



Village Council
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 24, 2026
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, February 24, 2026, in the Assembly Hall of Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The following were present:

Mr. Patrick Pizzella, Mayor

Mr. John Taylor, Mayor Pro Tem

Ms. Barb Ficklin, Councilmember

Mr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Councilmember

Mr. Jeramy Hooper, Councilmember

Mr. Doug Willardson, Village Manager

Mr. Carlton Cole, Assistant Village Manager

Ms. Shannon Konstantinou, Village Clerk

Mr. Paul Conners, IT Systems Specialist

Ms. JoEllen Richter, IT Technician

And approximately 40 members of the audience in attendance, in addition to 3 staff and 1 press. There were approximately 25 remote views.

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Pizzella called the Village Council Regular Meeting to order at 04:30 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Invocation by Mr. Olin Saunders of Christ Community Church

B. Pledge of Allegiance by Village Council and Staff

3. Reports:

A. Manager

1. March 04, 2026, at 03:00 p.m. in Assembly Hall: Screening of "The American Constitution" Documentary

Mr. Doug Willardson reported on the March 04, 2026, screening of "The American Constitution" documentary ([America 250 | Village of Pinehurst, NC](#)).

B. Council

- Mayor Pizzella reported on the February 11, 2026, NC Mayor's Association Winter Conference at the Pinehurst Resort & Country Club; February 14, 2026, Carolinas Golf Association induction of Jack Nance, the late Robert Dedman Sr. and Robert Dedman Jr. into the Carolinas Golf Hall of Fame; the February 23, 2026, Village of Pinehurst Employees Champions' Club Award Luncheon; the February 18, 2026, SMPO Regular Meeting; and the February 24, 2026, Tri-Cities meeting.
- Mayor Pro Tem Taylor reported on the February 12, 2026, Town of Davidson Organizational Meeting held at the Carolina Hotel; the February 15-17, 2026, North Carolina Government Finance Officers Association Conference held at the Pinehurst Resort and Country Club; the recent Op Ed in The Pilot on population growth projections; the recent presentation on fraud

given by Chief Webb at CCNC; and the need for volunteers to serve on the various Village of Pinehurst Advisory Boards and Committees.

- Councilmember Hooper reported on the February 17, 2026, Village Acres POA meeting and the February 19, 2026, RLUAC meeting.
- Councilmember Ficklin reported on the February 23, 2026, Pinehurst Business Partners meeting; the March 14, 2026, St. Patrick's Day Parade; the April 11, 2026, Sandhills Dog Fair in the Arboretum; the April 10, 2026, Rain Garden event in the Arboretum; and the need for recipe submission for the Village's America 250 recipe collection "Stars, Stripes & Shared Traditions: A Pinehurst Recipe Collection Celebrating America's 250 Years" ([America 250 | Village of Pinehurst, NC](#)).
- Councilmember Fitzpatrick reported on the February 20, 2026, Central Pines Regional Council Regional Day event.

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

1. February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes
2. February 10, 2026, Work Session Minutes

End of Consent Agenda.

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

5. Public Comments.

Ms. Susan LaFollette-Black, Pinehurst resident, spoke in favor of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Dr. Bill Grover, Pinehurst resident, spoke in favor of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Reverend Sue Hudson, Southern Pines resident and Engaged Brains Program representative, spoke in favor of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Mr. Bob Asdal, Pinehurst resident, spoke in favor of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Mr. Paul Strider, Pinehurst resident, spoke in opposition to the NCDOT proposed PTC redesign.

Mr. Bruce Geddes, Pinehurst ETJ resident, spoke in opposition to the NCDOT proposed PTC redesign.

Mr. Paul Gauthier, Pinehurst resident, spoke in opposition to the NCDOT proposed PTC redesign.

Ms. Patricia Smith, Pinehurst resident, spoke in favor of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Mr. Jerry Dellas, Pinehurst resident, spoke in opposition to the NCDOT proposed PTC redesign.

Mr. Jeff Heintz, Pinehurst resident, spoke in favor of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Ms. Mary Flynn, Pinehurst resident, asked for support from the Village of Pinehurst Attorney in petitioning the United States Post Office to request a boundary adjustment to change the Royal Oak community's mailing address to the 28374 Pinehurst zip code.

Mayor Pizzella asked Ms. Flynn to provide the name and address of the USPS District Manager in

Raleigh, NC so Council may discuss the matter with the Village Attorney.

Ms. Karen Sullivan, Pinehurst resident, spoke in favor of the Senior Advisory Committee.

6. Resolutions.

A. Consider Resolution 26-13 Adopting the Senior Advisory Committee Policy

Mr. Willardson introduced consideration of Resolution 26-13 and noted the strong support from the audience for adopting the Senior Advisory Committee Policy.

Council expressed support for the formation of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Ficklin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-13 adopting the Senior Advisory Committee Policy by a vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTION #26-13:

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY FOR THE VILLAGE OF PINEHURST.

WHEREAS, the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst recognizes the importance of fostering meaningful engagement with residents age 55 and older and promoting a high quality of life for senior members of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council desires to maintain a Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) to encourage effective two-way communication between Village Government and senior residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Senior Advisory Committee Policy establishes the purpose, goals, membership requirements, terms, expectations, meeting procedures, and Village support necessary for the effective operation of the SAC; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council has reviewed and discussed the proposed Senior Advisory Committee Policy and finds that adoption of the policy will provide clarity, consistency, and structure to the Committee's operations while supporting age-friendly community practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, in Regular Meeting assembled this 24th day of February 2026, that:

1. The Senior Advisory Committee Policy is hereby adopted as an official policy of the Village of Pinehurst.
2. The Senior Advisory Committee shall operate in accordance with the adopted policy, including its provisions regarding purpose, membership, terms, meeting procedures, and compliance with North Carolina public records and open meetings laws.
3. This policy shall supplement applicable statutes, ordinances, and other Village policies, all of which shall continue to govern the actions of the Committee.
4. The Village Manager is authorized to implement and administer the Senior Advisory Committee Policy consistent with its terms.

THIS RESOLUTION passed and adopted this 24th day of February 2026.



VILLAGE OF PINEHURST
STANDARD PROCEDURE

SUBJECT:	Senior Advisory Committee Policy	Effective Date: 02/24/2026
Department:	Administration	Policy No.: 64
Prepared by:	Administration	Revised: 01/2026
Approved by:	Village Council	# of Pages: 4

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to define the purpose, membership, membership requirements, member expectations, and Village support for members of the Senior Advisory Committee (SAC). The SAC is intended to advise the Village on matters affecting older adults and to support policies, programs, facilities, and services that promote a high quality of life, accessibility, independence, and age-friendly community practices for Pinehurst residents.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Village of Pinehurst Council to maintain a Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) to foster and enhance effective two-way communication between Village Government and Pinehurst residents age 55 and older.

The SAC shall serve as an advisory body focused on identifying opportunities and challenges related to healthy aging, mobility, accessibility, social connection, safety, and supporting the Village's efforts to remain a welcoming and age-friendly community for residents at all stages of life.

COMMITTEE GOALS:

The goals of the Senior Advisory Committee are to:

- Serve as a forum for communication between Village Government and senior residents.
- Identify trends, needs, concerns, and opportunities affecting older adults in Pinehurst.
- Promote policies, programs, and community initiatives that support independent living, accessibility, social engagement, and overall well-being for older adults.
- Provide input on how Village facilities, parks, sidewalks, transportation systems, events, and communications can better reflect age-friendly design and practices.
- Help the Village identify barriers—physical, social, or informational—that may limit full participation by senior residents.
- Support intergenerational connection and community engagement.
- Share information from SAC meetings with senior residents through effective communication channels.
- Develop web-based educational and informational resources for the senior community.

- Comply with North Carolina public records and open meetings law requirements.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership of the SAC shall consist of up to nine (9) members, appointed by the Village Council.

- Members must be permanent residents of the Village of Pinehurst or its ETJ and at least 55 years of age at the time of appointment.
- Membership should, to the extent practicable, reflect diversity in age, neighborhoods, backgrounds, abilities, and interests within the senior population.
- Members will be individually appointed by the Village Council upon recommendation by a committee consisting of the Village Manager, a Member of the Village Council and designated Village staff.
- The Village Council may adjust the number of SAC members by policy amendment as needed.

RECRUITMENT:

- Designated Village staff shall notify SAC members when their terms are nearing completion.
- Members eligible for reappointment who wish to continue serving will normally be nominated to the Village Council for reappointment.
- In considering reappointment, the Village Council will consider attendance, participation, and adherence to the committee's expectations.
- When vacancies occur, designated Village staff will advertise and solicit applications from interested senior residents.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION, TERMS, TERM LIMITS, AND TERMINATIONS:

- All newly appointed members shall participate in a brief onboarding process consistent with onboarding requirements for other Village boards and committees.
- Completion of onboarding and execution of a volunteer agreement are required prior to participation.
- Members shall be appointed to three-year terms.
- Members may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms, for a total of six years.
- Members who have reached the maximum term limit must wait at least one year before being eligible for reappointment.
- Member terms shall expire after the June meeting of the calendar year in which the term is designated to end, regardless of start date.

ALTERNATE MEMBERS:

The Senior Advisory Committee shall not utilize alternate members. Consistent participation by appointed members is expected to ensure continuity, institutional knowledge, and effective dialogue.

The Committee's meeting schedule shall be widely distributed, and interested members of the community shall be encouraged to attend meetings on a regular basis.

VILLAGE SUPPORT TO SAC MEMBERS:

The Village shall provide the following support to SAC members:

- Staff assistance in meeting scheduling, agenda preparation, and distribution of materials.
- Assist members in communicating information to senior residents.

- Staff assistance in posting and maintaining educational and informational resources within a dedicated portion of the VOP website.

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW REQUIREMENTS:

SAC members are public officials. As such:

- All SAC communications are subject to North Carolina public records law.
- SAC members shall comply with all public records requests and records retention requirements as a condition of appointment.

SAC MEETING PROCEDURES:

- SAC meetings shall generally be held monthly or more frequently as needed, in accordance with an adopted schedule.
- Meetings shall be chaired by the Mayor, or the Mayor's designee.
- Any Council Member may attend and participate in SAC meetings.
- SAC meetings are meetings of a public body and are subject to North Carolina open meetings laws.
- Each meeting shall have a published agenda prepared by designated staff.
- SAC meeting agendas should periodically include discussion of topics related to quality of life, accessibility, inclusion, mobility, safety, and age-friendly community practices.
- Members are encouraged to evaluate Village programs, facilities, and policies based on how they affect older adults' ability to remain active, engaged, and independent.
- Appointed members should be prepared to share summarized feedback from senior residents related to community conditions, services, and opportunities.
- Members shall conduct themselves respectfully and professionally and are encouraged to participate without dominating discussion.
- The Village Manager shall ensure staff support for note-taking and preparation of minutes.
- The Village Manager, in consultation with the Mayor, shall schedule presentations and briefings relevant to senior issues and age-friendly practices.

POLICY UPDATE:

This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with the Village's overall policy review schedule as determined by the Village Manager or directed by the Village Council.

B. Consider Resolution 26-12 Opposing the NCDOT Proposed Plans for the Pinehurst Traffic Circle

Council expressed concerns related to the proposed NCDOT plan for redesigning the Pinehurst Traffic Circle and highlighted sections of Resolution 26-12.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Hooper, Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-12 Opposing the NCDOT Proposed Plans for the Pinehurst Traffic Circle by a vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTION #26-12:

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE NCDOT PROPOSAL TO ALTER THE HISTORIC PINEHURST TRAFFIC CIRCLE (PTC); SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO WORK WITH NCDOT TO CONSIDER PREVIOUSLY DOCUMENTED DESIGNS FOR THE PTC

AND OTHER IDEAS; AND TO MAKE INCREMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE SAFETY, AESTHETICS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE 70-YEAR-OLD CIRCLE

WHEREAS, NCDOT's proposal for this project (U-5976) known as the "Shifted Pillow Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI)," which was intended to replace earlier proposals, was withdrawn following overwhelming opposition from area residents and the unanimous opposition of the VOP Council (Resolution #24-28) in August of 2024; and

WHEREAS, in 2025 NCDOT proposed an alternative design that would require the state of North Carolina to use eminent domain possibly impacting the property rights and homes of several residents on Dalrymple Road and in the Pinehurst Manor, Pinehurst Trace and Taylorhurst neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, in October 2025 the NCDOT conducted a hearing in Pinehurst and received over 230 public comments, a majority of which were in opposition to the alternative design; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT plan does not call for construction to begin until 2031 with a completion date in 2033 at a projected cost of \$77,000,000 million; and

WHEREAS, the most recent data from the NC State Demographer's Office, which is responsible for producing state and county population projections, indicates a forecast for Moore County population in 2050 is now 141,000, down 21.7% from a forecast of 180,000 made in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Demographer's Office also reduced the expected 2050 population for the eight counties surrounding Moore County by 46,752 people from the estimate made two years ago, which is important because NCDOT correctly points out that the traffic passing through the PTC is driven by more than just the local population; and

WHEREAS, the reduced population forecasts for Moore County and the eight adjacent counties strongly suggest that NCDOT's projection of 80,000 vehicles per day through the PTC in 2050 needs to be reduced, which should change the projected efficiency of all the designs studied; and

WHEREAS, the stated objective of the NCDOT is safety and efficiency and the PTC has never experienced a traffic fatality in its 70-year history. This proposed design incorporates intersections and traffic lights, which, according to research by NCDOT and the US Department of Transportation, are thought to be less safe than traffic circles; and

WHEREAS, in 2011 NCDOT's Mobility and Safety Division reported that after 30 roundabouts were constructed across North Carolina total crashes were down 46%, fatal and injury crashes were down 76%, and front-impact (head-on) crashes were down 75%; and NCDOT's Traffic Safety Unit reported that in 2020 front-impact crashes were down 62%; and

WHEREAS, after peaking in 2021-2022 at 122 and following the installation of lane dividers and the addition of clearer road signage, the number of accidents in the PTC has declined in the past two years to 77 and 78, below even the levels of 2017-2018.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, in a Regular Meeting assembled this 24th day of February 2026, as follows:

SECTION 1. We, the Village Council, do hereby proclaim we oppose the NCDOT proposal for our 70-year-old Traffic Circle. We believe it would impose on the property rights of some Pinehurst homeowners, be disruptive for our residents and visitors during a two-year construction project between 2031 and 2033, would not improve the safety of the PTC, and would have a negative impact to the aesthetics and special character of our village.

SECTION 2. We, the Village Council, have reviewed the attendee responses to the October 2025 meeting that indicated almost 60% of comments submitted to NCDOT oppose this most recent proposal and the comments and letters we have received from our residents have raised concerns about sound barrier walls, possible impact on homes with septic systems and general traffic safety.

SECTION 3. We, the Village Council, urge NCDOT to pursue more incremental changes as recommended by Pinehurst residents and contained in previous letters from the Village of Pinehurst to NCDOT in January 2023, November 2024 and January 2026 that reference speed limits, enhanced signage, rumble strips and improving sightlines by changing the angle of incoming roads among other items.

SECTION 4. We, the Village Council, encourage the NCDOT to undertake as soon as possible, not waiting until 2031, the widening of 15-501 North of the PTC, as proposed in their plan (R-5927), in part because this road is the only two-lane road leading to the PTC while the other four roads are all four lanes.

SECTION 5. We, the Village Council, recommend NCDOT pursue the addition of the proposed smaller circle at the Airport Road intersection with Midland Road and the more restrictive turning ability exiting Beaver Lane that are part of project U-5976.

SECTION 6. We, the Village Council, recommend NCDOT reexamine the projected 2050 traffic volume in light of the new population projections by the State Demographer's Office and review some of the alternative designs for the PTC documented by HNTB North Carolina in the 2023 Traffic Analysis Technical Memorandum for safety and efficiency while also factoring in aesthetics.

SECTION 7. This resolution shall be forwarded, by the Village of Pinehurst Village Clerk, to all members of the North Carolina General Assembly; North Carolina's Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and Secretary of Transportation; the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Commission; and members of the Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization.

THIS RESOLUTION passed and adopted this 24th day of February 2026.

7. Ordinances.

A. Consider Ordinance 26-07 FY 2026 Mid-Year Budget Amendment

Ms. Dana Van Nostrand, Financial Services Director, reviewed and discussed a memo outlining the proposed amendments to the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved Ordinance 26-07 FY 2026 Mid-Year Budget Amendment by a vote of 5-0.

ORDINANCE #26-07:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #25-09 APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF PINEHURST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, REGARDING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF THE GENERAL FUND (MID- YEAR BUDGET AMENDMENTS).

THAT WHEREAS, the Village budgeted for revenues and expenditures in FY 2026 for the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the estimates for FY 2026 revenues and expenditures have been calculated and there are

some variations between the amounts budgeted, as previously amended, and the amounts expected,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, in the regular meeting assembled this 24th day of February 2026, as follows:

SECTION 1. The estimated revenues and expenditure appropriations of the General Fund are to be amended as follows:

	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Net Increase (Decrease)</u>
<i>Estimated Revenues:</i>			
Ad Valorem Tax Revenues	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000
Unrestricted Intergovernmental Revenues	250,000		250,000
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenues	113,800		113,800
Sales and Services	32,000		32,000
Other Revenues	246,000		246,000
Investment Income	85,000		85,000
Other Financing Sources		\$ 128,800	(128,800)
Fund Balance Appropriated		1,366,000	(1,366,000)
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$ 826,800</u>	<u>\$ 1,494,800</u>	<u>\$ (668,000)</u>

	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Net Increase (Decrease)</u>
<i>Expenditure Appropriations:</i>			
Administration		\$ 224,500	\$ (224,500)
Police		87,000	(87,000)
Fire		90,500	(90,500)
Public Services Administration		43,500	(43,500)
Streets & Grounds		39,500	(39,500)
Solid Waste		33,500	(33,500)
Recreation		28,500	(28,500)
Library		6,000	(6,000)
Harness Track		11,500	(11,500)
Fair Barn	\$ 7,000		7,000
Planning		50,500	(50,500)
Debt Service		60,000	(60,000)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 7,000</u>	<u>\$ 675,000</u>	<u>\$ (668,000)</u>

SECTION 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Village Clerk, Village Manager, and Financial Services Director for their direction and implementation.

THIS ORDINANCE passed and adopted this 24th day of February 2026.

8. Regular Business.

A. FY 2026 Quarterly Financial Dashboard as of December 31, 2025

Ms. Van Nostrand reviewed and discussed the FY 2026 Quarterly Financial Dashboard PDF highlighting Cash & Investments, General Fund Balance Sheet, General Fund Fund Balance, Other Funds, Ad Valorem Taxes, General Fund Budget, and Other Current Year Data.

B. FY 2026 Quarterly Strategic Operating Plan Update for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2025

Mr. Willardson reviewed and discussed a FY26 Initiative Action Plan Review PowerPoint highlighting the FY 2026 VOP Strategy Map and FY 2026 IAPs (Expand and Renovate Given Library & Tufts Archives, Redevelopment of Village Place, Update the Pinehurst Development Ordinance, Improve Fire Rescue Response Time, Multi-Modal Transportation Improvements, and

Short-Term Rental Monitoring & Compliance).

9. Other Business.

Council discussed population data and growth projections as they relate to proposed NCDOT projects, specifically the Pinehurst Traffic Circle redesign, and approaching NCDOT with additional redesign options that better preserve the aesthetics of the Circle.

10. Motion to Adjourn.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Ficklin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Regular Meeting by a vote of 5-0 at 07:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shannon Konstantinou
Village Clerk

A recording 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