

Town of Pine Ridge

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IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNOR MCMASTER'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON SOCIAL DISTANCING, THERE WILL BE A LIMITED NUMBER OF CITIZENS ALLOWED IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS. THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO EMAIL WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CLERK AT skyzer@townofpineridgesc.com

**JUNE 2, 2020
RESCHEDULED MAY 12, 2020
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA**

Town Council Work Session

- 6:30 P.M. – 6:45 P.M. Public Hearing: Ordinance 2020-23 Adoption of 2020/2021 Budget
- 6:45 P.M. – 6:47 P.M. Review of Administrative Department Report
- 6:47 P.M. – 6:50 P.M. Review of Police Department Administrative Report
- 6:50 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Informational Council Discussion

7:00 P.M. - Town Council Meeting

Call to Order & Invocation

Freedom of Information Act Compliance

Approval of Minutes

- 1. April 14, 2020 Regular Scheduled Council Meeting
- 2. April 29, 2020 Special Called Council Meeting

Old Business

- 1. Estates at Indigo Bond Estimate to repair infrastructure
- 2. Indigo Place Bond Estimate to repair infrastructure
- 3. RFP20-01R Landscape Maintenance for 2020-P&RC Recommendation & Council vote

New Business

- 1. Ordinance 2020-23 Adoption of 2020/2021 Budget *First Reading
- 2. Ordinance 2020-24 Emergency Ordinance repealing Emergency Ordinance 2020-21 for Electronic Meetings of Council, Quorums and Voting by Electronic Means, and Other Related Measures for Council Meetings
- 3. Finance Committee Donation update: Blessing Box
- 4. Vehicle Maintenance issues update
- 5. Body Camera issues update

Citizen's Comment Time – (email to skyzer@townofpineridgesc.com)

ADJOURN

For your convenience, an Agenda with attachments is available online at www.townofpineridgesc.com.

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Work Session Minutes
Rescheduled May 12, 2020 Meeting
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Council present: Mayor Wells, Mayor Pro-Tem Davis, Councilman Simms and Councilman Dinkins

Councilwoman Sturkie arrived at 6:44 P.M.

Staff Present: Town Administrator, Mrs. Miller, Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Kyzer and Interim-Chief Silano

6:30 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wells stated the following: In accordance with Governor McMaster’s Executive Order on social distancing, there will be a limited number of citizens allowed in Council Chambers. The public is encouraged to email written comments to the Municipal Clerk at skyzer@townofpineridgesc.com and join the meeting live on Facebook.

*Note: It was advertised on Friday, May 29th, that in accordance with the six feet of social distancing, that the Council Chambers would accommodate ten Citizens.

6:31 P.M. – 6:32 P.M. Public Hearing: Ordinance 2020-23
Adoption of 2020/2021 Budget

Mayor Wells stated the following, which was published in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act:

Pursuant to Section 6-1-80 of the SC Code of Laws, public notice is hereby given that the Pine Ridge Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on the municipal budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year:

Current Fiscal Year Revenues	Projected Revenue FY 2020-21	Percentage Change in Revenue	Current Fiscal Year Millage
\$782,079	\$679,463	-13.12%	0

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Current Fiscal Year Expenses	Projected Expenses FY 2020-21	Percentage Change in Expenses	Estimated Millage for 2020-21
\$768,032	\$679,310	-11.55%	0**

**Estimated millage rate for 2020 equals \$0.00 per \$1,000 in Assessed Property Value. A copy of the proposed budget ordinance for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 may be viewed online at www.townofpineridgesc.com, by email skyzer@townofpineridgesc.com or by telephone during regular business hours at (803) 755-2500.

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis stated that the budget reflects an anticipated drop in revenue due to Covid-19, which in turn reduced expenses and if there is anything not in line after the first six months, changes will be made during the annual budget adjustment in January 2021.

Mayor Wells asked Council if there were any questions or comments for Mayor Pro-Tem Davis. There were no questions or comments from Council.

Mayor Wells asked for any questions or comments in favor of Ordinance 2020-23. There were none.

Mayor Wells asked for any questions or comments against Ordinance 2020-23. There were none.

At this time, Mayor Wells closed the Public Hearing.

APPROVED 06/02/2020

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6:36 P.M.–6:37 P.M. – Review of Administrative Department Reports

Written Administrative Department Reports were provided to Council for review, with the exception of Mrs. Miller’s May 2020 Budget report and the May 2020 gas report which will be available for the June 9th meeting. These reports can’t be done until month end.

Mayor Wells advised Council that Mrs. Miller or Mrs. Kyzer were available to answer questions. Council had no comments or questions.

6:38 P.M.-6:45 P.M. – Review of Police Department Report

Interim-Chief Silano updated Council with the following Crime States for the month of May 2020:

31 Traffic Stops	7 Cases Active
9 Citations	6 Cases Administratively Closed
22 Warnings	1 Case Cleared by Arrest
2 Arrests	1 Collision Report (no injuries)
1 Warrant Served	
55 Calls for Service	
14 Incident Reports	

Interim-Chief Silano added the following:

- The majority of the month was spent conducting property checks to ensure safety of homes, property and residents as well as to ensure attention to any needs of Citizens during the COVID-19 quarantine period. No issues relating to COVID-19 in the town during the quarantine. No officers needed to be treated or tested.
- Inventory has been taken on all assets & equipment issues have been identified
- Checking all Dash Cameras as well as digital ally tech support to identify problems
- Body Worn Cameras are being fixed and/or replaced due to malfunctions
- Body Worn Cameras not accounted for but part of the inventory
- Three Tahoe’s are operational with the exception of dash cameras in brown Tahoe

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- Two Impalas are operational. Dash Cameras have issues and the slick top impala has a knocking sound when the A/C is turned on.
- One application for a Patrolman pending who has 10 ½ years in Law Enforcement.
- K-9, Rens has had a great month. Has had several callouts from other agencies for narcotic sniffs and he had his first apprehension of a wanted suspect in South Congaree. Suspect was chased, apprehended and Rens released his bite when told, which allowed officers to take suspect into custody with minimal injury from the bite. EMS evaluated suspect and he was cleared for transport to jail. No hospital treatment required.
- Officer Hale arrested a suspect for PWID narcotics.
- Officer Neeley and Officer Hale are still working in the capacity of part-time Officers.

6:45 P.M.- 6:46 P.M. Informational Council Discussion

Council discussed the following:

- Liability issues with allowing volunteers to cut the grass. Appreciation to those that have offered. Town Hall and the area in front of the signs on Fish Hatchery Road and Pine Ridge Drive were cut last month by Council Members.
- Candidate signs – Lexington County Ordinance versus Town Ordinance
- Pine Ridge-South Congaree Senior Center still closed
- Blessing Box appreciation
- Dominion has work order in since April to clean up the fenced in area at the old Town Hall site.

Mayor Wells asked Council if there were any other items to address. There were not.

At this time, Mayor Wells stated that with no further discussion, the Work Session was closed.

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6:47 P.M. – Town Council Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wells called the Town Council Meeting to order at 6:47 P.M., with Mayor Pro-Tem Davis, Councilman Simms, Councilman Dinkins and Councilwoman Sturkie present.

Staff present: Town Administrator, Mrs. Miller and Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Kyzer and Interim-Chief Silano

INVOCATION

Councilman Dinkins led those assembled in prayer.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT COMPLIANCE

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. April 14, 2020 Regular Scheduled Council Meeting

Copies of the April 14, 2020 and April 29, 2020 minutes were available to all Council members. Mayor Wells asked Council to review the minutes and if there were any questions or comments that Mrs. Kyzer was available.

Council Dinkins made a motion to approve the April 14, 2020 minutes, as submitted. Councilman Simms seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

2. April 29, 2020 Special Called Council Meeting

Council Simms made a motion to approve the April 29, 2020 minutes, as submitted. Mayor Pro-tem Davis seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

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OLD BUSINESS

1. Estates at Indigo Bond Estimate to repair Infrastructure

The winning bidder is currently in the process of working on the infrastructure on Oakhill Road before paving can begin. Once the paving is completed, then the County will review the ongoing infrastructure issues.

2. Indigo Place Bond Estimate to repair Infrastructure

The winning bidder is currently in the process of working on the infrastructure on Oakhill Road before paving can begin. Once the paving is completed, then the County will review the ongoing infrastructure issues.

3. RFP20-01R Landscape Maintenance for 2020-P&RC Recommendation and Council vote.

Councilman Simms, who is the Chairman of the Property & Recreation Committee explained that the Landscape Maintenance had to be put back out for bid due to the amount of the bids being so high. Hollis Building Services was the low bid received.

Councilman Simms stated that the Property & Recreation Committee makes the recommendation to go with Hollis Building Services in the amount of \$9,495.00, which does and this does not include the optional portion and pending receipt of proof of insurance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis made the motion to approve the Property & Recreation Committee's recommendation for our Landscape Maintenance. Councilman Dinkins seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

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NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 2020-23 Adoption of 2020/2021 Budget *First Reading

Mayor Wells stated that the public hearing was held during the work session and this is the first reading of Ordinance 2020-23.

Mayor Wells read the title to Ordinance 2020-23: An Ordinance to Adopt the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget.

Councilman Simms made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-23, adoption of 2020/2021 budget, as submitted. Councilman Dinkins seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

2. Ordinance 2020-24 Emergency Ordinance repealing Emergency Ordinance 2020-21 for Electronic Meeting of Council, Quorums and Voting by Electronic Means, and Other Related Measures for Council Meetings.

Mayor Wells stated that this will allow the repealing of Ordinance 2020-21, which was for a 60-day period set to expire on 6/13/2020. Mayor Wells read the title to Ordinance 2020-24: Repealing Emergency Ordinance 2020-21 Concerning Electronic Meetings of Council

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-24, Emergency Ordinance repealing Emergency Ordinance 2020-21 for Electronic Means, and Other Related Measures for Council Meetings, as submitted. Councilman Dinkins seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. Finance Committee Donation update: Blessing Box

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis stated that policy allows the Finance Committee to approve the use of donation funds in between Council Meetings. Mayor Pro-Tem Davis added that he believes the Blessing Box in front of Town Hall has been a blessing for those in need. The box was in need of repair and the Finance Committee approved the use of donation funds on 5/15/2020.

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Mayor Pro-tem Davis clarified that the funds were specifically for materials used to build the box and the labor was provided free of charge. The total cost of materials was \$159.06.

4. Vehicle Maintenance issues update

Interim-Chief Silano stated that he had created a spreadsheet containing issues with Police Department equipment several months back at the request of former Chief Parks. Interim-Chief Silano has contacted Digital Ally about the issues with the Dash Cam's and was advised to check the wiring and if that does not work, they will send a representative to repair.

Light bar Impala: Driver side panel loose under door, ticking noise when AC is on and the dash cam records but does not save

Slick top Impala: Camera mount for dash cam is broken

White Tahoe: Tire sensor gauge is shorted, Dash cam SD slot will not open

Brown Tahoe: Dash cam display will not turn on but it records and the cage between the driver and the rear seat has been located and Officer Neeley will help re-install it.

K-9 Tahoe: No issues to report

Mayor Wells asked Council if anyone had any questions, no one did.

5. Body Camera issues update

Mayor Wells stated that the Public Safety Committee had requested former Chief Parks to provide a list of Body Worn Camera's (BWC)maintenance issues that needed to be resolved back at the end of January. At the March 10th Council meeting, former Chief Parks stated that the Police Department only had four working BWC's. On March 12th, Mrs. Miller emailed former Chief Parks with a list of serial numbers for nine body cameras that were showing in inventory. On March 13th, then Lieutenant Silano replied with a spreadsheet of what was found, the serial number and any known issues.

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Mayor Wells added that as of today, no repairs or replacements have been ordered. Mayor Wells asked Interim-Chief Silano to give Council an update on what he has been working on.

Interim-Chief Silano stated that eight out of the nine BWC's have been located, with one missing. Four are in working order, which gives an extra one between himself and the part-time guys. Of the remaining four, two can be fixed and two need replacement. Interim-Chief Silano added that he has talked to WatchGuard about the four that need to be repaired or replaced. In addition, he and Officer Neeley found two additional Digital Ally BWC's that appear to have never been used.

Mayor Pro-tem Davis asked Interim-Chief Silano if he recommended replacing the two BWC's, in which he responded that he would recommend replacement so that each Officer is compliant with Police Department policy.

Councilman Dinkins asked Interim-Chief Silano how much the replacement battery packs cost, in which he responded that they were about forty to fifty dollars.

Mayor Pro-tem Davis asked Interim-Chief Silano how long it would take to order the replacement BWC's, in which he replied depending on Covid-19 delays in shipping at least one to two weeks.

APPROVED 06/19/2020

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Citizen's Comment Time - (email to skyzer@townofpineridgesc.com)

The Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Kyzer read aloud two emailed comments from residents of Pine Ridge:

Good Evening Mayor Wells, Council Members and Neighbors.

My name is Robert Basamania. I reside at 1525 Coolbrook Dr. Pine Ridge, SC

I would like to address my comment to Mayor Wells.

Mayor Wells it is my understanding that you are the Commissioner of the Town of Pine Ridge Police Department. This position was self-appointment. Police Commissioners serve their communities by overseeing police departments, they are usually sworn police officers. This individual is responsible for overseeing the administrative and day-to-day operations of the department and has typically worked their way up through the ranks. They are required to pass medical and psychological clearances. A Commissioner of a Police Department usually has a background in law enforcement with some supervisory experience. They develop departmental and public policy, including establishing cooperative relationships with the public and other agencies. How a Town is policed is decided by the Commissioner of Police or the Chief of Police not the Mayor. Mayor Wells do you have any of these qualifications? Can you offer proof of them? Although the Mayor oversees the Police Department, they are not supposed to be involved with administrative and day-to-day operations. It causes conflict and often interrupts the continuity of the Police Force. If you want what is best for the Town of Pine Ridge, the Commissioner of Police and the Mayor should not be the same person. This is something that should be a proposal for the citizens of the Town of Pine Ridge to vote on. Thank you for your time and consideration. Robert Basamania 6/1/2020

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Good Evening Mayor Wells, Council Members and Neighbors.

My name is Judy Cooper-Basamania, I reside at 1523 Coolbrook Dr. Pine Ridge, SC My comment is directed to Mayor Wells and the Town Council. Our most recent Past Police Chief, Parks was working on finding a Town Inspector. I hope that this is something that is still in the works. There are properties in the Town of Pine Ridge that are not kept up. I don't mean remodeled. I mean they are in need of repair. Many of these are rental properties. The owners of these properties need to be held accountable. Some of the issues I have come across included:

- Fences collapsing
- Paint worn totally of the home
- Garbage cans that are in the front of the home
- Garbage on lawns
- Door that blow open in the wind
- Swimming pools left to mold and collapse
- Porches stacked with junk
- Lawns not mowed

These are just some. I know we have complaint forms to fill out, but someone qualified should be doing the follow up. An Inspector would be ideal. Fines would be much needed revenue for the town.

Unkept properties bring the following problems to a neighborhood:

- Increased pests and vermin
- Drives down the property value
- People have difficulty selling their homes
- Illness
- Possible criminal activity

This has little or nothing to do with the pandemic. The conditions of properties have been on a decline in the past few years. I ask that complaints be taken seriously.

Homeowners or renters be held accountable.

Thank you for your time. Judy Cooper-Basamania

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Mrs. Kyzer stated that there were no further emails received for Citizen Comment Time.

ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro-Tem Davis made a motion to adjourn with a second by Councilman Dinkins. With Council's unanimous approval, Mayor Wells adjourned the meeting at 7:11 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Kyzer, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

Daniel D. Davis, Mayor Pro-tem

APPROVED 6/9/2020