



**VILLAGE COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 27, 2020
ASSEMBLY HALL
395 MAGNOLIA ROAD
PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA
4:30 PM**

The Pinehurst Village Council held a Regular Meeting at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 27, 2020 in the Assembly Hall of Pinehurst Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina. The following were in attendance:

Mr. John C. Strickland, Mayor
Ms. Judy Davis, Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. Kevin Drum, Councilmember
Ms. Lydia Boesch, Councilmember
Ms. Jane Hogeman, Councilmember
Mr. Jeffrey M. Sanborn, Village Manager
Ms. Beth Dunn, Village Clerk

And approximately 20 attendees, 9 staff members, and 1 press.

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Strickland, called the Village Council meeting to order.

2. Reports:

Village Manager

- Mr. Sanborn stated that Glen Webb has been named as the new Pinehurst Police Chief.

Village Council

- Mayor Strickland reminded everyone of the 3 W's, wear, wait, and wash and please continue to adhere to the Governor's orders. Please follow the guidelines for Trick-or treating this year. The Sandhills Motoring Club have been coming into the Village on Sunday's to show their cars. Mayor Strickland also noted that the noise ordinance was presented to the Neighborhood Advisory Committee at their October meeting.
- Councilmember Hogeman stated Pinehurst Business Partners successfully held the Holly Arts Fair on October 17th. She thanked everyone who helped make the event happen.
- Councilmember Boesch attended the Conventions and Visitors Bureau (CVB) meeting. They reported that occupancy is down in Moore County hotels, however, our numbers are still higher than the U.S. and southeast region occupancy levels. COVID is causing a resurgence in golf, highest levels since the Tiger Woods era. There has been increased sales in five categories of golf equipment. There is a new live webcam at Longleaf because of the weather station in Southern Pines. Live shots will be featured on WRAL and there is also a link on the CVB website at homegolf.com. Also, the CVB will be producing "Explore Moore" segments that will posted on social media, the CVB website, and YouTube. One of the segments will feature the Tufts Archives and their walking tour book. They are hoping to debut the segments in January 2021.

3. 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.

- Public Safety Report
 - September, 2020 Fire Report
 - September, 2020 Police Report
- Approval of Village Council Meeting Minutes.
 - October 13, 2020 Regular Meeting
 - October 13, 2020 Work Session
 - October 13, 2020 Closed Session

End of Consent Agenda.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Drum, seconded by Councilmember Boesch, Council unanimously approved the consent agenda, by a vote of 5-0.

4. Discuss and Consider a Resolution Appointing a Member to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.

Mark Wagner, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that there is a need to fill a vacancy on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). He and the Tom Campbell, Chairman of BPAC, are recommending Melody Jensen fill the vacancy. Mr. Wagner stated that Ms. Jensen is 26 year Air Force veteran and an avid walker, and her husband is an avid cyclist. Mr. Campbell stated she will be a welcomed addition to the committee.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Boesch, seconded by Councilmember Hogeman, Council unanimously approved resolution 20-31 appointing Melody Jensen to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, by a vote of 5-0.

5. Discuss and Consider Requested Further Action on Preliminary Plat for the Floyd Way Major Subdivision.

Jeff Sanborn, Village Manager, explained that the applicant requested to Council to reconsider a condition, for the requirement of sight triangle placement on the plat, placed on the subdivision at the time of approval. Mr. Sanborn stated that Council could remove the condition, however, they can't remove the requirement in the Village's Engineering and Standards Manual (ESSM). Mr. Sanborn explained that there is some language in the Pinehurst Development Ordinance (PDO) that suggests the applicant may not pursue a variance from the Board of Adjustment for any of the conditions imposed. Staff is recommending Council clarify that the applicant can pursue a variance from the Board of Adjustment, given that North Carolina General Statutes obligate us to allow for that remedy on administrative decisions.

Darryn Burich, Planning and Inspections Director, explained the sight triangle condition placed on this plat approval was part of an administrative action. He noted that the applicant may appeal any administrative action to the Board of Adjustment per North Carolina General Statutes. Mr. Burich recommended that Council add an additional condition stating that the applicant may seek a variance or any other relief, on any of the conditions imposed, through the Board of Adjustment, which is a quasi-judicial evidentiary hearing. Then a ruling would be made based on fact based evidence.

Upon a motion by Mayor Strickland, seconded by Councilmember Drum, Council unanimously approved to amend the original conditions, A, B, and C, set forth in the approval of the Floyd Way major subdivision preliminary plat, identified as Moore County Parcel ID 00052077, on September 22, 2020, to include condition D as the Council's response to the applicant's request that the Council waive the sight triangle requirement in condition C. Condition D will read as follows: the applicant may seek a variance or other relief on any of the conditions imposed through the Village of Pinehurst Board of Adjustment per North Carolina General Statutes, the additional condition (D) was approved by a vote of 5-0.

6. Presentation of the FY 2020 State of the Village Report.

Lauren Craig, Organization Performance Director, stated that the Village of Pinehurst had another successful year working to accomplish the objectives set forth by the Village Council. Overall, we exceeded our FY 2020 goals. This year, 99% of residents and 100% of businesses rate the overall quality of life in the Village as excellent or good.

Ms. Craig explained that the Village received very high satisfaction levels with safeguarding the Village. The Police Department continued to work through the multi-year accreditation process with the CLEA. The Planning and Inspections Department issued 189 new single family permits and investigated 1,300 code violations, and completed 7,642 building inspections. Of those building inspections 100% were within 1 business day.

Ms. Craig explained that non-residential development saw another strong year with 35 non-residential permits issued at a value of \$36,992.067. In this year's business survey 97% of businesses indicated they were satisfied with the overall quality of services provided to their business by the Village, 97% indicated they were satisfied with customer service by Village employees compared to other places they operated a business in the past, and 93% were satisfied with the overall image of the Village. In FY 2020 the Welcome Center hosted Small Business Saturday to encourage local shopping and dining in November. The event drew more than 360 visitors to the Welcome Center with receipts totaling over \$25,000.

Ms. Craig stated in FY 2020, the Village maintained a total of 7.6 miles of greenway trails and 19.33 lane miles of walkways and resurfaced 4.46 miles of the Village's 107 centerline miles of Village roadways. This year, 85% of residents indicated satisfaction with maintenance of streets in neighborhoods around the Village of Pinehurst. Stormwater has risen as a priority for residents over the last several years. All stormwater complaints are submitted through MY VOP and last year alone, staff ensured 94% of these complaints were addressed on time. Over the last year, the Public Services Department reported 100% of solid waste routes were completed on schedule and with the use of the MY VOP app, staff responded to 0.76 solid waste complaints per 1,000 collection points for the fiscal year and 97% of the complaints were addressed on time.

Ms. Craig noted that the Community Center was completed with the construction of the Cannon Park Community Center, located at 210 Rattlesnake Trail. Recreation programs saw another successful year, despite program cancellations due to COVID19, with 95% of residents satisfied with the quality of youth recreation programs and 93% satisfied with the quality of adult recreation programs. Over the last year, the department served 3,392 participants in athletic and recreation programs. Ms. Craig stated there were approximately 4,900 downloads of the MY VOP app this past year. Village staff addressed over 5,200 requests and complaints received through MY VOP and responded to 97% of those complaints within desired time frames.

Ms. Craig stated that the Village continues to maintain a healthy financial condition and once again, the Village received a clean audit opinion by external auditors, proving diligent financial management. For the 27th consecutive year, the Village received the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and for the 13th consecutive year we received the GFOA Distinguished Budget Award.

7. Receive Risk Management Committee Annual Report and Consider Employee Health Benefit Plans.

Jeff Batton, Assist Village Manager of Operations, explained that the Risk Management Committee (RMC) produces a report annually to highlight operations under the purview of the RMC. The RMC is directly involved in determining coverage limits, plan designs, guiding negotiations and selecting and recommending the best insurance programs for the Village. Mr. Batton stated that the RMC recommends remaining with CIGNA for medical coverage for calendar year 2021. There are no plan changes and the premium increase is 6.07% for 2021. The national trend for medical cost increase for 2021 is projected to be 4% to 10%. For dental, vision, life, and long term disability insurance the RMC also recommends staying with the current provider, Principal, with no rate increase for any of the products.

Mr. Batton explained that the net financial premium paid (total premium less employee withholdings for dependent coverage) by the Village when combining, medical, vision, and dental for calendar year 2021 is estimated at \$1,178,675 which represents a 7.6% increase over the projected 2020 expense of \$1,095,011. The cost difference is primarily attributed to the 6.07% medical insurance increase for 2021 which is calculated as if there will be no vacancies during the 2021 calendar year while the 2020 projected premium has vacancies already experienced factored in.

Mr. Batton explained that for property and liability insurance, administered through the North Carolinas League of Municipalities (NCLM), the combined premiums for FY 2021 are \$126,987, which is approximately a 3% increase over the current year. The Harness Track is covered by a different provider, Markel, as it is a specialized type of coverage and will not receive a rate increase this year. The Village is insured at five million per occurrence for most types of liability and insures approximately thirty-seven million in real property including the Harness Track and the newly constructed Community Center. Mr. Batton noted that Workers'

Compensation coverage is also administered through the NCLM and is renewed on a fiscal year (FY) basis. The Workers' Compensation premium for FY 2021 is \$125,428, before audit adjustments, which represents a 5.3% decrease from the previous year.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilmember Hogeman, Council unanimously approved the medical and dental insurance contracts for calendar year 2021 and authorized the Mayor or his designee to execute the contracts, by a vote of 5-0.

8. Discuss and Consider Small Area Plan Contract and Budget Amendment.

Darryn Burich, Planning and Inspections Director, stated this item is to discuss a contract proposal by planning consultant Design Collective for development of Small Area Plans and Form Based Codes for Village Place and Pinehurst South. The Small Area Plans will help to set and protect a land use and development pattern for each of the areas and will help to ensure that any future growth is consistent with the 2019 Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Burich explained the Small Area Plans will add more specificity in terms of land uses, density, building standards, and public space standards than are currently identified in the Comprehensive Plan and should ultimately result in the adoption of a set of Pinehurst Development Ordinance regulatory standards with the development of Form Based Codes for each the areas.

Mr. Burich explained that in April 2020, the Village issued an RFQ for plan development that resulted in 18 formal responses from consultant teams. That list was subsequently narrowed down to five consultant groups that were asked to respond to an RFP and Council interview process that resulted in Design Collective being considered to work with the Village to create the plans. The proposed contract includes development of the two small area plans and Form Based Codes. The base contract cost is \$190,000 with 21 task projects and 3 public workshops.

Councilmember Drum stated the only way to get to character based development is with form based codes. Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated she supports the process laid out in the contract. Councilmember Hogeman stated she believes the process is too complex and feels we will get public burn out and she also is concerned that the market analysis for the Small Area Plans will use the Village's 2017 land use fiscal analysis.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Drum, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Council approved the contract with Design Collective, Incorporated for the Small Area Plans and authorized the Mayor or his designee to execute the contract and approved ordinance 20-14 amending the general fund budget for the Small Area Plans, by a vote of 3-2. With Councilmember Hogeman and Mayor Strickland voting no.

9. Other Business.

No other business was discussed.

10. Comments from Attendees.

- Bill Hager, Pinehurst resident, submitted the following comment by email: As a village resident of Pinehurst, I humbly request that the VOPH council look into the current safety issue of pedestrians involving the crosswalk at Beulah Hills & Ritter Roads. This crosswalk supports the VOPH greenway, which many village residents and tourists use regularly. Currently, this crosswalk is without a doubt the most dangerous one in Pinehurst. It's on Beulah Hill Road which is one of the busiest roads in Pinehurst. Currently, drivers DO NOT stop or slow down for pedestrians, and if a pedestrian has a brief opportunity to cross the street, drivers routinely honk their horns out of frustration. People often have to run in order to avoid the cars that do not slow down for people in the crosswalk. I believe adding a flashing signal light that can be manually actioned by the pedestrian attempting to access the crosswalk along with routine compliance monitoring of NC statute 20-173 (pedestrian crosswalk right of way) by the VOPH police would easily address this safety issue. I thank you for taking time to allow me to address this urgent safety concern.

11. Motion to Adjourn.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilmember Drum, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the regular meeting, by a vote of 5-0, at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beth Dunn,
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