



Village Council
Minutes for the Work Session of April 14, 2026
Assembly Hall
395 Magnolia Road
Pinehurst, North Carolina
04:30 p.m.

The Village of Pinehurst Village Council held a Work Session Meeting at 08:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, 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 Bonecutter, Village Clerk
Mr. Josh Dockery, IT Systems Specialist

And approximately 0 members of the audience in attendance, in addition to 1 staff and 1 press. There were approximately 10 remote views.

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Pizzella called the Village Council Work Session to order at 08:39 p.m.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pizzella, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved moving Item D. Discussion of Permit Compliance and Unpermitted Work Enforcement Practices to the April 28, 2026, Work Session meeting by a vote of 5-0.

2. General Business.

A. Introduction and Overview of the Proposed FY2026–27 Budget

Mr. Willardson and Ms. Dana Van Nostrand, Financial Services Director, reviewed and discussed a FY 2027 Strategic Operating Plan PowerPoint highlighting:

- Council's Strategic Direction
 - Strategic Map
- FY 2027 Budget
 - FY 2027 General Fund Budget Overview
 - FY 2027 General Fund Revenues
 - FY 2027 General Fund Expenditures
- Expenditures by Function
 - General Government
 - Public Safety
 - Transportation
 - Environmental Protection
 - Economic and Physical Development
 - Cultural & Recreation
 - Debt Service, Contingency, & Other Financing Uses
 - Significant Capital Projects [\$4.5 million in Total]
 - Tables of Project Priority by Neighborhood, Age Group, and Timeline
- FY 2027-2031 Five-Year Financial Forecast

- 5-Year Forecast Take Away
- Five-Year Financial Forecast
- What Is / Is Not Included in the Five-Year Financial Forecast
- Table of Expenditures FY2027 – FY2031
- Key Highlights of the Proposed FY 2027 – 2031 Forecast
- Revaluation Sensitivity Analysis
- Tax Rate Discussion
 - Recommended to Keep Tax Rate Flat
 - Two Options if Council Wants to Reduce the Rate by 0.5¢
- Next Steps
 - Key Upcoming Dates

Council deliberated reducing the tax rate by 0.5¢ and agreed to have Mr. Willardson and Ms. Van Nostrand prepare the FY 2027 Budget with a 0.5¢ tax rate reduction factored in by buying down the tax rate for 1-year with a fund balance appropriation in the amount approximately \$300,000.

B. Consideration of Funding Request from Sandhills Women's Exchange for Historical Preservation Purposes

Mr. Willardson reviewed and discussed a memo on the interest expressed by the Sandhills Women's Exchange to receive financial assistance from the Village to elevate the historic log cabin at 15 Azalea Rd. in response to repeated flooding issues they are having at the property.

Council asked Mr. Willardson to provide a more formal request from the Sandhills Women's Exchange once received and to pursue alternative funding options to help reduce the amount the Village would need to contribute.

C. Discussion on the Draft Community Survey

Mr. Willardson reviewed and discussed a 2026 Community Survey draft and asked Council to provide feedback on the survey content and structure within the next few weeks.

D. Discussion of Permit Compliance and Unpermitted Work Enforcement Practices

This item has been moved to the April 28, 2026, Work Session meeting.

Council and Mr. Willardson discussed potential items for upcoming meetings; which included an update on the new Given Memorial Library, an update on the Downtown parking time limits, and how the Village is able to help Downtown businesses more.

3. Motion to Adjourn.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Work Session by a vote of 5-0 at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Bonecutter
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