September 9, 2014

6:55 P.M.

Public Hearing Golf Cart Ordinance

The Town of Pink Hill held a public hearing on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 6:55 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, Chief Joey Thigpen, and Town Clerk Kimberly Mitchell.

Visitors present included Kerry Willis, Glenda Willis, Dora Evans, Susan Myers, Rod Howard, Manena Buck, and Charles Barrow.

Mayor Sykes welcomed everyone to the public hearing and stated the purpose for the hearing was to discuss the ordinance to regulate the operation of golf carts on public streets and roads. Mayor Sykes asked if there was anyone who had any comments and if so they could speak at this time. Mr. Willis wanted to know what was the major concern that brought this about to be discussed? Mayor Sykes stated that it is to make it legal for people to drive golf carts on the streets. Commissioner Hill said they had a lot of people driving golf carts during different events like the Rose Festival and Christmas Parade. They were trying to make it legal for them to drive and have insurance on the golf carts so if something did happen things would be covered. Town Attorney George Jenkins stated it was so the town would have control over who was operating a golf cart because the town commission is responsible for protecting the safety of the citizens of the town. He said if somebody is operating a golf cart on the sidewalk, then the town has to be able to regulate it. If somebody is going up and down the street, the town has to be able to regulate it. Mr. Willis asked if this ordinance was to just regulate the golf carts for special events. Mr. Jenkins stated no, it would be for 365 days a year. Mrs. Willis asked if it was illegal now to drive a golf cart in town. Mr. Jenkins stated no as long as you are over 16 and have insurance. Mr. Willis asked if the insurance on the golf cart was extra from their regular car insurance. The board stated yes and Commissioner Hill said he had talked with Rodney Scott at Nationwide Insurance and it would cost about $95 a year. There were no other comments or questions from the public so Commissioner Grady made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.