USC Section 5303; and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 450; and

**WHEREAS**, this MPO area includes the Town of Aberdeen, Town of Pinebluff, Village of Pinehurst, Town of Southern Pines, Town of Taylortown, Village of Whispering Pines, Village of Foxfire, and

portions of Moore County; and

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town of Aberdeen, County of Moore, Town of Pinebluff, Village of Pinehurst, Town of Southern Pines, Town of Taylortown, Village of Whispering Pines, and the North Carolina Department of Transportation has been adopted by all member municipalities setting forth the responsibilities and working arrangements for maintaining a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process, and the North Carolina Department of Transportation is expected to also adopt; and

**WHEREAS**, The SMPO shall be governed by a Governing Board which shall be the policy making board for the MPO. The voting membership of the Governing Board shall include one elected official from each member local government plus the NCDOT Board Member representing the region which includes SMPO's MPA, as well as non-voting members from the following agencies:

- a. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) North Carolina Division, Planning and Program Development Engineer;
- b. Moore County Airport Authority.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina that:

Mayor Pizzella be appointed as the Voting Member and Mayor Pro Tem Taylor be appointed as the Voting Alternate for the Village of Pinehurst on the Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMPO) Governing Board.

**THIS RESOLUTION** passed and adopted this 09th day of December 2025.

**C. Consider Resolution 25-57 Appointing a Voting Representative to the Rural Land Use Advisory Commission (RLUAC)**

Upon a motion by Councilmember Ficklin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved Resolution 25-57 appointing Councilmember Hooper as the Regional Land Use Advisory Commission Voting Representative for the Village of Pinehurst by a vote of 5-0.

**RESOLUTION #25-57:**

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF A VILLAGE OF PINEHURST VOTING REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGIONAL LAND USE ADVISORY COMMISSION (RLUAC)**

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Liberty Regional Land Use Advisory Commission (RLUAC) was established 30 years ago under NCGS 160A, Article 20, Part 1 (Interlocal Cooperation) and consists of twenty-three units of local government; and

**WHEREAS**, RLUAC advocates for coordination between local governments and the military regarding compatible growth and environmental sustainability issues; and

**WHEREAS**, RLUAC is made up of voting members appointed by the Governing Boards of member local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, RLUAC is led by a 9-member Board of Directors consisting of leaders from some of the twenty-three units of local government and from the military.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina that:

Councilmember Hooper be appointed as the Regional Land Use Advisory Commission Voting Representative for the Village of Pinehurst.

**THIS RESOLUTION** passed and adopted this the 09th day of December 2025.

**10. General Business.**

**A. Discuss and Approve the Installation of Brick Sidewalks in Front of 25 and 35 Dogwood Road**

Mr. Willardson reviewed a map showing the location of the proposed installation of brick sidewalks in front of 25 & 35 Dogwood Road and discussed issues with the current sand clay path in this area, the estimated cost of installing brick sidewalks, and the importance of preserving the sand clay paths.

Council approved Village staff pursuing the installation of brick sidewalks in front of 25 & 35 Dogwood Road.

**11. Other Business.**

Council discussed the events of November 21-23, 2025, celebrating the relationship between the Village of Pinehurst and Dornoch, Scotland and the importance of maintaining this relationship in promoting both the workplace and birthplace of Donald Ross.

Council verified with Mr. Willardson that the Donald Ross statue will be returned to its place Downtown before the holiday events. Mr. Willardson noted the statue is removed annually for cleaning in November.

Mayor Pizzella briefly highlighted information from the November 18, 2025, Pinehurst Police Department's Daily Report.

**12. Motion to Adjourn.**

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Hooper, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Regular Meeting by a vote of 5-0 at 05:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shannon Konstantinou

Village Clerk

*A videotape of this meeting is located on the Village website: [www.vopnc.org](http://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*