

June 25, 2018 Recessed Meeting
7:00 p.m.

June 19, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting was recessed until June 25, 2018 due to not having a quorum.

The Town of Pink Hill held its monthly board meeting on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall board room. Present for the meeting were Mayor Sykes, Commissioners Mike Hill and James Quinn, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Public Works Director Timmy Kennedy, Police Chief Joey Thigpen, and Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell. Commissioner Penny Murphy was unable to attend.

Visitors present for the meeting were Andy Bailey, Patrick Flanagan, and Susan Myers.

Mayor Sykes said I would like to recall this recessed meeting back to order from June 19, 2018 and welcomed everyone who was here tonight. Mayor Sykes asked Commissioner Hill to lead everyone in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Everyone stood and said the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Sykes said thank you Mike and asked do we have any amendments tonight? Kim replied no agenda amendments. Mayor Sykes said I need a motion to approve the agenda and amendments if needed and consent agenda. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the agenda and amendments if needed and consent agenda with board minutes from May 8, 2018, May 22, 2018, and May 31, 2018. Mayor Sykes said do I have a seconded? Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said any discussion, if not, all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was Presentation Update on CTP Plan & Resolution Adopting a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Lenoir County, North Carolina. Andy Bailey said I was here just a couple of months ago but not too long ago right. I was here to talk to you about the North Carolina Comprehensive Transportation Plan and I am really not readmitting anything that I said before. If you guys have any questions as I go along, please let me know. We are in the process and we are in the adoption phase. He said just so you know earlier this month both Kinston and LaGrange adopted their portion of the plan. We are coming to you now for that very purpose and then Lenoir County will adopt I believe July 16th. Is that correct? I have got that listed here. So what has happened since April is we have gone to three public workshops around the area. We also had a presentation to the final Lenoir County Steering Committee in May. Then on June 6th I believe it was before the Lenoir County Transportation Committee and got their blessing of this. So I wanted to just quickly mention I have got all the recommendations for the entire county included in that big tray that I gave you, but the ones that are really concerned in and around Pink Hill is of course NC 11. We are not recommending a bypass. We are just recommending changing the existing facility from a two to three lane facility through town where needed where we have some turning issues. Also widening 241 south of town all the way down to Duplin County. He said and then we are still looking at a parking ride lot near the Food Lion just so if you have people meeting for Lenoir or wherever else they are going to be able to have a safe meeting place. A couple of bike routes one that goes due north of here and one that goes toward north and east of here again on their maps. And then two pedestrian facilities are recommended here in town. Of course NC 11 where we are going to

be widening that road, go ahead and make the idea of adding a bike and/or pedestrian facility there so we can have people get to and from places like Food Lion, Family Dollar, etc. back down into downtown rather than having to dodge traffic because that is what DOT is. We dodge traffic. Andy said and then Central Avenue which goes from Broadway down to here basically to be able to get to the town amenities in an easier fashion. So after hopefully what will be the adoption here in Pink Hill we will go before Lenoir County itself in July at their meeting. And on July 19th Eastern Carolina Rural Planning Organization will endorse this. He said and then in August we are going to be on the August agenda for the North Carolina Board of Transportation who usually adopts this plan. I going to hand this over to Patrick to explain about after this happens what next because the plan is great but unless you can do something about the plan it doesn't really help.

Patrick Flanagan said so we talked about this a little bit the last time I was here but if you remember DOT has a statewide prioritization system list. A whole bag of data and they measure every single project in the state but every two years they go through this process. He said and in order to submit a project into that scoring and data process, it has to come from a planning document like this. So this allows you the opportunity to submit projects to that scoring system and that scoring system has helped projects get funded for potential construction. So really this is the beginning process for Pink Hill to now have some projects. When we call for stuff to be submitted, which will probably be 2019 because again it is on an every 2 year cycle for this prioritization process, we will look back to this document and say okay everybody in Lenoir County and all the municipalities in the county are there any projects from this plan that you would like us to potentially submit for scoring. He said so that is how we make the next step in the process is take the projects from this document that we're adopting here and put them into that process for potential funding. Mayor Sykes asked how do we get into the voting or the decision of the plan to be voted on. Patrick replied come to the RPO meetings. Mayor Sykes replied okay. He said so those are you know every other month we have a meeting. Both groups meet together so it doesn't really matter you just show up. For this calendar year we're meeting in LaGrange. We try to rotate it throughout the four counties every year but everybody seems to like the LaGrange meeting place. Mayor Sykes asked have we ever had it in Pink Hill? Patrick said I don't think so, not since I have been doing it. He said just as long as you have a facility that 40 people could sit at. Mayor Sykes said we have got it. He said we do that by the calendar year so in November we will be looking at where we want to meet for the upcoming year. Mayor Sykes said we need to have Pink Hill on the agenda. Patrick replied okay. She said we have a nice meeting place. He replied good I will make sure that you get the meeting invites and then whoever you want to represent the town is fine. Mayor Sykes said can you have more than one, I mean you can have more than one representative. Patrick said well the way it works is at the TCC Level which is kind of like a planning board it is mostly made up of staff but a lot of the folks at least at the Eastern Carolina RPO are elected officials at that TCC Level. They get all the information and they make recommendations to the TAC which is the elected official body and that one you have to be appointed to and there is one county representative and one municipal representative from every county. He said but on our TCC every municipality already has a seat by the bylaws and it doesn't matter if it's the mayor, elected person, or staff person. It doesn't matter who it is just somebody to represent the town at that TCC Level. Again the TCC and TAC meet together anyway and so everybody gets all the same information and everybody hears all the same conversation so it is really nice.

Mayor Sykes said Timmy do you have a question? Timmy asked how would we find out who is our representative for this area so if wanted to contact them and bring something up at the meeting for us. Patrick replied so right now the county representative is Eric Rouse and the municipal representative is Mayor Woody Gurley from LaGrange. So either of those folks would be who you would contact who are on the TAC and again the TCC makes the recommendations and then the TAC takes the actions. Either one of those folks would be who you would contact. Mayor Sykes said and I know the town has and I think I am on that list one of them, it is just and none of our board members it is just not convenient for us to attend. Patrick replied sure, I understand. She said it is not that we aren't interested, it is just you know. Timmy said I think Mr. Donald was on that board. Mayor Sykes said yes he was. Commissioner Hill said he was retired but the rest of us worked. Patrick said believe me I understand. You are not the only town that is in this situation. Mayor Sykes said we just don't want to look bad. He said right I understand.

Patrick said is there any other questions, I would be happy to answer any other questions anybody has. Commissioner Hill asked is the proposed Hwy 70 bypass around Kinston and then Hwy 11 bypass around Kinston do they come back into Hwy 11? Patrick replied yes sir. Mayor Sykes said and when would if everything is approved, how long would it be before this project would begin. Patrick said that all depends on how you do in that scoring prioritization system and then if you score high enough to get funded, you get placed somewhere in a 10 year window. Though the planning and the engineering and permitting process starts and sometimes that's a 2 year process and sometimes that's a 4 year process so it just kind of depends. Mayor Sykes said so what kind of politics do we need to have in order to be sure we get into that window. Patrick said the whole point of the prioritization and scoring process is it takes the politics out of it. Mayor Sykes said you are kidding me now. Commissioner Hill said they are trying. Mayor Sykes said I know they are trying. Patrick said you just need to have somebody at the RPO to say or somebody contacting either Mr. Rouse or Mayor Gurley saying hey make sure you are telling people we want this project. So communicating with those two folks and coming to the RPO meetings is how you get your projects in the system. Kim said so the next step is they need to...Patrick said yes we would like for you to adopt that resolution which adopts the Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Pink Hill. Mayor Sykes said well I hope we get to the fun part because I am excited about this. I think it would be good for the town.

Mayor Sykes said I need a motion to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Hill made a motion to adopt the Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Lenoir County, North Carolina. Mayor Sykes said do I have a second. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said I have a motion and a seconded is there any discussion, if not, all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously. Kim asked Patrick do you want me to go ahead and get her to sign it or do you want me to scan it, email it or how does it work? Patrick said did we give you a word version so you can change the date. George replied you did. Patrick said okay if you could change the date and then get her to sign it we are not in any hurry. Kim said okay. George said instead of having the division is it alright if she puts unanimous vote. Patrick said yes if you want to format it however you guys normally format it that is not a problem. Mayor Sykes said do what did you say George. George said in that first paragraph have it say instead of "by"

“with” a unanimous vote. Mayor Sykes said okay. Kim said just change it and email it to me. Patrick said thank you very much.

Mayor Sykes said Timmy has a question. Timmy said I know when we met during the day and matter of fact we met here one day during the day and most of the board members weren't here, we talked about trying to get curb and gutter in on several streets and we have to pay right half. Patrick said I don't know about half but you would definitely have to pay a portion. So I have already set that up so the division folks can look at that. Timmy said there were several streets that we talked about trying to get curb and gutter on. Mayor Sykes said that would be great if we could. Timmy said I thought we had to pay half. Patrick said there is a portion but I am not sure if it is 50 percent or what that percentage would be. DOT will not cover all of that. Timmy replied right. I will look at it and when I get more details, I will get it to you. Mayor Sykes and the board thanked Andy and Patrick for coming. Mayor Sykes thanked them for coming.

The next item on the agenda was Adopt FY 2018-2019 Budgets: General Fund, Water Fund & Economic Development Budgets. Mayor Sykes said I need a motion to accept the FY 2018-2019 budget. Commissioner Hill made a motion to adopt the FY 2018-2019 General Fund, Water Fund & Economic Development budget. Mayor Sykes said do I have a second? Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said I have a motion and a second is there any discussion, if not, all in favor say “Aye” and the motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was Adoption of Easement Agreement between the town and Marco Enterprises. George said I sent Kim a copy of a revised easement and basically what it is different from what we have discussed in the past, I put in the tax parcel numbers that the county has assigned. I put the legal description in except the coordinate information for the map. The map hasn't been recorded yet. We need to get these done before we record the map. He said get Marco Enterprises and the town in agreement on the easement, then we will record the easement and the map. The upkeep of it is at Marco Enterprises expense. I am looking for that in here. It is page 3 paragraph #4, Marco shall bear such cost that may be necessary to maintain and keep the easement in good passable conditions until the parties terminate the agreement. Mayor Sykes has Marco, I mean it doesn't matter whether, well it does because he has got to sign it. George said I was going to send it to him after my client had approved it or not. Mayor Sykes said okay. George said if my client wanted to make a change in it, then I didn't want to send it to him and say oh by the way we changed our mind about paragraph #2 or whatever. Mayor Sykes said okay. She asked the board what do y'all think? Commissioner Hill said Timmy changed the one thing. Mayor Sykes said are you okay with that Timmy? Timmy replied yes ma'am, at first he had that we would pay half. That was not the agreement. Mayor Sykes said okay, then I need a motion. Commissioner Hill made a motion to adopt the easement between the town and Marco Enterprises subject to Marco Enterprises also agreeing. Mayor Sykes said do I have a second. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said I have a motion and a seconded is there any discussion, if not all in favor say “Aye” and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sykes said before we move on she wanted to thank Commissioner Hill for handling the meeting on the 19th even though there was not a quorum here. I appreciate it Mike what you did and hopefully it won't happen again for a long time, but if it does I appreciate you stepping up to the plate.

The next item on the agenda was approval of the FY 2018-2019 Audit contract with Amanda Murphy. Mayor Sykes said if everybody is in agreement, I need a motion to accept that. Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the audit contract with Amanda Murphy. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said I have a motion and a seconded is there any discussion, if not, all in favor of the motion say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Sykes said she does a great job and with Connie's help and with Kim. They do a great job together.

The Fire Department Report was next on the agenda. There was no fire department report to be given due to Fire Chief Heath not being present.

The next item on the agenda was Police Department Report. Chief Thigpen said this report is from May 8, 2018 to June 24, 2018. We have had a total of 126 calls and activities since May the 8th through yesterday June 24th. It has been real busy. We have had a lot of...some break-ins with the cars. Actually people leaving them unlocked. We had five or six of those mainly from Pine Street and Turner Street. People left their car unlocked. We got an idea of who did it but we didn't have any cameras anywhere but one place, and it was nighttime and we didn't have a good picture of the person, but we just got an idea. We have had a burglary of a house. Somebody went in the middle of the night and nobody was home. We have made an arrest on that and we got all the property back. We had some guns stolen. Then we had another break-in of another trailer here on Turner Street just two days ago. We think that is the same person that was doing the car stuff because actually they just moved in to a house there and ever since that has happened, we have been having nothing but trouble there. That is where some of the informants was telling us that they were the ones doing it, so we have just got to try to get enough evidence to prove it. Chief Thigpen said other than that that is the main and real important things that I...you know anytime a house or you have a break-in and property is stolen, to me that is the most important. The other stuff like you know suspicious people and assisting of Duplin County and Lenoir County and EMS, it has just been real, real busy since May. Mayor Sykes said well we appreciate y'all being on top of it. Chief Thigpen said we made an arrest in the burglary. We had another fraud case and we made an arrest in that. We solved it. The case where the guy called with the dumpster here and pretended he was somebody else and he also stuck United Rentals for like \$6,000. It happened here so we are getting ready to make an arrest in that. I already have got the confession but it has been busy. Mayor Sykes asked is he back? Chief Thigpen replied yes, he is already on probation for it.

Chief Thigpen said I got my new car in. I got it in two Friday's ago on the 15th and then the guy came yesterday. He started putting my stuff in it so he didn't quite finish everything. So he will probably finish it this coming week one night or either Saturday at the latest and then that will be done. He said I am going to try maybe by the next meeting to get the other car where y'all can declare it or sell it or something. Maybe we can get something out of it that old Crown Victoria 20 year old. Chief Thigpen said other than that everything else is going alright just busy. Mayor Sykes and the board thanked Chief Thigpen.

The next item on the agenda was Water/Sewer Report. Timmy said since our last meeting I found out I had a little bit of money in our signs for us to buy some signs, so we rode through

town and wrote down all the missing signs. There was some I guess the whole pole and everything got stolen or whatever but anyway we put all those back. I was able to change right many STOP signs around town and if you see any more... We straightened up every sign that we saw that was crooked. I know my mayor has a quirk about those things. Mayor Sykes said yes and thank you. Timmy said but we did straighten them all up and if they are crooked again, it is because the wind blew. Mayor Sykes said okay, I will forgive you this time but thank you for straightening them. Timmy said with the help of Robin who works in the lab at Neuse Regional WASA, she is helping me achieve my field lab certification. He said without her I would probably be completely lost. I would have to use some other lab and I think that they are doing it at no charge. I hadn't heard about any charge yet. She is helping a lot and without her I would be completely lost about it. Hopefully by Monday we will have everything here and where I can get that done.

Timmy said I was emailed my renewal on our wastewater permit for the sewer plant today. I haven't had a chance to look it over but I did look over the preliminary without the dates and stuff in it a week or so ago. I am just glad it renewed without any more glitches. Mayor Sykes said good and is that a yearly renewal. Timmy said every five or six years but actually it has been longer than that and I think it is just because they have had some change over in folks in Raleigh and they had to get people in place to get the renewals in place. Mayor Sykes said so we are good to go for five years. Timmy said it is good for six years I think. I think I am right. Mayor Sykes replied good.

Timmy said we found out yesterday that the generators are working good. The power was out for what about six hours, five or six hours. Chief Thigpen said it worked good last night. Timmy asked did it crank the second time too. Chief Thigpen said yes, it cranked then it blinked but then the lights went out totally and then it kicked on because we were in the bay. Mayor Sykes asked where did they go out... was I home. Timmy said from Highway 11 back this way. Chief Thigpen said from Broadway Street back this way. Timmy said so Highway 11 was still on. Chief Thigpen said they had a limb fall on the line over by the dentist office. Commissioner Quinn stated they were out 6:30-11:30. Timmy said at least until 11:30. He said it cranked and they ran and everything was fine other than people were without power. Commissioner Quinn said I appreciate y'all helping them boys like you did out there. I didn't realize and with all those lights out there that was a big help. Timmy said the fire department carried our light tower out and held it up for the guys. Mayor Sykes said oh thank you, I know they appreciated it too. Timmy said they did and it made it right much easier for them to see and stuff.

Timmy talked about the medians in town. He said North Central and Highway 11 which is right across from the ABC Store, that median right there. It is Highway 11 right of way. I was asked if it was ours and I don't think it is ours to cut or keep clean. The other median in front of R-Mart they keep it cut and somebody for years has kept that corner cut also but for some reason they have quit. It is getting grown up. Mayor Sykes asked have you contacted DOT? Timmy replied I can but I don't think they are going to come up here and cut that one little spot. He said but I mean it is part of somebodies land and I don't think it is the towns to keep up. I just wanted to throw that out there. It is already starting to look bad. Mayor Sykes said what is your suggestion? Timmy said I don't really know. Mayor Sykes said do you think you can do it, I mean I hate for it, how long would it take us to do it even though we are not supposed to how

long would it take us to do it. Timmy said I am scared if we start, we won't never be able to quit. Mayor Sykes said well that is true but if they decide not to do it. If you will write down exactly where it is, I don't mind calling. Chief Thigpen said it is right behind Jerry Boyette's. Commissioner Hill said we do it and charge it to their taxes. Timmy said I don't know who owns the property I mean I haven't done the research on it. Kim said R-Mart owns it. Timmy said it is either R-Mart or Jerry Boyette. Kim said it is either or one of those two. Timmy said but it is actually DOT right of way. Kim said but Mike used to do it because he had Pedro to do everything because he owned the whole thing there. Timmy said yes, I believe that is true. Mayor Sykes said ordinarily if Jerry Boyette could cut it you think. Timmy replied I don't know whose land it is. I think it is just like I think Mike kept it cleaned whenever he owned the property but he doesn't own the property any more. Mayor Sykes said we can find out who owns it. Timmy said he was trying to keep it clean because it made the business look a lot better. Mayor Sykes said well I feel like they would mow it if they...I mean I can't imagine them not mowing it. I think they would. Timmy said it would probably take our lawnmower about 5 to 10 minutes to do it and then maybe a little bit of weed eating to go with it. Mayor Sykes said well I will mention it to um...Timmy said like I said I don't want to start something that we have to keep on doing for years and years. We already cut enough grass. Mayor Sykes said I know I just feel like they will do it. Maybe they think because it is a highway but I will mention it to them, I think they would probably do it. Timmy said okay. He said that is not very much to bring up but that is what I have got. Mayor Sykes said well yeah I am glad you did but I will mention it to them. I may not tomorrow but I will mention it to them. Commissioner Quinn said thank you to Timmy.

Timmy said I have one more thing. If it continues to get worse, we are probably going to have to do something major there. It is on North Central and it is behind Woodrow's old business and Mr. Pete Williamson's house. The creek crossing right there. I think I have mentioned it maybe one time before that we had some trouble with the tile there. It kept on breaking. Well it is not breaking. The water line runs through it and that is the way it was done whenever that water line was run and it was scabbed over and now it is not holding anymore. We tried our best to patch over and get it sealed back up but it is not holding and it keeps right on washing away. We are constantly having to go out there. Today I think them guys went out there and put a whole scoop of rock in the hole. That is how big the hole was and put asphalt on top of it and it is constant. Timmy said what I recommend, if we ever find the money, is a directional bore the water line through there and that is going to be a pretty good expense and then replace the tile. He said because the water line won't have enough cover over it if you just replace the tile. Timmy said there ain't no telling what kind of number that would be. Commissioner Hill said \$50,000 to \$60,000. Timmy said I feel like probably you are looking at what do you think \$25,000 for a directional bore 6 inch and probably another \$40,000 to \$50,000 for the cross tile replacement and getting the bulkheads put back. He said plus you have a sewer line that crosses on the other side of the road. Mayor Sykes said so how long do you think this will last before we really have to bite the bullet. Timmy said we are still patching. I just wanted to throw that out there and bring it to the board so you have something to start thinking about. So I would say anywhere from \$50,000 to \$100,000 to repair it like it needs to be repaired. Commissioner Hill told Timmy right don't you go ahead and contact a couple of people and let them come look at it and see what it would be. Timmy said are you talking about for a directional bore. Commissioner Hill said for a directional bore and replace the cross tile. Mayor Sykes said whatever you have

got to do to it. Commissioner Hill said to replace the whole thing. He said get a couple of prices. Timmy said the number I got for the Front Street cross tile, that is where that number is coming from and I think that is probably pretty realistic. You can go higher than that and it would be nicer but what we have got on Front Street is working and it is fine. Timmy said but I will do that. Commissioner Hill said okay that way we will know what we are looking at down the road. Mayor Sykes said yes. She and the board thanked Timmy.

The next item on the agenda was Budget Amendments if needed. Kim said you have your budget amendments for the General Fund and Water Fund and this is to adjust budgeted revenues to anticipated collections. It is because it is the end of the fiscal year so this is when we are doing our final budget amendments. Mayor Sykes said I need a motion to accept the budget amendments. Commissioner Hill made a motion to accept all budget amendments for the General Fund and Water Fund. Mayor Sykes said do I have a second. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Mayor Sykes said I have a motion and a seconded is there any discussion, if not all in favor say "Aye" and the motion carried unanimously.

Remarks by Town Attorney was next on the agenda. Mayor Sykes asked George if he had any comments. He replied no, thank you. George said just glad everybody is back healthy and hope for the best for Penny's mother.

The next item on the agenda was Comments by the Board. Mayor Sykes asked if there were any comments by the board. Commissioner Hill and Commissioner Quinn said they were glad the mayor was back and like George said they hope for the best for Penny's mother and they are in our thoughts and prayers.

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. There was no need for a closed session at this time.

With there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.