

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pinehurst was held on February 11, 2020 at 6:00p.m. in the City Hall. A quorum having been established, Mayor Dan Mohon called the meeting to order with the following council members present: Sarah McClendon, T.W. Permenter, John Zerko, J. Michael Shahan and Cynthia Adams. The following business was transacted.

On a motion made by Councilman T.W. Permenter and seconded by Councilman John Zerko, council members unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting held on January 14, 2020.

At this time, council members reviewed the budgeted expenditures for November 2019 and December 2019. City Secretary Debbie Cormier pointed out the highlights of the December 2019 report. She began by saying that there were no capital outlays for the months of November or December 2019. Regarding the Income Comparison report for year-to-date December 2019 versus December 2018, Ms. Cormier advised that the General Fund was behind by approximately \$22,000. She noted that the difference was due to property tax revenues. She stated that taxpayers appeared to be waiting later to pay their taxes this year. She continued with the Garbage Fund Revenues and informed that the December 2019 YTD figure was ahead of the prior year by slightly more than \$5,000. She advised that the Water/Sewer Fund appeared to be ahead of the prior year when in fact it was behind by about \$25,000. She explained that this difference was due to \$207,825 in grant funds received in 2019. She noted with those grant funds removed from the equation, the December 2019 revenues fell short of the previous year. Ms. Cormier advised that YTD General Fund expenditures exceeded YTD revenues by about \$160,000. She told council members that October, November, and December were generally the worst months of the fiscal year for most cities because property tax payments were not due until the end of January each year. She noted that revenues exceeded expenditures in the Garbage Fund. She stated that expenditures exceeded revenues in the Water/Sewer Fund by about \$27,000. She explained that overall expenditures exceeded revenues by approximately \$164,000 and stated that January financials should look better. Ms. Cormier noted that the November 2019 reserves were 6.05 months and the December 2019 reserves were 6.09 months, or virtually unchanged.

No one signed up to address the Council under the Citizen Comment section of this agenda.

Regarding introduction/discussion with Jessica Hill, Executive Director of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation (OCEDC) and Megan Romero, Business Development Manager, OCEDC, City Administrator Robbie Hood stated that Mrs. Hill was in a meeting with the Governor's Economic Development Team and was unable to attend this meeting. Mr. Hood introduced Megan Romero, Business Development Manager of OCEDC. Ms. Romero advised that she would be serving as a Consultant/Liaison between the communities and businesses in the area. She informed that she had graduated from Texas A & M with a bachelor's degree in Urban & Regional Planning. She explained that she had grown up in the Orange area and graduated from Little Cypress Mauriceville High School. She commented that she had previously worked for Albanese Cormier Holdings, a real estate company in Beaumont. She stated that she had

been the facility manager for Edison Plaza in downtown Beaumont. Ms. Romero expressed her appreciation and enthusiasm with her appointment to this position.

Code Enforcement Officer Harry Vine advised that he and Justin Trahan had surveyed the city for dilapidated properties. He stated that there were several properties due to recent floods and hurricanes. He noted that he had a PowerPoint Presentation of the structures that he believed were most in need of demolition. He advised that the properties would be shown in demolition order, first to last. First, was the property at 3705 Lark which had burned several months ago. Then, were the properties at 3428 Heron and 3706 Mockingbird, both owned by Larry Larkin, deceased. Mr. Vine stated that he was going to put a bid package together for these three properties. He noted that Mr. Larkin had died without a will and the court appointed local attorney Paul Fukuda as his advocate. Next, was the property at 1701 – 30th Street. Mr. Vine stated that Hubert Spradling, deceased, had two heirs that he hoped would demolish the structure after the condemnation. Next, was 3648 Lark, owned by Stephanie Crosslin. Mr. Vine noted that the owner was trying to get a grant to help her with the demolition of this property. Next, was 3108 Martin, a Hurricane Harvey damaged home owned by Russell Anderson. Next, was 3526 Martin, owned by Robert Pittman. Mr. Vine stated that the problem with this property was that it had about \$20,000 in back taxes owed. He noted that someone had actually shown an interest in purchasing this property. Next, was 3718 Nightingale, owned by Nina Conn. Mr. Vine advised that this owner lived in Houston. He stated that she and her husband had plans to rehab the structure but then her husband passed away. He noted that it had become a struggle just to get it mowed recently. Next, was 3490 Pelican, owned by Michael Edwards. Mr. Vine noted that this property had come up for condemnation in the past but then the property was sold. He stated that the new owner was supposed to have repaired the structure but that did not come to fruition. Last, was a trailer located at 3712 Mockingbird, owned by Johnny Gill. Mr. Vine advised that the first three properties would be brought before Council for consideration of condemnation at next month's meeting. He noted that he was also continuing to work with the owners of Tony's Equipment and TRES to bring their properties into compliance by the end of March.

Police Chief Fred Hanauer presented the 2019 Racial Profiling Report. Chief Hanauer stated that the report covered the period from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. He informed that in this period, officers of the Pinehurst Police Department made 1069 contacts. Of the total contacts, 296 were Black; 648 were white, 112 were Hispanic/Latino; 12 were Asian/Pacific Islander; and 1 was Alaska Native/American Indian. Chief Hanauer reported that 501 of the contacts were female and 568 were male. He advised in only 31 of the 1069 stops was the ethnicity known prior to the stop. He noted that 23 searches were conducted leading to one arrest. Of the 1069 total stops, only one resulted in bodily injury. Chief Hanauer concluded by saying that there was no evidence of racial profiling in the City of Pinehurst. In addition, he stated that there were no complaints of racial profiling in 2019 and only one complaint since 2009. That complaint, he noted, was investigated and determined that the complaint was unfounded and not racially motivated.

On consideration of applying for Law Enforcement Grant Funds, Chief Hanauer stated that the 2020 Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities Grant (LETPA), Grant Number 3772502 would be used to purchase one or two portable radios for the Pinehurst SWAT team.

City Attorney Tommy Gunn read the corresponding Resolution aloud and in its entirety. On a motion made by Councilman J. Michael Shahan and seconded by Councilman T.W. Permenter, council members unanimously voted to approve the submission of this grant application.

Regarding the 2020 Homeland Security Grant (HSGP) Grant Number 3620803, Chief Hanauer stated these funds would be used for a mobile radio for dispatch and possibly one portable radio. City Attorney Tommy Gunn read the corresponding Resolution aloud and in its entirety. On a motion made by Councilman T.W. Permenter and seconded by Councilwoman Cynthia Adams, council members unanimously voted to approve the submission of this grant application.

Regarding the FY2020-2021 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), Law Enforcement and Public Safety Data Sharing Equipment Grant Number 3992601, Chief Hanauer advised that this grant would be used to update the server for the report system. City Attorney Tommy Gunn read the corresponding Resolution aloud and in its entirety. On a motion made by Councilman J. Michael Shahan and seconded by Councilman T.W. Permenter, council members unanimously voted to approve the submission of this grant application.

Regarding discussion and possible action on approving a contract with Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for Engineering Services for the City of Pinehurst 20-065-034-C113 grant for the CDBG-DR 4332 Hurricane Harvey Project, Schaumburg and Polk, Inc. Engineer Nestor Barroeta noted that this was a \$6.8 million grant. He informed that the grant would fund three separate projects; citywide street repairs, citywide pipe-bursting to rehabilitate the sanitary sewer collection system; and improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Barroeta stated that the electrical control panels would be moved to a new building and raised in order to deter future flooding. In addition, he advised that the blowers would be replaced and a mechanical bar screen would be installed. Mr. Barroeta explained that the City was currently under a SSOI program with TCEQ. He stated once the pipe-bursting project was completed, the TCEQ agreement would be fulfilled. On a motion made by Councilwoman Sarah McClendon and seconded by Councilwoman Cynthia Adams, council members unanimously voted to approve the contract with Schaumburg & Polk, Inc.

On consideration of approving a contract with David J. Waxman, Inc. for Administration Services for the City of Pinehurst 20-065-034-C113 grant for the CDBG-DR 4332 Hurricane Harvey Project, City Administrator Robbie Hood recommended approval. On a motion made by Councilman T.W. Permenter and seconded by Councilman J. Michael Shahan, council members unanimously approved the contract with David J. Waxman, Inc.

On consideration of approving a Resolution designating authorized signatories for contractual documents and financial documents pertaining to the City of Pinehurst 20-065-034-C113 grant for the CDBG-DR 4332 Hurricane Harvey Project, City Attorney Tommy Gunn read the Resolution aloud and in its entirety. The Resolution listed the Mayor and City Administrator as signatories for contractual documents. In addition, the Resolution listed the Mayor, City Administrator, and the City Secretary as signatories for the financial documents. On a motion made by Councilwoman Cynthia Adams and seconded by Councilman T. W. Permenter, council members unanimously voted to approve the resolution.

On consideration of approving a Resolution adopting Civil Rights plans and procedures for the City of Pinehurst 20-065-034-C113 grant for the CDBG-DR 4332 Hurricane Harvey Project, City Attorney Tommy Gunn read the resolution aloud and in its entirety. It should be noted that the resolution included:

1. Citizen Participation Plan & Grievance Procedures
2. Section 3 Plan
3. Excessive Force Policy
4. Section 504 Policy and Grievance Procedures
5. Limited English Proficiency Plan
6. Fair Housing Policy

On a motion made by Councilwoman Sarah McClendon and seconded by Councilwoman Cynthia Adams, council members unanimously voted to approve the Civil Rights Resolution.

Under the Announcements, Comments, and Requests from Council portion of this agenda, Councilman T.W. Permenter thanked Code Enforcement Officer Harry Vine and Justin Trahan for the PowerPoint presentation earlier in this meeting. City Administrator Robbie Hood advised that utility customers would soon be able to make water/sewer/garbage payments via credit card, online or in person.

There being no further business to transact, Councilwoman Sarah McClendon made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Cynthia Adams seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. Mayor Mohon adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

/s/ Dan Mohon
Mayor

/s/ Debbie Cormier
City Secretary