



Village Council
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of May 12, 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, May 12, 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. Doug Willardson, Village Manager

Ms. Shannon Bonecutter, Village Clerk

Ms. JoEllen Richter, IT Technician

And approximately 1 member of the audience in attendance, in addition to 3 staff and 1 press. There were approximately 26 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. Moment of Silence for Reflection and Prayer

B. Pledge of Allegiance by Village Council and Staff

Mayor Pizzella noted the excused absence of Councilmember Jeramy Hooper.

3. Reports

A. Manager

1. Celebrate Your Elected Officials Day (May 19, 2026)

Mr. Doug Willardson noted May 19, 2026, is Celebrate Your Elected Officials Day and reported on the May 15, 2026, opening of the Splash Pad in Rassie Wicker Park; both the Police Department and Fire Department seeking accreditations; and reminded everyone to be safe and to follow all applicable rules of the road when operating a golf cart.

B. Council

- Mayor Pizzella reported on the May 08, 2026 Live After 5 event in the Arboretum; the May 05, 2026, Village Heritage Foundation Garden Party in the Arboretum; the inaugural May 04, 2026, Senior Advisory Committee meeting; the recent Mayors' and Managers' meeting, which is held quarterly; and the Convention and Visitors Bureau ending the grant program for municipalities after this year.
- Mayor Pro Tem Taylor reported on the inaugural May 04, 2026, Senior Advisory Committee meeting; the upcoming Senior Advisory Committee Working Group meetings to research specific aging related issues; and the May 05, 2026, Village Heritage Foundation Garden Party in the Arboretum. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor also noted he will be presenting information he's

- been working on related to the redesign of the Pinehurst Traffic Circle later in the meeting.
- Councilmember Hooper was absent.
 - Councilmember Ficklin reported on the May 04, 2026, Beautification Committee meeting; the May 05, 2026, Village Heritage Foundation Garden Party in the Arboretum; and a telephone scam involving reports of false arrest warrants and requests for money to avoid arrest.
 - Councilmember Fitzpatrick reiterated Councilmember Ficklin's caution regarding telephone scams; reported on the inaugural May 04, 2026, Senior Advisory Committee meeting and the upcoming Senior Advisory Committee Working Group meetings to research specific aging related issues; noted the high quality of the Village's volunteers and level of service they provide the community, specifically the work done by the Pinehurst Garden Club to beautify the Village; and praised Mr. Mike Apke, Public Services & Engineering Director, for the No. 6 sidewalk project citing a high level of resident satisfaction.

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor verified the Senior Advisory Committee Working Groups are not required to comply with Open Meetings Law regarding notices / procedures and any contact regarding arrest warrants would be made in person by a law enforcement officer not over the telephone.

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. April 28, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 2. April 28, 2026, Work Session Minutes**

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 4-0.

5. Mayoral Proclamations

A. 2026 National Public Works Week Proclamation (May 17–23, 2026)

Mayor Pizzella read aloud the 2026 National Public Works Week Proclamation (May 17–23, 2026) Proclamation.

Mr. Willardson praised the Public Services Department for the important, and often overlooked, services they provide to the Village on a daily basis.

Mr. Mike Apke, Public Services & Engineering Director, thanked Council and Mr. Willardson for recognizing the Public Services Department and praised the Department's team members for their continued hard work and dedication to the Village of Pinehurst community. Mr. Apke also extended thanks to the Moore County Public Utilities Department for the work they do providing the Village with water and sewer services.

**Mayoral Proclamation
Village of Pinehurst**

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people of the Village of Pinehurst; and

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and

protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders, and children in the Village of Pinehurst to gain knowledge of and maintain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 66th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association.

Now, therefore, I, Patrick Pizzella, Mayor of the Village of Pinehurst, do hereby proclaim May 17–23, 2026, as National Public Works Week. I urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees, and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and advancing quality of life for all.

6. Public Comments

Ms. Collette Kolinski, Pinehurst resident, read a prepared statement in opposition to common property valuation practices.

7. Regular Business

A. Discussion on an Alternative Design Option for the Proposed Traffic Circle Improvements

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor provided background on the work he and Councilmember Hooper have done researching alternatives to the NCDOT redesign of the Pinehurst Traffic Circle.

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor further reviewed and discussed an alternative he and Councilmember Hooper proposed, which is a version of a turbo hybrid roundabout.

Council supported Mayor Pro Tem Taylor and Councilmember Hooper's ongoing discussions with NCDOT regarding alternatives to the proposed redesign of the Pinehurst Traffic Circle.

B. Release of the Recommended FY 2027 Annual Budget and Strategic Operating Plan

Mr. Willardson reviewed and discussed a memo on the release of the recommended FY 2027 Annual Budget and Strategic Operating Plan noting the only change to the recommendations from the April 14, 2026, Work Session is the reduction of the proposed tax rate from \$0.225 to \$0.22.

Mr. Willardson noted a Public Hearing on the FY 2027 Annual Budget and Strategic Operating Plan will be held at the May 26, 2026, Regular Meeting with adoption occurring either at that meeting or at the June 09, 2026, Regular Meeting depending on the level of feedback received during the Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor verified the redevelopment / development of Village Place as an Initiative Action Plan (IAP) item for FY 2027, however the relocation of the Public Services facilities has been postponed for now.

Council complimented the Financial Services Department for the quality and accessibility of the budget and SOP document.

C. FY 2026 Quarterly Strategic Operating Plan Update for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2026

Mr. Willardson reviewed and discussed an FY26 Initiative Action Plan Review PowerPoint presentation highlighting FY20 IAP Strategy Map, Expand and Renovate Given Library & Tufts Archives, Redevelopment of Village Place, Improve Fire Rescue Response Time, Multi-Modal Transportation Improvements, Short-Term Rental Monitoring & Compliance, and Update the

Pinehurst Development Ordinance.

Mr. Willardson noted the updated Engineering Standards Manual is nearing completion and will be presented to Council for review and approval at an upcoming meeting.

8. Resolutions

A. Consider Resolution 26-20 Appointing Ms. Janet Farrell as the Chair for the Beautification Committee

Council and Mr. Willardson spoke in favor of the appointment of Ms. Janet Farrell as the Chair for the Beautification Committee noting the Beautification Committee members unanimously supported Ms. Farrell's nomination for the Chair position as well.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Ficklin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-20 appointing Ms. Janet Farrell as the Chair for the Beautification Committee for the term effective July 01, 2026, said term expiring on June 30, 2028, by a vote of 4-0.

Resolution #26-20:

A Resolution Appointing the Chair of the Village of Pinehurst Beautification Committee

Whereas, the Village of Pinehurst established the Village of Pinehurst Beautification Committee by Resolution #10-35 on November 16, 2010; and

Whereas, Village Council adopted Resolution #17-24 on September 12, 2017, amending the Beautification Committee; and

Whereas, there is a need to appoint a new Chair for the Beautification Committee; and

Whereas, Ms. Janet Farrell and the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst are desirous of her serving as the Chair of the Beautification Committee.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina in the Regular Meeting assembled this 12th day of May 2026, as follows:

Ms. Janet Farrell shall be appointed as Chair of the Beautification Committee effective July 01, 2026, said term expiring on June 30, 2028.

This Resolution passed and adopted this 12th day of May 2026.

B. Consider Resolution 26-21 Opposing Legislation That Limits Local Planning and Zoning Authority

Mr. Willardson reviewed and discussed a memo on the background of the proposed resolution and Senate Bills 382 and 205 and House Bill 765.

Council agreed to take no action on Resolution 26-21 and to reconsider whether to take action or not after the General Assembly has had an opportunity to vote on these bills.

9. Other Business

Mayor Pizzella noted Ms. Audrey Moriarty, Library Services & Archives Director, will be conducting a walking tour of the Village's Historic District on May 13, 2026. Please, contact the Given Memorial Library and Tufts Archives for more information or to register for a walking tour (giventuftsinfo@vopnc.org).

Council asked Mr. Willardson to periodically provide information on how many residents have signed up for the Fire Department's Community Connect service in the weekly reports given to Councilmembers.

Council and Mr. Willardson discussed potential future agenda items, which included a review of the Council Code of Ethics, an update on the redesign of the Pinehurst Traffic Circle discussions with NCDOT, and the FY 2027 Budget and Strategic Operating Plan presentation.

10. Motion to Adjourn

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Regular Meeting by a vote of 4-0 at 05:48 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