

June 14, 2017  
7:00 p.m.

The Town of Pink Hill held its monthly board meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall board room. Present for the meeting were Mayor Carol Sykes, Commissioners Mike Hill, James Quinn, and Penny Murphy, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Public Works Director Timmy Kennedy, Chief Joey Thigpen, and Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell.

Visitors present for the meeting were Rodney Scott, Al Rachide, Susan Myers, Yvonne Deatherage, Wendy Jones, Barbara Davis, Carolyn Whitfield, Jeremy Whitfield, Daniel White, Turner L. White, and Jayne Zesiger.

Mayor Sykes called the meeting to order and requested for all cell phones to be turned off please. Mayor Sykes welcomed everyone to the meeting. Commissioner Hill then led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell then called Town Attorney George Jenkins, so that he could be available by phone while en route to town hall from airport. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the agenda and amendments. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the consent agenda with regular board meeting minutes from May 9, 2017, budget workshop meeting minutes from May 23, 2017, and budget presentation meeting minutes from May 30, 2017. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was Eastern Carolina Broadband Lease Agreement. Mayor Sykes told Commissioner Quinn if he wanted to recuse himself, now is the time to do it. Commissioner Quinn said he needed to recuse himself from anything with internet due to conflict of interest. Mayor Sykes then turned the meeting over to Rodney Scott. He stated he appreciated the board having them back again. At the last meeting we were talking about the lease of the water tower or the lease of space on the water tower to put up antennas for Eastern Carolina Broadband for fixed wireless. It seemed like it was going fairly well and then the issue came up about the lease amount with the town and what was a fair and reasonable lease amount. At that point we offered one thing, Carol is interested in a different amount and nobody really had done anything or had a stance to say well it should be this for some reason. At that point we went out and contacted a number of other wireless internet service providers to see what they were paying for their towers usage and this is the information that we were able to get. Rodney handed the board a paper showing this information. He said this is from all over the country. We have got two in North Carolina and then Texas and all over the place. He said you see a low of free towers up to a high of \$600 a month in one instance. Average runs less than \$100 a month for an average overall. So I was trying to think about this and again what is good for us at Eastern Carolina Broadband, what is good specifically for the town, and then what is good for our community as a whole. What I would like to do is offer to amend our contract. I think that the contract that we presented to the town was for either \$1,200 or \$1,250 a year for tower rental space, so right at \$100 or a little over \$100 a month. So what I would like to do, and we talked to a couple of wireless internet service providers that were doing this, we have no income right now, we have no customers, we have nothing except a mountain of expenses we are about to face. We are looking at over \$10,000 for equipment to install on one tower. We are looking at in the neighborhood of \$1,000 a month to purchase the internet from CenturyLink or from Time Warner that we are then

going to resale, employee cost, and tons and tons of expenses. Rodney said what he would like to offer the town is \$100 a month in rent or \$1 per month per customer serviced off the tower whichever is greater. So what that does is it puts us on the tower at a rate we can afford so we can get in business and we can go chasing customers. If we get 101 customers, then the town gets \$101 a month. If we get 400 customers that are serviced off the Pink Hill tower, the town gets \$400 a month. So at that point we can afford a higher rent and can provide that to the town. Rodney said that is what he would like to offer and he would be glad to answer any questions.

Commissioner Hill said he was asked to get prices from different water tank companies that deal with this. He said at our state convention he talked with three different tank companies that does tank maintenance, American Tank Company, Utility Services, and Southern Corrosion and all three gave him a price of \$500 a month. Commissioner Hill said but when you are starting out and I know like Rodney said you all have a lot of expenses starting out, that amount of money will hurt the business getting started. He said my proposal to y'all, I am not going to make a motion right yet, is for \$200 a month to start with until y'all can get on your feet and get customers. Mayor Sykes stated she thinks that is too cheap and she still sticks to her \$10,000 a year. She said I don't have a vote but that is what I still stick to. Commissioner Hill told Mayor Sykes that she was way out of reason there. Mayor Sykes said she may be but we talked to some people that knew all about the IT stuff and some of them thought it was a lot and some of them thought it was a whole lot too little but I think \$200 is a joke, I just do. Commissioner Hill said well I am looking at getting a business started in Pink Hill. Mayor Sykes said well I am too but we need some money too because they are going to make money and that is what they are in it for and I want them to. Commissioner Hill said that is what I am talking about. We start low and when they get customers and get going, we can come back and address it. Mayor Sykes said well I just hate to see our water tank go for \$200 a month but that is entirely up to y'all. Commissioner Hill said it was cheaper than that another time when we put something up there. Mayor Sykes asked what? Commissioner Hill said when we had that repeater for the beepers we used to have. Mayor Sykes said well that is history now, we are not talking about that. Commissioner Hill said I know that is history but what I am saying is we need to get a business in town. Mayor Sykes said I still stick by my opinion of \$10,000 a year and that is less than \$1,000 a month and some of these are \$600, but that is my opinion and I don't have a vote unless I have to vote.

Rodney said they did look into also the cost of a tower and I have got it and can provide it if you would like but 150 foot tower can be purchased in the neighborhood of \$8,000. Of course that is on a flatbed truck so you would be looking at least that or more for installation. An erected tower would be in the neighborhood of \$20,000 to \$22,000 for us to have a tower and not have a need to pay rent. We would just have to find a place to put it which an open field area is not that hard. A lot of the higher rates when we were talking to people and looking around is at that end as you get closer to the coast where tower restrictions are much more prevalent and people can't build towers or put up their own towers. He said tower rental goes up because they have no choice and also the types of towers you have to build can be much more expensive because you have to be rated for higher wind gusts. The towers we looked at were 110 mile an hour rated towers which would be forbidden in this area in general. So again at \$10,000 a year we would be money way ahead to put up our own towers. We would like to be on the Pink Hill water

tower. We would like to be a good community business and that is whole thing we are trying to do here. We just need a rent that we can be in business here.

Wayland Humphrey said I am with you, I think you need to help a start out business and I am with you that you don't need to give away your water tank. He said there is somewhere in between there and it may be in the contract agreement itself in phasing that in, starting here with a high ceiling and in some time and some years or after some trigger of so many customers. Wayland said that makes it affordable to them and makes it palpable to y'all. Commissioner Hill said that was what he was going to say if they would agree to pay the \$2,400 and then after their customer base gets bigger and \$1.00 per customer and \$200 a month, then they would pay more. Wayland said those triggers should just be in the contract but a phasing in of something would be great for them to build their customer base. Mayor Sykes said she wants to see a contract before we approve it, I mean I want a contract in front of us and not appointed like this. Wayland said agree on it in principal and then get the contract. Mayor Sykes said well I am still sticking to my \$10,000 and y'all do whatever you think is best because y'all are the board. Commissioner Hill said he was listening to Rodney just then and he is talking about if we start out at \$200 a month rent and then if they get 300 customers that would be \$1.00 a customer and the rent would go to \$300 and if they go to 400 then the rent goes to \$400 and that is what I am looking at. He said we have got to have a starting point. Mayor Sykes said well I gave a starting point.

Commissioner Murphy asked how many customers are you anticipating. Rodney said we have high hopes. We want them all. I can tell you that based on the survey we did there were close to 900 respondents to the survey and that were serviceable and a huge majority of those wanted a different internet or wanted internet and couldn't find it. Rodney said based on our survey there was about maybe 400 or so that were within a five mile range of Pink Hill so that is 400. He said so then you have got to sit here and figure okay of that 400 how many are not going to do anything but we also looked at the number of households and that survey was only about 25 percent of respondents. He said so if we are 400, you can say well we are really at 1,200 just in the greater Pink Hill area within a five mile radius. Rodney said but out of that 1,200 how many are really going to become our customers and I don't know. Mayor Sykes asked how many in town or was that survey in town. Rodney said they offered it to everybody. He asked Al if he knew how many people responded actually inside city limits. Al said there were some but not many and they were happy because they had internet, but there are still businesses in town that want a different choice for their internet. Commissioner Murphy said you say \$1.00 per customer because I know you guys are thinking, at least in the meeting you presented it that way or whatever, Pink Hill's tower ping, ping, pings several water towers. Are you talking about \$1.00 per customer of Pink Hill folks in this area or are you talking about \$1.00 per customer of your company. Rodney said they are talking about \$1.00 per customer that is serviced from the Pink Hill tower because what we are going to end up with is going to Deep Run, which we have already presented to Deep Run, and requesting to be on the Deep Run towers and then Deep Run is going to want rent. He said what I offered just now and again it is going to be up to y'all to make the motion, but what I offered was \$100 or \$1.00 per customer serviced from the Pink Hill tower whichever was greater because that is your tower just like Deep Run would receive rent for their tower and the customers that were serviced from them. Daniel White said you said in the meeting 480 is your cap right? Rodney said 480 would be... Daniel said that's what you said would be the max per tower. Rodney replied with four antennas. So it is 120 per antenna so if

we put up four antennas but there is nothing stopping us from putting a fifth, or a sixth, or a seventh. Once that one antenna fills up you come in beside it. These antennas, and as Al is so fond of doing, we are getting in the weeds. But real quickly an antenna can be said to have a 90 degree focus so you put up four antennas and I have covered 360 degrees. You fill up your antennas or lets say in Shamrock Village where I used to live and that area has internet and they are fine but for the sake of it lets say they didn't and you have got a lot of houses. You can come into an area and you can change your 90 degree antenna to a 60 degree antenna or a 30 degree antenna and put another one beside it so then you pick up those customers you missed. Rodney said you have 120 per antenna but then if we have 480 customers that is great and we are going to be putting up more antennas so we can pick up those additional customers.

Susan Myers said economic development for not only for Pink Hill but for the region. We will hope to create 15 jobs and those will be high paying jobs based in Pink Hill. She said their headquarters is planning to be in Pink Hill. Susan said but more importantly we are going to help the rural areas that don't have adequate internet. We are not going after people in Park Circle because we have great internet. We are going after the people in the rural areas who don't have adequate internet, whose children need it, and the farmers who need it. We are trying to fill that gap, but this is a social investment. We will hopefully make money on this but first and foremost we want to do this for the community. It is something that we need and nobody else is going to come here and do it right away.

Rodney said one of the things that I would tell you is I would love to reach an agreement tonight if possible. If we can agree on the changes in the wording in the contract to get the necessary permits that we are going to need to get to work with your tower maintenance company, to schedule a licensed contractor to come out and do all the necessary welding and installation, to contract with CenturyLink or with Time Warner to get the necessary service on takes a lot of time. So we are looking at right now probably at least three months before we can be fully deployed up there and we are going to try to go as quick as we can but this is something that we hoped that we were going to pass back in March and due to a lot of things this has just slid and slid. We had hoped to be up there before school started back but I would love to come to an agreement if possible tonight. If not, we will keep coming back because it is just something that we believe in. Mayor Sykes said so you say it cost \$24,000 to put up a tower out in the country somewhere. She said they are the ones that really need it. The Town of Pink Hill we've got it so why would you want to put it in Pink Hill when you could go out in the country and get it and get new customers. Mayor Sykes stated she didn't know if that was a good question or not. Rodney said it is a great question, yes ma'am. He said there is a couple of things and one is Pink Hill does have good internet so at some point we have got to be where we can buy the internet. One of the problems in the more rural areas and the reason why they need us is because they don't have good internet. I can't go down Live Oak Hog Country Road and put up a tower to do this because there is no internet. There is not much internet on Live Oak Hog Country Road. So at some point you have got to get it. The second thing is, actually this is kind of interesting and that is part of the reason why we are still asking and this is not either/or and I didn't mention this at the beginning, we are not asking for the water tower or these towers here. We are asking for both because you actually have a blind spot on a traditional tall tower for the first several hundred yards out from the tower. So if we didn't have these, we would have to put up extra antennas or it would be difficult to actually service anybody in Pink Hill because we are shooting

over them. He said being in Pink Hill we actually are going to be able to pick up those people outside the city limits as you go. So being in town it is not like we are losing anything. Mayor Sykes said so you are saying put up these two short towers and the water tank tower for \$200 a month. You would use all four towers, I mean all three towers? Rodney said it would be three, yes ma'am. Yes it would be \$200 a month is what Mike said. Mayor Sykes said you have got my answer.

Commissioner Hill said one other issue he had is the term of the contract. He said he would rather have a 3 year contract instead of a 5 year contract. Rodney asked how many?

Commissioner Hill replied 3. Rodney stated okay and said most of the service agreements they have seen with CenturyLink or with Time Warner for the size of the internet we are having to purchase is a 3 year contract so we can do three.

Mayor Sykes said we have kind of broken rules tonight. If you don't sign up, you are not supposed to speak but she is going to break the rule because Daniel spoke. Wendy Jones said her question is you said that Pink Hill has good internet and I understand that. I have good internet at the store and I have terrible internet at home but is Pink Hill key because of the internet that is here. Rodney replied no. Wendy said as opposed to going five miles out in the country or whatever. Rodney replied sure, absolutely. He said when they had first started this, this all came originally from the Think Tank and we were really, really focused on Pink Hill. So if I were to draw a 5, 10 would probably just about get me in trouble, so we will back up and say like an 8 mile circle, then Pink Hill would be key because this is where the best internet is. He said as soon as I draw a 10 mile circle and what has happened is Jones County has approached us to try and help people in Jones County and we have been talking to people in Duplin County who don't have good internet. If we were not able to do something in Pink Hill then Beulaville has really good internet and Beulaville owns its own tower separate from the county just like Pink Hill does. So we would be able to go to Beulaville Town Hall and do the same thing because they have really good internet inside the city limits of Beulaville. We could do it there. We just have to go where there is internet. There are a lot of places that have it but there are a lot more geographically that don't. There are very, very few if any of the towers that are owned by Duplin County that have internet but almost all of the towers that are owned by the municipalities in Duplin County do have good internet. So if we had to move our business base to Beulaville or Kenansville, we could do the same thing from there.

Susan Myers said but we thought we would be headquartered in Pink Hill because we are located in Pink Hill, we live in Pink Hill, we are trying to develop Pink Hill, and we thought that Pink Hill would welcome it but we can go someplace else. Mayor Sykes stated well I welcome it but I don't want it for \$200 a month, I don't think that is right. She said not as much as that water tank cost us. Mayor Sykes said not as much as that daggone thing cost us. Susan said we are going to be renting 25 water towers. Mayor Sykes said but Pink Hill is one of them right. Susan replied it could be or could not be. Mayor Sykes asked how much are you paying them? Susan replied a lot of them are going to be free. Susan said we know that Pink Hill needs the money and this is not just helping Pink Hill. Mayor Sykes said hey to George when he arrived.

Mayor Sykes asked if anyone else had anything to say. Barbara Davis stated y'all haven't thought outside the box. My father-in-law is a farmer and there is so much he can do. Thank

you so much Mr. Quinn we love you for our internet but we need faster service. My father-in-law can control some of the houses on his cellphone but if there is a cloud over, you can forget it he is not going to be able to do that. So if he can't tell what the temperatures are, he has got to go check it the old timey way and he is not getting any younger. My son is possibly going to take over that and of course I am going to want the betterment for him. The tractors they can also be run by it and this is out in the boondocks. We are talking John Currin Howard and Butch Howard. All of us would definitely progress from this and of course my home. Barbara said but this is 16 jobs being brought, 15 or 16 jobs. Mayor Sykes asked where are the 16 jobs coming from and doing what is what I want to know. Commissioner Murphy said that wasn't the number that was thrown around at the meeting that you had earlier, not from what I heard. Al said the equipment doesn't go on the house by itself. Mayor Sykes asked how long will the jobs be here. Al said well a long, long time because once you build it you have to maintain it, alright just like the water system here in Pink Hill. There are people employed by the town of Pink Hill managing and maintaining the water system in Pink Hill. He said just like the phone company there is people managing and maintaining the phone lines for the customers. Al said just like the internet providers there is people out working the lines all the time. When you have a lot of these customers out there, they need more hand holding than someone does for the electric for their home or their telephone. There is more hands on work being done by skilled people who will be bringing a lot of income into the town and will be spending it in this town.

Rodney said if I may, again when we first started and we were looking at trying to do something and we were really limiting ourselves to the greater Pink Hill area, we were talking about three or four employees and of course initially it is none today and at some point it is going to be one, two, or three. Since we first started talking Jones County has really expressed a huge interest and Duplin County has expressed an interest and they have done a study similar to what we did from a county wide standpoint. We don't know how big the company is going to be. He said installation is going to be required and then every time there is a thunderstorm and something gets fried you are out there fixing it. Is it going to be 15, it could be 5, or it could be 25 but this is where we are heading. As our company or the footprint that we are looking at having has grown, our projected employees has grown. Rodney said there will be two or three in town actually at the office answering phones and then you would have installers out in the county.

Mayor Sykes said Jeremy was first Yvonne and then I will get you ok he had raised his hand first. Mayor Sykes asked Jeremy if he could standup so we can see you. Jeremy Whitfield said he was just curious of who covers the expenses on the tower? Commissioner Hill replied we do. Jeremy asked is there anything on the tower now? Mayor Sykes stated for WASA, they have to have it. Jeremy asked they are not a private company or anything? Mayor Sykes said no, it is for the water. Jeremy said whatever is put up there and whatever terms are reached that is money to the town that we are not getting currently. He said just as an observation he would say let's get it figured out and get something going. Mayor Sykes said well I would too but I just don't want to give it away but that is my opinion and but that is just me and I don't feel bad about asking that.

Yvonne Deatherage asked how much megabit per second were you talking about when it came off your tower out in the county? Rodney asked are you asking what our customer's speeds are? Yvonne said how much their speed will be and how much they would pay for that speed because

that is going to still determine the person that still wants internet out in the county whether they can afford it #1 and #2 are they willing to lose their other bundle discounts that they are getting from their other provider. Rodney said so a couple of questions there and Yvonne said no that is three questions. Rodney said oh yes that is great. He said our target market is the un- and underserved people out in the county that can't get internet. As we talked to people a lot of people were using WIFI hotspots or using Hughes Net or Exede and I am not an expert on that so I don't know what kind of bundles there are. Our target is not the Spectrum customers or the CenturyLink customers who are getting the speeds they need. So I can't speak to what they are going to lose in a bundle because I don't know their pricing. For our stuff, the Federal Government has defined high speed broadband internet as 25 megabits down and 3 megabits up. That is our plan and the minimum service level that we are putting out. We are planning on, and again this all depends on cost and tower cost and stuff, a plan price of \$60 a month for that service. Rodney said it is a lot. Yvonne said it is a lot for that. Rodney replied no it is not a lot for that no ma'am, it is cheap for that. Again I am not competing with Spectrum who's already got a wire there. The biggest competitor that we are realistically going to have is the satellite internet and everybody I have talked to with satellite is paying from a low of \$85 a month to a high, not counting overages, of \$110 a month. They have a speed and their speeds run into issues if there are clouds or storms but then they also have a data cap. Our 25 x 3 is 25 x 3 all month long regardless of how much you've used so there are no data caps in the service we are proposing.

Mayor Sykes said okay, I think we have heard from everybody. Rodney spoke up and said if I can, we would be willing to pay \$200 a month to be on the towers or \$1.00 per month per customer whichever is higher. We would like access to the tower initially for free and we would like the \$200 per month to start as soon as we get our first customer. So hopefully that is going to be in just a month or two. Mayor Sykes asked George Jenkins would they need to rewrite the contract before this is voted on. George said well what I heard in the car and then what I have heard here yes, absolutely. Mayor Sykes said so we would need to have a written contract before we vote on it. George said no not before you vote on it. He said you can vote on it and he can reduce it to a contract. Mayor Sykes said okay. George said but I have to have the terms of the contract. Mayor Sykes said well they have got my opinion so y'all just have to vote.

Commissioner Hill made a motion to charge \$200 per month and after customer base reaches 201 the rent will go up \$1.00 per customer and in a 3 year term instead of a 5 year term. George said right before I lost cell service you said something about 3. Were you talking about 3 renewals or a 3 year term? Commissioner Hill said 3 year term. George replied okay. Commissioner Murphy asked Commissioner Hill to say that again. Commissioner Hill said \$200 per month when it reaches 201 it starts to being \$201 per month and then will increase \$1 per customer. As they get more customers it will increase \$1 per customer. Commissioner Murphy said so we are looking at potentially how much a month do the math. Commissioner Hill said well if they get 400 customers that is \$400 a month. Kim asked is that only on the Pink Hill tower right? Commissioner Hill said yes, that is the only tower we got. Kim said but that is all we are getting from is the Pink Hill tower ok. Commissioner Hill said and it will be a 3 year term. Mayor Sykes said there is a motion on the floor. Okay, I don't have there a second, so is it dead in the water. George said you can ask for a second and then declare it dead. Mayor Sykes said I did ask for a second. George said for a lack of a second and then you can look for another

motion. Mayor Sykes said okay well I don't have another motion I didn't have a second. George asked if Mr. Quinn recused himself. Kim said he recused himself. Commissioner Quinn said I have too. George said I thought you would but I didn't hear it. George said I expected you too. Mayor Sykes said okay well if there is not another motion let's move on.

The next item on the agenda was Conditional Use Permit for Communication Towers (antenna). Mayor Sykes said we need a motion on that. Commissioner Quinn stated that is another one I will have to recuse myself on for the communication. Commissioner Hill said with the recommendation from the planning board he makes a motion to let the communication towers be put on Al Rachide's property. Mayor Sykes said I got a motion do I have a second. Mayor Sykes said okay we don't have a second so the motion has died. George said it dies for lack of a second. Mayor Sykes said died for a lack of a second excuse me. She asked Kim if that is all on those. Mayor Sykes said Wayland thank you for coming and y'all thank you for coming.

The next item on the agenda was Pink Hill Park/Greater Pink Hill. Mayor Sykes asked Yvonne to give a report on the Pink Hill Park and Greater Pink Hill. Yvonne said the board members should have a letter in front of them. Basically it was from April's meeting. She said they discussed working on the town park. The existing structure was reinforced and fixed so that children could play safely. We did paint but we ran out of paint. She said they have purchased the other paint but haven't found a date where the people could get together or the weather cooperated for paint because it is commercial paint that is used for outside. Yvonne said they still have to finish the interior painting but it looks fine on the outside but just on the inside. She said they have added two seesaws and a fossil dig. The children seem to be enjoying those. We are hearing positive comments in the community about people or families who are using those. Yvonne said she spoke to Angie McLaurin and to Kim about the fact that through some kind of fund raising there was some money left for her and what we are finding when we are speaking to the people at the park when we have been working is some of them need somewhere to sit. She said not everybody is a 12 or 14 year old or a size 10, some are a little heavy and what we have out there for them to sit on for when they have a toddler in their lap but their other children are playing because some of these are families out there. We do need to add two sturdy benches and maybe a family swing or two and by that she is talking about the big swing with wooden legs and stuff. Yvonne said that is one of the things that they were looking at and Angie said that with any of the funds that was left that she had she would love to see that happen too, so that families could do that. We have got some construction Ruritan members who helped us before that said they would be willing to help us do the constructural part because I will be honest as a female I can't do that . They would research and find the heaviest duty so that we could fall within our budget and we would stay within the budget or we would raise the difference and the town would not have any additional charges for that. Mayor Sykes asked how many swings was she talking about, maybe two? Yvonne said they are looking at two swings and two park benches. The benches that are out there they go forward when you sit if you are not careful, and they are cute and we wouldn't want them removed because they have got people's families names and things like that on them. They are out there for a purpose. She said but one person can sit on it and they need to be careful, two people could not. A large person could not sit on it. Mayor Sykes asked if Yvonne could get her a picture of either one and let her see what she is talking about because she might could get somebody to do it for her. She said she didn't know but she could check on it. Yvonne stated they would and that is where they were looking at too

like with the funds or whatever and they are researching that to get pictures that falls within that. She said we have seen a lot of swings but they are really not what you want for commercial use. She said you have got to have nice commercial use. Yvonne said the town's trash can out there is "MIA" or when they have been working it has been. We are not sure if it is at the pavilion where you eat and cook or if it just disappeared but if we could find one to chain down so it would be out there. She said the people at the rest home are really good, they go out there every day or every other day and they are picking up trash. So it would be nice for them to have somewhere to put the trash.

Yvonne said our Pink Hill Queens, I do want to say, have been representing you very well. They have been to probably and you will see on your thing all the places they have been and continue to go. Most recently one of them did sing at the Down East Wood Ducks game the National Anthem and they recognized Pink Hill for that. She said they are also getting ready for your Deep Run and your Relay for Life for Lenoir County this weekend.

Yvonne said the other thing she wanted to mention was Pink Hill Community Watch's meeting is this month and the town as always has a public invite to be there. She said August's meeting is on self-defense and it was a requested topic so we would love for y'all to come when you can. Mayor Sykes asked what date is that again. Yvonne said their meeting has been moved to the third Monday of each month to be convenient for most people. In June it is the third Monday but it will be the third Monday in August for self-defense.

Yvonne said if she can bring back the pictures and things and show them to Kim and see if y'all will approve those things for the park. She said the girls are going to be doing a community service project which will raise money for some other possible things out there. Mayor Sykes asked Yvonne do you have any idea what kind of projects you will be doing to raise money. Yvonne said well we have not yet to be honest, but we are working on that. We have just got through with our pageant money. We were able to take care of our pageant and we were able to provide things for Pink Hill School. They raised somewhere between \$900 and \$1,000 with what we gave them. So we are sort of doing that and then again still trying to work on the park but there is some ideas we do have we want to share with you later. She said we wanted to see if we could get these other little things finished first.

Yvonne said being on the executive committee of the Lenoir County Council on Aging, the Pink Hill Nutritional site, we would like to say thank you to Pink Hill for what they have done this week. It has been awesome. There has been some screen tears, there was some siding that was off, there was something wrong with the ramp needing new boards, and the grounds needed cleaning up and trimming and so forth and so on. The town employees did an awesome job. The new site manager out there was excited. She said they were very nice. She said you could not have asked for anyone to have been nicer and any more helpful and she wanted to say thank you. Yvonne said as far as the board they will know in July when we meet all you did but on behalf of the board in advance she would like to say thank you because it looks nice and they did an awesome job. She said she thinks there was three or four employees out there and we appreciate everything all of you did. Mayor Sykes asked who the new site manager is. Yvonne replied Michelle Dudley. Mayor Sykes asked if she was from here. Yvonne said she originally

was from the North Lenoir area and she has relocated back this way. Mayor Sykes said thank Yvonne and thank you for your work in the park.

Mayor Sykes said now we will be adopting the FY 17-18 Budgets: General Fund, Water Fund & Economic Development Budgets. She said we have seen these. Mayor Sykes read the Budget Ordinance. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Pink Hill. Section 1: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of the town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 in accordance with the departments established for the Town of Pink Hill. She said she needs a motion. Commissioner Hill made a motion to adopt the General Fund budget. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mayor Sykes said also in that ordinance there is hereby levied a tax at the rate of fifty-five cents (\$0.55) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2017, for the purpose of raising the revenue listed as Current Year's Property Taxes in the General Fund. Kim stated that budget ordinance is for Water, General and the Economic Development. George stated that the motion just said General. Commissioner Hill stated he would like to change that motion to make it all three funds and Commissioner Quinn seconded it. Mayor Sykes asked if any further discussion and all in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Approve FY 17-18 Audit Contract with Amanda Murphy. Kim stated it was for the same price as last year for the work that she did which is \$3,100 to do our audit. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve FY 17-18 Audit Contract with Amanda Murphy. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CDBG Grant was next on the agenda. Mayor Sykes said she called George Sherrill today. We are getting a presentation from Dr. Rusty Hunt from LCC on what he thinks it would cost to redo the library building or media center. She said as soon as we do that and figure out if we can get any money to run it, she will be back to the board but she has got to talk to George Sherrill again first.

The next item on the agenda was B.F. Grady Sewer Contract and Lien on 101 E. Broadway Street. Mayor Sykes said this item needs to be moved to closed session. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to move agenda item #11 to agenda item #19 (closed session). Commissioner Hill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Police Updates. Chief Thigpen said since the last meeting on May 9, 2017 they have had only 3 reported incidents, no arrest, 3 accidents, issued 17 citations with a total of 20 charges, and issued 13 warning citations. Mayor Sykes thanked Chief Thigpen for the job they do.

The Fire Department Report was next on the agenda. Timmy stated that the Fire Chief could not be here tonight. They have a chief's meeting once a month at Duplin County and he had to go. Timmy said Fire Chief Heath wanted him to remind the board of the Red Cross meeting tomorrow night at the cafeteria at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Sykes said that it would be her, Carolyn, Casey and Swannie to talk about moving the blood drive to the cafeteria but the board is welcome to go. He also said on July 12, 2017 they will be hosting the Duplin County

Association meeting and it will be held at the old Pink Hill School cafeteria. Timmy said they usually have about 100 to 150 people that attends those meetings. It is from every department in Duplin County will be there. He said anyone is invited to come and eat and see what goes on in an association meeting. Timmy said it starts at 7:00 p.m. He said the Fire Chief would like to give a call report at the next meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the Water/Sewer Report. Timmy said just general stuff as far as the public works department. He said their aerator motor is fixed and hopefully it will be back in working order sometime this week. Timmy said he had talked with Pearson Pumps and we have made arrangements on the budget to make sure that bill is paid. He said one of the big issues that they had was a sink hole on North Front Street and they got it repaired this week. Timmy said he will have to get the asphalt work done at a later date but at least the tile is fixed. Mayor Sykes asked Timmy did he hear what Yvonne said about thanking them for the work they did on the building. Timmy replied yes ma'am I was standing right there. Mayor Sykes said she and the board also wanted to thank them too. Timmy said he got to hug all those people in there. Yvonne spoke up and said there is anywhere from 10 to 20 now down there. She said it is growing and that was what I was going to say to the town that the people there noticed and were so thankful.

Timmy said he needed to talk with Commissioner Hill after the meeting about one more small issue about the CCR because he got a notice about that. Kim said oh that is me and I already got it. Timmy asked so you have already taken care of it. Kim replied it is in the works, they just didn't put the link. They have got to put the direct link on it. Timmy said I knew it was some little detail. Commissioner Hill said it says it has to be on the home page it does not have to be a link. Kim said it is on there and it has been on there since whatever day we wrote on the application or the permit we sent in. Timmy said I thought it was a minor detail. Kim said it is a minor detail and she is handling it and she has got a call into the web people. Timmy explained to everyone present that he has to do a consumer confidence report each year to let our customers know that our water is being tested like it needs to be. Timmy said it is supposed to be on the web page and at least available to each and every one of our water customers. Kim said it is on the web site and it is posted on our bulletin board so it has been made available. Timmy stated that satisfies the state for getting it out to the customers. Mayor Sykes thanked Timmy.

The next item on the agenda was budget amendments if needed. Kim said it is the end of the fiscal year so if we have any other budget amendments this is the time to do it. It is to adjust our revenues to anticipated collections. She said it is also to recognize our Hurricane Matthew revenues that we received. Mayor Sykes asked how much was it? Kim replied it was \$8,100 which part went to Water Fund, Fire Department, and Admin. Mayor Sykes asked for a motion to approve the budget amendments. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the budget amendments. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Remarks by Town Attorney was next on the agenda. George stated he wanted to publically thank Timmy. He said Timmy has helped tremendously with this interlocal agreement and there was some details in it that he picked up on and made possible for that to be distributed to you all at the end of the week last week. George said he appreciated him picking up on them and wanted to publically thank him.

The next item on the agenda was Comments by the Board. There were no comments by the board at this time.

The next item on the agenda was Public Comment Period if needed. There were no public comments at this time.

The next item on the agenda was Closed Session if needed. Commissioner Hill made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mayor Sykes asked everyone to leave the room please and thanked everyone for coming.

Commissioner Hill made a motion to come out of closed session. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

With there being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned.