



**Village Council
Minutes for the Work Session of May 13, 2025
Assembly Hall
395 Magnolia Road
Pinehurst, North Carolina
04:30 p.m.**

The Village of Pinehurst Village Council held a Work Session Meeting at 05:48 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, 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
Dr. Jeff Morgan, Councilmember
Mr. John Taylor, Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Barb Ficklin, Councilmember
Mr. Jack Farrell, Councilmember
Mr. Doug Willardson, Village Manager
Ms. Shannon Konstantinou, Village Clerk
Mr. Paul Conners, IT Specialist

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

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Pizzella called the Village Council Work Session to order at 06:03 p.m.

2. General Business.

A. Review Recommendations from the Fire BIRDIE Process

Mr. Willardson reviewed a BIRDIE Team Report: Fire Department Emergency Response PowerPoint presentation highlighting the BIRDIE Overview, Incidents and Response Times, Distance from Station Map, Station Coverage Area Map, Number of Calls Per Response Time Group, Options (Option 1: Status Quo, Option 2: Full Staffing and Build-Out of Station #93, Option 3: Station 91 Quick Response Unit, Option 4: Two Satellite Locations), and Recommendation.

Council, Mr. Willardson, and Mr. Derrick Clouston, Fire Chief, discussed the staffing and equipment details of a Quick Response Unit (QRU), using data from current 911 calls to analyze how many would qualify for a QRU being dispatch, the difference between emergency and non-emergency calls and how each is reported, the increase in response times during the past few years causing the negative slide in ISO grading, the use of 90% values to grade the Village's performance, the Village's performance in comparison to other Moore County municipalities, whether 6:30 minutes is a reasonable response time for the Village, the likelihood of a catastrophic event occurring in the Village, the loss of life / property probability relative to response times, and staffing difficulties for current positions and potential staffing difficulties for any additional facilities.

Council deliberated on the pros and cons of Option 3: Station 91 Quick Response Unit over Option 2: Full Staffing and Build-Out of Station #93 or Option 4: Two Satellite Locations and whether data projections justify a more aggressive approach or a more modest approach to a solution.

Council agreed to pursue Option 3: Station 91 Quick Response Unit for Fiscal Year 2027.

Council, Mr. Willardson, and Chief Clouston further discussed funding of Option 3 being reliant on either receiving a grant or increasing the tax rate by \$0.01, working the design of a full Station 93 into the 5-year plan beginning FY 2029, and the funding the Village receives from Moore County for fire services provided in Moore County jurisdiction areas.

B. Review and Discussion of Potential Capital Projects to be Included in the FY26 Strategic Operating Plan

Mr. Willardson reviewed a Capital Projects Discussion PowerPoint presentation highlighting Public Services Relocation, Phased Approach Map for Public Services Relocation and Village Place Redevelopment, Third Fire Facility (previously discussed and decided under Work Session Item 2.A.), Ladder Truck, Downtown Parking Facility, Library Facility, Tufts Archives, Other Capital Projects (West Pinehurst Park [2028] and Camelot Playground [2029], Village Place – EMS Building Removal / Site Cleanup [2030], Library Sidewalk Connections [2026], Trail Bridges [2026 and 2027], Software Systems [2029], Salt/Brine Storage [2026], and Hockey Rink Lights [2027]), Replacement Plan, Five-Year Forecast Recommendation, and Summary.

Council agreed to the following:

- Remove the Public Services relocation from the 5-year plan and to do further research into development interest of the Village owned properties within the Village Place area;
- Remove acquisition of a ladder truck from the 5-year plan;
- Forgo adding a Downtown parking facility to the 5-year plan and to do further research into the cost of either an above-ground or under-ground parking facility while continuing discussions with the National Park Service on historic preservation of the area;
- Retain placeholders in the 5-year plan for both West Pinehurst Park and Camelot Playground, Village Place – EMS Building Removal / Site Cleanup, Library Sidewalk Connections, Trail Bridges, and Software Systems; and
- Remove Salt/Brine Storage and Hockey Rink Lights.

C. Discussion of SMPO Carbon Reduction Program Project Funding Match

Mr. Willardson reviewed a memo detailing the funding available to the Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMPO) for Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) projects and the proposed joint Village of Pinehurst, Southern Pines, and Moore County greenway project. Mr. Willardson noted the project totals approximately \$400,000; \$100,000 of which will potentially be contributed by the SMPO from the CRP funds but the remaining \$300,000 would need to be contributed by the municipalities (\$150,000 each). Mr. Willardson asked Council for a consensus on whether the Village of Pinehurst would be willing to contribute \$150,000 towards completion of this project.

Council agreed to the required \$150,000 funding contribution from the Village of Pinehurst for completion of the joint CRP greenway trail project.

3. Closed Session.

A. Closed Session § 143-318.11(a)(5)

Village Council will hold a Closed Session pursuant to NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(5) To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii)

the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved to recess the Work Session and enter the Closed Session pursuant to NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract by a vote of 5-0 at 08:09 p.m.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Morgan, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Closed Session and re-enter the Work Session by a vote of 5-0 at 08:24 p.m.

4. Motion to Adjourn.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Work Session by a vote of 5-0 at 08:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Konstantinou
Village Clerk

A videotape 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