April 8, 2014

7:00 P.M.

The Town of Pink Hill held its monthly board meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall board room. Present for the meeting were Mayor Carol Sykes, Commissioners Mike Hill, Donald King and Debra Grady, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Public Works Director Timmy Kennedy, and Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell.

Visitors present were Wayland Humphrey, Leo Byrd and Susan Myers.

Mayor Sykes called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Commissioner King then led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the regular board minutes from March 11, 2014. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the agenda and amendments if needed. Commissioner Grady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was the Petition to Rezone Property 5970 Hwy. 11 South. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve rezoning the property at 5970 Hwy. 11 South from R10 to RA. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was discussion of a Water Well Ordinance. Commissioner Hill said he has gotten an ordinance from another town and he is going to get with George and let him look over it. Commissioner Hill said maybe they would have something ready at the next meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the WASA Report. Commissioner Hill reminded everyone about the letter that WASA was going to send to the state representatives and the state officials about letting other entities get temporary permits for drilling wells. He stated the letter has been written and it should get to them by next week. Commissioner Hill said that WASA is going to raise our rates from $3.34 to $4.00 per 1,000 gallons. He said that Harold Herring who is the director stated he hoped it would be at least 5 to 10 years before they had to raise the rates again.

The next item on the agenda was the Pink Hill Rose Festival & planting roses in town. Susan said that Dr. Jennifer Murphy is doing a great job with sponsors and they have a lot of sponsors. She also stated that the Rose Festival is going to be in the state magazine. Susan said they need more vendors especially food vendors. Timmy stated he wanted to let Susan know that the Fire Department in addition to having barbeque plates on Saturday, May 17, 2014 would also be having pork chop sandwiches with french fries on Friday night, May 16, 2014. Susan reiterated that on Friday night the band Crossroads will be playing and probably will have about 300 to 500 people attending. The next day the Rose Court is going to be introduced and Susan said she would like to invite on behalf of Dr. Alice Scott all of the town board to come to the grand opening to be recognized at 10:00 a.m. Susan talked about the three younger bands that would be playing on that Saturday night. She stated that she and Dr. Alice Scott met with Chief Joey Thigpen to discuss parking. Susan showed on a map where everything would be set up. She said they need at least ten garbage cans. Susan asked Mayor Sykes if she had been able to talk with any of the residents of Pink Hill that needed to clean up their properties. Mayor Sykes stated yes. Susan stated they really needed to get a cleanup citizen group to help with cleaning of the town before the Rose Festival. She said she was donating her workman to cleanup around the Wellness Center. Susan then gave a list of the sponsor levels and sponsor amounts and informed the board that the sponsor deadline is April 15th. Mayor Sykes and the board thanked Susan for the great job she is doing.

The next item on the agenda was Police Updates. Chief Joey Thigpen was unable to be present at the meeting.

The next agenda item was the Fire Department Report. Timmy reminded them about last month when he and Kenny had talked to the board about leaving an engine in town. He stated they looked back on their charter which was dated December 16, 1952. He said the SOG’s were written at that time also and they had some that were updated in 2011. Timmy said nothing in their charter says anything about leaving a truck in town. He said with this new information that he believes that no amendments are needed. Timmy said since the last meeting they have had 7 EMS calls, 1 structure fire, 2 vehicle fires, 1 brush fire, 1 odor of gas, and 2 automatic alarms. Timmy said they are working as hard as they can to keep things going. Mayor Sykes thanked Timmy for the work he does. Commissioner King asked if the guys are keeping up with their required training. Timmy stated yes. He said they are holding three trainings a month, two being some type of fire related, and the other one would be EMS. Timmy said their EMS Captain, Abby Cannon, has set it up through the college. He said the college holds a MR class here once a month and they can get their 24 hours of con-ed through the fire department on their regular training nights and it counts as their con-ed for the year. He stated they have to keep 24 hours of con-ed just for the EMS certification. Timmy said this has been in place since January 2014. Mayor Sykes asked Timmy to please thank the fire department guys on behalf of the board.

Water/Sewer Updates was the next agenda item to be discussed. Timmy said they are currently on what they call a “burn out” which they do every year and it was put on the water bills. He stated everyone should be aware of it. He stated this is where we switch our disinfection from chloramines over to just chlorine. He said people might be smelling a little chlorine in their homes with the water. Timmy said that would probably last until the end of April because it takes five to six days to get the new water flushed in. He said the WASA Plant will go back on April 17th feeding chloramines out of the plant. Timmy stated that the Pinewood tank has been washed out and it is back on line. He said everything looked good. Timmy informed the board that the sewer plant inspection was done today. He said that Don Burke spoke highly of the town because we are one of the largest sprayer irrigation systems that he has to go see, and we are pretty limited on how many people we have working. Timmy said Mr. Burke commends them every time he comes. Mr. Burke informed Timmy that they are in compliance on all their testing. Timmy said as far as the construction goes there is only one section of line that has not been flushed or chlorine tested. He said that is the 12 inch line from HWY 11 up to the Pinewood Home Drive tank. He stated hopefully they will get that done sometime in the coming week. Timmy also stated that from Commissioner Hill’s house on Carol Drive going north all of those lines have had a partial certification put on them. He said the guys have been working as much as they can in between the rain days. They have got most of all the bores completed and then they will come back and do all the tie-ins. Timmy said the new electronic meters should be on the town’s property by May 22, 2014 and soon after that they will start putting them in. Mayor Sykes asked how long it would take them to install the new meters. Timmy said they asked to allow them 90 days but if there is good weather it may only take six weeks. They are supposed to start on May 27th or 28th putting the new meters in. Mayor Sykes asked Timmy where the new meters would be stored until they are installed. Timmy said they could be put at the shop but he would have to leave the jet machine outside. Commissioner Hill said that Chief Thigpen said it would be okay to put the new meters in the bay of the police department. Mayor Sykes said they would see which place would be better.

The next item on the agenda was the roof at the Pink Hill Public Library. Mayor Sykes said this has been discussed numerous times and it needs a new roof on it. She said she has begged the county to get us some money to help with it and they don’t have any money and the town does not have the money. Mayor Sykes explained the economic development fund that we have had for some years and thought that we might be able to use some of this money. She said the economic development fund came about when Cordset came to town. She stated the town got a grant for Cordset but they had to pay the town back. This is why we have that money. Mayor Sykes stated it has to be used for economic development only. She said the money has been here for 23 years. She stated everyone who might have known about this grant is now gone from the state. Mayor Sykes stated in order for our auditor to approve us using this money for the library, we have to have approval from someone in the state. Mayor Sykes said they are going to take the money from the economic development fund and transfer it to the general fund and use it to put a roof on the library. She stated there are two bids for them to look at. One bid was from David Tyndall and the other bid was from Robbie Murphy with We Build Construction. Mayor Sykes expressed that she would like for We Build Construction to get the job. The board discussed the two estimates. Mayor Sykes stated that both of the contractors have the insurance required to do the job. Commissioner King made a motion to repair the library roof with tin. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Grady said in looking at one is greater than the other, that it would be worth Robbie Murphy doing the work because from past experience with him and he is local. Commissioner King said he likes the idea of tearing the roof off and checking the boards. Mayor Sykes said both of the men stated they would guarantee their work. Commissioner Hill made a motion to table until next meeting so We Build Construction can turn in an estimate with taking shingles off. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Budget Amendments if needed. Mayor Sykes asked everyone to look at the budget amendment. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Remarks by Town Attorney was next on the agenda. George stated he was just glad to be here.

The next item on the agenda was Comments by the Board. Commissioner King stated he was glad that all three of them were working together and to leave our differences outside of the room and he hopes the public sees it the same way. Mayor Sykes stated the budget workshop will be Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

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

The next item on the agenda was Closed Session. Commissioner Hill made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Hill made a motion to come out of closed session. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Hill made a motion to let Timmy hire Alex Gardner and Neal Moore at $10.00 per hour at 20 hours per week or as needed until June 30, 2014 at the end of the fiscal year. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

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Mayor Town Clerk