

February 11, 2025

NO. 1544

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pinehurst was held on February 11, 2025, at 6:00pm at Pinehurst City Hall Council Room. The following council members were present: Mayor Sarah McClendon, Cynthia Adams, J. Michael Shahan, Joey Vance, Greg Willis and Troy Pierce. Mayor Sarah McClendon called the meeting to order and established a quorum. Greg Willis gave the invocation followed by the reciting of the United States and Texas Pledges of Allegiance. The following business was transacted.

On the motion made by Councilman J. Michael Shahan and seconded by Councilman Troy Pierce, council members unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the Regular Session held on January 14, 2025.

There were no citizen comments.

The City Administrator Jerry Hood stated that the street department has been digging ditches on 40th Street, filling potholes and mowing around the city. Mr. Hood stated we had some issues with the contractor for the generator at the wastewater plant and part of that same award was to do power control panels at the well yard. There were some issues over the weekend with some brown water and pressure issues. Mr. Hood stated what was happening was a command was going to the pump that should not be and it set the panel on fire. Mr. Hood stated that our water guys have done a great job of keeping our water service up and running.

On discussion and possible action of awarding by resolution a contract for grant administration services pertaining to the application and implementation, if awarded, of the City's 2024 Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program funded by the National Forest Service (NFS) through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and authorizing the execution of a contract. City Attorney Tommy Gunn read the resolution and awarded the contract to Traylor and Associates. Mr. Hood stated he has done some research, and he has discovered that we will need a Community Wildfire Plan in effect before we would be able to get approved for this grant. A motion was made by councilwoman Cynthia Adams and seconded by councilman Joey Vance and the motion carried.

On discussion and possible action to award the City of Pinehurst's GLO CDBG-DR (24-067-011-E198) Sewer System Improvements Construction Contract to Bull-G Construction, LLC for the base bid in the amount of \$711,289.80 and authorizing the execution of a contract. Nester Barroeta with Schaumburg & Polk stated that he has checked all references on Bull-G Construction and they had no negative responses about the company. This company is on call for the City of Liberty and Montgomery County as needed for repairs. Mr. Barroeta stated that Bull-G construction is doing a project for them on the Bolivar Peninsula, and they have had easy communication if a problem arises. A motion was made by councilman Greg Willis and seconded by councilman Troy Pierce and the motion carried.

On discussion and possible action to amend Ordinance # 2023-09 (Coin-Operated Machines for Amusement) to increase the maximum number of amusement redemption machines allowed within the city and to extend the hours of operation, City Attorney Tommy Gunn read the Ordinance. Mr. Hood stated that we have had many potential applicants wanting to put in the coin-operated machines. This ordinance would increase the number of machines from 25 to 60 and to extend the hours to longer in the day. Mr. Hood stated this change will mirror other cities. Mr. Hood stated that it is \$1,300.00 a machine and he has an applicant that would like to bring in 55 machines and would bring \$81,000 to the city. Mr. Hood stated that the machines have to be renewed annually. A motion was made by councilman Troy Pierce and seconded by councilman J. Michael Shahan and the motion carried.

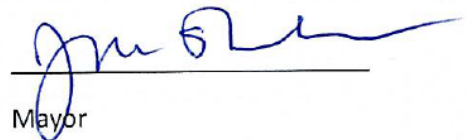
On discussion and possible action to approve an unbudgeted purchase and award to On the Go Grafixsigns, LLC. For a marquee in the amount of \$28,000, Mr. Hood made a presentation of what the sign would look like in front of city hall. Mr. Hood stated that they would tear down the foundation and replace it with a LED board. Mr. Hood stated we would have to run the electrical and CAT 5 cable in case WIFI goes out we would still have access to change the sign to change the message. The sign would be 4x8 with a 2ft foundation. Mr. Hood stated that there is a 4-year warranty and the first 3 months there will be no out of pocket if something goes wrong after that it will be \$150.00 service charge. Grafixsigns, LLC are out of Houston, and we put in for three bids and they were the most reasonable company with a bid of \$28,000. Mr. Hood stated we tried to stay local, but their bids came in at \$46,000 and \$75,000. Mr. Hood stated that this was not budgeted but he thinks it will help the city get word to the public easier. Mrs. Adams asked how many lines it has for messages. Mr. Hood stated that it had 6 or 7 lines with continuous feed. Mr. Hood stated that the pixels are 10mm and one of the better ones. Councilman Troy Pierce asked how it compared in size to the church on 40th street, Mr. Hood stated that it is double in size. A motion was made by councilman Joey Vance and seconded by councilman Troy Pierce and the motion carried.

On discussion and possible action of price request from Live Oak Environmental, LLC. (Piney Woods Sanitation, Inc) for removal of sludge waste, Mr. Sonny Hubbard from Pineywoods Sanitation stated that the landfill cost has gone up and he would like to request that we amend what the city pays to cover those cost. Mr. Hubbard stated that the cost used to be \$150-\$300 depending on the size of the load and it was \$26 a ton plus fuel charge and environmental fee. Mr. Hubbard stated as of November 2024 that price has gone up to \$700 for landfilled cost and now they charge \$65 a ton. Mr. Hubbard stated that November 14, 2024 there was a bill for \$704 landfill cost and in December the bill was \$670. Mr. Hubbard stated he would just like to pass the landfill fee onto the city. This will include a hauling fee which is Pineywoods transportation fee with about 3 ½ hours truck time and whatever the landfill fee is which is what they are charging Pineywoods. Mr. Hubbard stated that in the contract Section 6-2 rates may also be adjusted during the term of this contract each time the landfill costs are increased. Such increases shall be included with the rates and within 30 days of written verification which Mr. Hubbard stated he gave Mr. Hood. Mr. Hubbard stated they are asking for this increase because it is a direct cost to them, and they have been paying it. Mr. Hood stated just to bring some clarity this increase would be about a \$12,000 difference of what we are paying now. The City was paying \$397 per delivery and haul fee at the time it was budgeted. Mr. Hubbard stated that the \$397 included the landfill cost now the bills from the landfill is \$700. Mr. Hood asks what the delivery will be now, and Mr. Hubbard stated \$397 plus the landfill cost. Mr. Hood stated that there are two different components to the charge, truck time of \$397 and then the

landfill cost of \$65 a ton. Mr. Hubbard stated they tried to go to Beaumont to dump and they would not except outside sludge. The closest site is Waste Management which they are using. The next closest site was Tri-County which is 30 miles south of the Ford Center and that would be 6 hours of truck time. Mr. Hood stated that he did look for outside sources to pump the sludge and it was much more expensive and recommends we adjust our rates with Pineywoods. Councilwoman Cynthia Adams asked if it would be passed on to the citizens? Mr. Hood stated yes, we will have to look at the rates because this increase was not budgeted. Councilwoman Cynthia Adams asked if we knew what the price increase for the residents would be? Mr. Hood stated that he was not sure, and it would need to be looked at but may go up to .10 cents per gallon and that would be a very insignificant cost considering the customers we have. A motion was made by councilman Greg Willis and seconded by councilman Troy Pierce and the motion carried.

Under announcements, comments and requests from the council, Mr. Hood stated that the City has been awarded a hazard mitigation grant of \$570,000 to provide generators for our lift stations. There is a 10% cost share, and this grant goes in line with the Imelda Grant that basically rebuilt the lift stations. The 10% cost share will be paid with ARPA funds that we have set aside. Mr. Hood stated that shred it day would be April 5th, 2025 from 9-12. In April we will be setting up with Pineywoods to get dumpsters for our spring cleanup. Mr. Hood stated he would like to approach it differently instead of just putting dumpsters at Granger Chevrolet and allowing citizens to bring the items, maybe we go through and pick the items up from citizens that cannot get their items to the dumpster. Mr. Hood stated that we would have to come up with a system to limit items to where people will not be cleaning out their house for us to pick up. Mr. Hood stated that March 8th is the city-wide yard sale, there will be 30 spots, and the Pinehurst Fire Department will be selling food for a fund raiser. Councilman Greg Willis asked about the progress on the Tiny Homes and Pinehurst Villa Apartments being built. Mr. Hood stated that they have spoken to the contractor for Pinehurst Villas, and they have not given them a deadline but the weather has been slowing them down. Mr. Hood stated Tiny Homes are very slow and there is not a real reason as to why they have not been built.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Sarah McClendon adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.



Mayor

City Secretary

City Secretary