



**Village Council
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of July 28, 2026
Assembly Hall
395 Magnolia Road
Pinehurst, North Carolina
4:00 p.m.**

The Village of Pinehurst Village Council held a Regular Meeting at 04:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 28, 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. Jason Whitaker, Chief Information Officer

And approximately 25 members of the audience in attendance, in addition to 4 staff and 1 press. There were approximately 11 remote views.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pizzella called the Village Council Regular Meeting to order at 04:00 p.m.

2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

3. Conflict of Interest / Ethics Reminder

Does any Council member have a known conflict of interest or other circumstance that could impair their impartiality regarding any matter before the Council today?

If so, please disclose the conflict. Council members with a conflict should refrain from participating in the matter. If a Council member believes recusal is not required, they should disclose the nature of the conflict and the basis for their participation.

No Councilmember reported a conflict.

4. Reports

A. Manager

Mr. Doug Willardson reported on the August 1, 2026, Starlab Family Saturday at Given Memorial Library and the August 14, 2026, Live After 5 concert in the Arboretum.

B. Council

- Mayor Pizzella reported on the July 15, 2026, Sandhills Metropolitan Planning

Organization meeting; the July 14, 2026, Reception Recognizing All Former and Current Village Mayors and Councilmembers in Honor of the 250th Anniversary of the United States; and the July 28, 2026, US Kids Golf World Championship Parade of Nations.

- Mayor Pro Tem Taylor did not have a report.
- Councilmember Hooper did not have a report.
- Councilmember Ficklin reported on the July 28, 2026, Pinehurst Business Partners extended shopping hours Downtown (5-8 p.m.).
- Councilmember Fitzpatrick reported on a recent tour of a family care home in the No. 6 neighborhood.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Mayor Pizzella, Council agreed to amend the July 28, 2026, Regular Meeting agenda to include Item 10.B. Consideration of Resolution 26-35.

5. 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. July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 2. July 14, 2026, Work Session Minutes**

End of Consent Agenda

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

6. Honorary Resolution

A. Consider Resolution 26-29 Honoring Mr. David Herring for His Service on the Historic Preservation Commission

Council spoke highly of Mr. Herring and thanked him for his service to the Village of Pinehurst during his time on the Historic Preservation Commission.

Mayor Pizzella read aloud Resolution 26-29.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Ficklin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-29 honoring Mr. David Herring for his service on the Historic Preservation Commission by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Herring thanked Village Council for the opportunity to serve the community.

A Resolution Honoring the Service of Mr. David Herring

Whereas, Mr. David Herring has been a dedicated and invaluable member of the Village of Pinehurst community; and

Whereas, Mr. Herring served with distinction on the Historic Preservation Commission from June 2020 to May 2026, generously volunteering his time and expertise; and

Whereas, Mr. Herring was instrumental in the efficient operation of the Historic Preservation Commission, always conducting the Village's business in a courteous, professional manner; and

Whereas, Mr. Herring was involved in many decisions affecting the character of the community, each time exhibiting sound judgement and concern for the important historic qualities of the Village of Pinehurst in his decision-making process; and

Whereas, Mr. Herring played a significant role in amendments to the Village of Pinehurst Historic District Standards done in 2021 and 2022.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, in a Regular Meeting assembled this 28th day of July 2026 as follows:

Section 1. That the Village Council hereby expresses, on behalf of the citizens of the Village of Pinehurst, its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mr. David Herring for his exemplary service and dedication to the community.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the permanent minutes of the Village of Pinehurst and a copy thereof, duly executed by the Mayor, be presented to Mr. Herring as a token of our esteem.

This Resolution passed and adopted this 28th day of July 2026

7. **Public Comments**
None.

8. **Public Hearing**

A. Official Zoning Map Amendment for Augusta National Drive

The purpose of the hearing is to consider an Official Zoning Map Amendment for a portion of Parcel ID #00016792 totaling approximately 1.25 acres and located along Augusta National Dr. This proposed map amendment would zone the area from RD (Recreation Development) to R-30 (Medium Density Residential). The property owner and applicant is the Country Club of North Carolina.

Mr. Alex Cameron, Planning & Inspections Director, reviewed and discussed a Public Hearing – Augusta National Dr. Zoning Map Amendment PowerPoint presentation focusing on the Purpose, Conventional Zoning Map Amendment, Request, Analysis, Adjacent Land Uses and Zoning, 2019 Comprehensive Plan, Planning & Zoning Board Recommendation, Village Council Action, and Conclusion.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Hooper, Council unanimously approved to enter into the Public Hearing by a vote of 5-0 at 04:22 p.m.

Council asked Mr. Cameron to clarify the reason the applicant wishes to revert the property back to the original zoning designation and what steps will be taken to buffer the proposed

new single-family residence from the existing maintenance facility. Mr. Cameron declined to speak on behalf of the applicant, but stated the zoning designation was changed in 2005 as part of a larger 5.65-acre request by the applicant for the construction of a new maintenance facility. Mr. Cameron noted the applicant was able to adjust the lot lines to maintain a lot of the existing mature vegetation as a buffer between the two properties.

Mayor Pizzella asked if any member of the audience wished to speak. None came forward.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Public Hearing by a vote of 5-0 at 04:25 p.m.

9. Ordinances

A. Consider Ordinance 26-15 - Zoning Map Amendment for Augusta National Drive

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Fitzpatrick, Council unanimously approved Ordinance 26-15 Zoning Map Amendment for Augusta National Drive to rezone approximately 1.25 acres of land located along Augusta National Dr. from RD (Recreation Development) to R-30 (Medium Density Residential) by a vote of 5-0. Council found that, while the requested amendment is inconsistent with the Conservation and Growth Map in the 2019 Comprehensive Plan, the requested amendment is consistent with the broader goals of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan including balancing conservation with appropriate growth and consistency with the surrounding neighborhood. The amendment is considered reasonable and in the best interest of the public.

Ordinance #26-15:

An Ordinance Amending the Official Pinehurst Zoning Map As It Pertains to the Rezoning of Approximately 1.25 Acres Located Along Augusta National Drive Consisting of a Portion of Moore County PID # 00016792.

That Whereas, the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst adopted a new Pinehurst Development Ordinance and Map on the 5th day of January 2026 for the purpose of regulating planning and development in the Village of Pinehurst and the extraterritorial area over which it has jurisdiction; and

Whereas, said Ordinance and Map may be amended from time to time as circumstances and the best interests of the community have required; and

Whereas, the Planning & Zoning Board has recommended the zoning map amendment be approved due to consistency with Guiding Principles in the 2019 Comprehensive Plan; and

Whereas, a public hearing was held on July 28, 2026, in the Assembly Hall of Village Hall, Pinehurst, North Carolina after due notice in The Pilot, a newspaper in Southern Pines, North Carolina, with general circulation in the Village of Pinehurst, and its extraterritorial jurisdiction. The purpose of this public hearing was to consider the rezoning of approximately 1.25 acres of land located along Augusta National Dr., and further identified as a portion of Parcel ID #00016792, from RD (Recreation Development) to R-30 (Medium Density Residential), at which time all interested citizens, residents and property owners in the Village of Pinehurst and its extraterritorial jurisdiction were provided an opportunity to comment on the proposed rezoning; and

Whereas, the Village Council, after considering all the facts and circumstances surrounding the proposed rezoning, have determined that it is in the best interests of the Village of Pinehurst that the Zoning Map be amended.

Now, therefore, be it ordained and established by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina in a Regular Meeting assembled on this 28th day of July 2026 as follows:

Section 1. The proposed rezoning is inconsistent with the recommended land use for the subject area as identified on the Conservation and Growth Map on page 61 of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan which identifies the area as "Private Open Space".

Section 2. However, the proposed rezoning would restore the property's original zoning designation and is compatible with the surrounding R-30 neighborhood and is therefore consistent with the broader goals of balancing conservation with appropriate growth within the 2019 Comprehensive Plan.

Section 3. The proposed rezoning is consistent with Guiding Principle 2: Balancing Conservation & Growth (page 50), which states to "Balance the need to conserve land while allowing purposeful, quality development in strategic locations to meet the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors. Ensure high-quality development that reflects the character of the community and maintain high-quality gateways and corridors to ensure the built environment is in keeping with the character of Pinehurst."

Section 4. The proposed rezoning is consistent with Guiding Principle 3: Places to Live, which states to "Seek opportunities to offer a variety of housing types that appeal to a wide range of households and enable residents to live in Pinehurst throughout all stages of life."

Section 5. That the Pinehurst Zoning Map of the Village of Pinehurst and its extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction is hereby amended by the rezoning of approximately 1.25 acres of land located along Augusta National Dr. and further identified as a portion of Parcel ID #00016792 from RD (Recreation Development) to R-30 (Medium Density Residential) by the Village of Pinehurst effective July 28, 2026.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall be and remain in full force and effect from and after July 28, 2026.

This Ordinance is passed and adopted this 28th day of July 2026.

10. Resolutions

A. Consider Resolution 26-34 Requesting that the North Carolina Department of Transportation Establish 35 MPH Speed Limits on All Approaches to the Pinehurst Traffic Circle and a Posted 25 MPH Speed Limit Within the Circle

Mr. Willardson provided background on the proposed resolution.

Mayor Pizzella noted the previous recommendations submitted to NCDOT by Council in January 2023, November 2024, and January 2026 and read aloud Resolution 26-34.

Mayor Pizzella noted proposed amendments to Resolution 26-34 were shared with Council earlier via email and consist of the addition of “Historic” before Pinehurst Traffic Circle in the title; the addition of a final “Whereas” that reads “Whereas, the stated objective of the NCDOT is safety and efficiency and the Pinehurst Traffic Circle has never experienced a traffic fatality in its 70-year history a further reduction to the speed limits, in and approaching the Circle, should further reduce accidents; and changing the current Section 4 to Section 5 and inserting a new Section 4 that reads “The Village Council urges NCDOT to pursue more incremental changes as recommended by Pinehurst residents and contained in letters from the Village of Pinehurst Council to NCDOT in January 2023, November 2024, and January 2026 that reference speed limits, enhanced signage, rumble strips, and improved sight lines by changing the angle of incoming roads among other items.”

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Hooper, Council unanimously approved as amended Resolution 26-34 requesting that the North Carolina Department of Transportation establish 35 MPH speed limits on all approaches to the Pinehurst Traffic Circle and a posted 25 MPH speed limit within the Circle by a vote of 5-0.

Resolution #26-34:

A Resolution Requesting that the North Carolina Department of Transportation Establish 35 MPH Speed Limits on All Approaches to the Historic Pinehurst Traffic Circle and a Posted 25 MPH Speed Limit Within the Circle

Whereas, the Pinehurst Traffic Circle is a critical component of the regional transportation network and a defining feature of the Village of Pinehurst; and

Whereas, the roadways approaching and traveling through the Pinehurst Traffic Circle are maintained by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), which has authority over the establishment and posting of speed limits on those roadways; and

Whereas, the Village Council has received updates regarding ongoing discussions with NCDOT concerning potential short-term and long-term improvements to the Pinehurst Traffic Circle; and

Whereas, the Village Council believes that consistent speed limits on the approaches to the Circle, together with a clearly posted speed limit within the Circle, would provide clearer expectations for drivers and support more predictable traffic operations; and

Whereas, the Village Council previously communicated to NCDOT its request that the speed limit on all approaches to the Pinehurst Traffic Circle be established at 35 miles per hour and that the speed limit within the Circle be established and posted at 25 miles per hour; and

Whereas, NCDOT has requested that the Village provide a formal signed resolution documenting the Village Council's request; and

Whereas, the stated objective of the NCDOT is safety and efficiency and the Pinehurst traffic Circle has never experienced a traffic fatality in its 70-year history a further reduction to the speed limits, in and approaching the Circle, should further reduce accidents.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, in a regular meeting assembled this 28th day of July 2026, as follows:

Section 1. The Village Council formally requests that NCDOT establish and post a speed limit of 35 miles per hour on all state-maintained approaches to the Pinehurst Traffic Circle.

Section 2. The Village Council formally requests that NCDOT establish and post a speed limit of 25 miles per hour within the Pinehurst Traffic Circle.

Section 3. The Village Council requests that NCDOT evaluate and implement these changes as appropriate and continue coordinating with the Village regarding short-term and long-term improvements to the Pinehurst Traffic Circle.

Section 4. The Village Council urges NCDOT to pursue more incremental changes as recommended by Pinehurst residents and contained in letters from the Village of Pinehurst Council to NCDOT in January 2023, November 2024 and January 2026 that reference speed limits, enhanced signage, rumble strips and improved sight lines by changing the angle of incoming roads among other items.

Section 5. The Village Clerk is directed to provide a certified copy of this resolution to the appropriate representatives of NCDOT.

This Resolution passed and adopted this 28th day of July 2026.

B. Consider Resolution 26-35

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor provided background on the proposed resolution.

Mayor Pizzella proposed amending the title to add “Historic” before Pinehurst Traffic Circle and read aloud Resolution 26-35.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Hooper, Council unanimously approved as amended Resolution 26-35 requesting that the North Carolina Department of Transportation formally evaluate a Turbo Hybrid design for the Historic Pinehurst Traffic Circle by a vote of 5-0.

Resolution #26-35:

A Resolution Requesting that the North Carolina Department of Transportation Formally Evaluate a Turbo Hybrid design for the Historic Pinehurst Traffic Circle

Whereas, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has evaluated a proposed redesign of the Pinehurst Traffic Circle, the results of which were published by HNTB, consultants to NCDOT, in a Technical Memorandum dated March 30, 2026; and

Whereas, that Technical Memorandum used assumptions developed in 2023 for a previous Technical Memorandum dated January 31, 2024, including the projection that 80,000 vehicles per day would go through the Circle in 2050; and

Whereas, subsequent to January 2024 NCDOT has revised their estimated 2050 daily volume to 72,400; and

Whereas, in January 2026 the North Carolina State Demographer's Office revised its 2050 population projections for all counties in the State, including a reduction in the projected 2050 population for Moore County of 21.6% and a reduction of 4.2% for the combined population of the nine counties adjacent to Moore County; and

Whereas, no adjustment has been made by NCDOT to projected traffic volume in light of these revised regional population projections; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Village Council of the Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, in a regular meeting assembled this 28th day of July 2026, as follows:

Section 1. The Village Council formally requests that NCDOT direct HNTB to run the same analysis of their current design proposal **and** a Turbo Hybrid design for the Pinehurst Traffic Circle, using projected daily volumes of 72,400 and 65,000.

Section 2. The Village Clerk is directed to provide a certified copy of this resolution to the appropriate representatives of NCDOT.

This Resolution passed and adopted this 28th day of July 2026.

11. Regular Business

A. Consideration of Funding Request from Sandhills Woman's Exchange for Historic Cabin Preservation and Flood Mitigation

Mr. Willardson reviewed and discussed a memo on the request from Sandhills Women's Exchange providing background and outlining the Funding Request, Legal Authority, Policy and Financial Considerations, Recommended Conditions, and Staff Recommendation.

Council verified with Mr. Willardson that an application to the National Park Service's "Save America's Treasures" grant program has been submitted for the Sandhills Women's Exchange project and that a contribution from the Village will still be required if funding is approved through the grant program.

Council deliberated the pros and cons of waiting until a decision from the National Park Service has been received and the impact this could have on the project timeline.

Council agreed to have Mr. Willardson gather additional information and to continue to work with the Sandhills Women's Exchange on funding options before making a formal decision regarding any funding contributions from the Village.

12. Other Business

Mayor Pizzella announced the signed recommitment copy of the Declaration of Independence from the July 8, 2026, Reading of the Declaration of Independence event in honor of the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America will be hung in the lobby of Assembly Hall.

Mayor Pizzella reminded Council, Village staff, and residents to continue considering the

establishment of “Friends of” type groups focused on the Harness Track, Given Memorial Library, and Tufts Archives.

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor provided an update on the construction progress at the new library site and noted he will soon be traveling to Dornoch, Scotland on a personal vacation and will share updates on Village events with Dornoch officials.

13. 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 5-0 at 04:53 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