

**MINUTES**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pinehurst was held on May 12, 2020 at 6:00p.m. by teleconference via GoToMeeting. Mayor Dan Mohon established a quorum by calling roll. Sarah McClendon, T.W. Permenter, Cynthia Adams, J. Michael Shahan and John Zerko were present. Having established a quorum, Mayor Mohon gave the invocation then Dan Perrine of KOGT recited the United States and Texas Pledges of Allegiance. Crystal Wells then sang the National Anthem. The following business was transacted.

On a motion made by Councilman John Zerko and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem T.W. Permenter, council member unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Session of April 14, 2020 and the Special Session of April 29, 2020.

At this time, council members reviewed the budgeted expenditures for March 2020. City Secretary Debbie Cormier began by saying that there were no capital outlays for the month of March 2020. On the Income Comparison report, she noted that the General Fund revenues for March 2020 exceeded the March 2019 revenues by approximately \$120,000. She advised that the difference was largely due to an increase in property tax revenues, sales tax revenues, and a substantial increase in revenues from court fines. Ms. Cormier informed that the Garbage Fund was ahead of the prior year by slightly more than \$11,000. She stated that the Water/Sewer Fund looked as if it were ahead by more than \$200,000. She explained, with the removal of grant funds in 2020 and insurance reimbursements in 2019, this fund was only ahead by about \$200 or virtually unchanged. She noted that the Debt Service Fund had an increase of about \$4,500 but stated that another payment would be due in this fiscal year. When comparing year-to-date actual revenues versus year-to-date actual expenses, Ms. Cormier advised that revenues exceeded expenses in every fund except the Water/Sewer Fund which had a deficit of approximately \$37,000. Overall, she informed that total revenues exceeded total expenditures by \$235,000. In summary, she noted that the City had 6.71 months of reserves in February 2020 versus 6.65 months of reserves in March 2020, or a change of -0.06. Council members did not have any questions regarding the financial report for March 2020.

No one addressed the Council under the Citizen Comments section of this agenda.

On a motion made by Councilman J. Michael Shahan and seconded by Councilwoman Cynthia Adams, council members unanimously voted to re-appoint Councilman T.W. Permenter as Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Dan Mohon appointed Mayor Pro Tem T.W. Permenter, Councilman J. Michael Shahan, and City Administrator Robbie Hood to be Police Negotiation Team Members.

Concerning the discussion on the FY20-21 budget process, City Administrator Robbie Hood stated that the process had been changed last year to include the entire council. He noted that he and City Secretary Debbie Cormier had conducted budget workshop meetings along with the Council and that procedure worked very well. He advised that he and Ms. Cormier would start the budget process this year by meeting with department heads to assess department needs and those needs would then be discussed with the Council in workshop sessions. Mr. Hood informed that there may be some hard decisions to be made and he would like every council member's input.

On consideration of approving a Local Option Homestead Exemption; a 65 or Older Exemption; and a Disabled Exemption for Tax Year 2020, City Secretary Debbie Cormier explained that the City of Pinehurst currently allowed the maximum 20% for the homestead exemption. She recommended staying with the 20%. She advised that both the 65 or Older and the Disabled Exemptions were currently at \$10,000. She stated, in the past when calculations were made on increasing those two exemptions, it was decided that the increase would provide a minuscule savings to the taxpayer but would eliminate a rather large amount of revenue for the City. She recommended staying with \$10,000 for each of these exemptions. On a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem T.W. Permenter and seconded by Councilman J. Michael Shahan, council members unanimously voted to keep all exemptions at the current amounts.

Regarding the update on Hurricane Harvey Recovery Projects, City Administrator Robbie Hood advised that the surveys of the streets to be resurfaced had been completed. He stated that the engineers were gathering information on the new, elevated electrical control room. In addition, he noted that they were also putting together the scope of work for the pipe bursting. He informed that Schaumburg & Polk Engineer Nestor Barroeta believed that they would be able to go out for bids within the next two months. Mr. Hood reminded council members that Phase One of the project would be the construction of the Electrical Control Room and the Sewer Pipe Bursting. He stated that the Phase Two, or the Final Phase, would be resurfacing the streets that were inundated with water during Hurricane Harvey. He advised that the City had slightly less than two years to complete all projects.

Under the Announcements, Comments, and Requests from Council section of this agenda, Mayor Pro Tem T. W. Permenter asked if cleanup of the City was still in progress, specifically demolitions. City Administrator Robbie Hood reported that Public Works crews were currently working on drainage issues. He stated that they would restart the regular mowing and routine maintenance soon. He advised that talks regarding dangerous structures had been postponed until “in person” council meetings resumed. Mayor Mohon requested that Code Enforcement Officer Harry Vine move forward with his attempts to get the lawnmower shop owner and TRES Machine Shop owner to comply with the City’s cleanup orders of those properties.

Mr. Hood announced that the Pinehurst Volunteer Fire Department, along with all other area fire departments, would be conducting a Parade of Seniors on Saturday, May 30 beginning at 10:00a.m. He informed that the potential parade route would start on Strickland Drive near MLK Drive and proceed to the parking lot of Big Lots on MacArthur Drive. He noted that this was in honor of all 2020 graduating seniors in Orange County. He advised that each school would be represented by one male and one female riding on each of the fire trucks.

There being no further business to transact, Mayor Mohon adjourned the meeting at 6:23p.m.

/s/ Dan Mohon

Mayor

/s/ Debbie Cormier

City Secretary