

Town of Pinetops
Board of Commissioners
Special Call Meeting
Public Hearing for FY 2022–2023 Budget Approval
June 28, 2022; 5.00 PM
Zoom Meeting

A. Call to Order

Mayor Harrell called the Special Meeting to Order.

B. Invocation

Invocation was given by Commissioner Taylor.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Harrell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Proposed Agenda

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the proposed agenda as submitted. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

E. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Sugg made a motion to approve the June 7, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

F. ARPA Funds Compliance Requirements/Adoption of Required Ordinances, Policies, and Amendments

Commissioner Mabry made a motion to adopt the Grant Project Ordinance for the Town of Pinetops American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The Town of Pinetops elects to take the Standard Allowance and expend all its ARP/CSLFRF funds totaling \$393,591.34 for the provision of government services. Commissioner Sugg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Grant Project Ordinance is hereby attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to adopt all the other required policies in order to comply as set by the federal government. These policies include Eligible Projects Determination & Documentation Policy, Allowable Costs & Cost Principles Policy, Non-Discrimination Policy, and Record Retention Policy. The Civil Rights Compliance was already adopted on 6/29/2021 as contingent on receiving the first tranche of the Federal Government ARP/CSLFRF allocation.

Commissioner Sugg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. A copy of all required policies is hereby attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Sugg made a motion to adopt the Amendment to ARP/CSLFRF Grant Projects Ordinance which transfers \$393,591.34 in ARP/CSLFRF to FY 2022–2023 Annual Budget. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Amendment to ARP/CSLFRF Grant Project Ordinance is hereby attached to the minutes.

G. Approve Budget Amendments

Commissioner Sugg made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments as submitted. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion. Motion passed. A copy of the Budget Amendments is hereby attached to the minutes.

H. Close Special Called Meeting

Commissioner Webb made a motion to close the Special Called Meeting. Commissioner Mabry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A. Call Public Hearing to Order

Mayor Harrell called the Public Hearing on the FY 2022–2023 budget to order.

B. Present Budget Message & Budget Ordinance

The Finance Officer, Tammy Keesler gave an update on the budget process. She explained that the proposed budget for FY 2022–2023 was presented to the Board at the June 7th meeting. Following that meeting a copy of the proposed budget was made available to the newspaper and public for inspection. A notice of the Public Hearing was also advertised twice in the local newspaper as well as being posted on the town's website.

The Finance Officer went on to present the Budget Message and Budget Ordinance to the Board. The proposed budget does include the ARP funds totaling \$393,591.34 recorded as revenue in the General Fund which will be used to cover police salaries. The budget does propose a new Storm Water Fee beginning July 1, 2022. This will be a flat fee of \$2 per customer per month for water customers inside town. The new fee will be used to help deal with the storm water issues throughout town. The town budget does contain a proposed 5% COLA for employees. The total budget for fiscal year 2022–2023 is \$4,987,221.

The Town Administrator informed the Board that Phil Webb, Public Works Director is scheduled to retire at the end of June 2022, but he is currently the only employee that holds the required OCR certification. The quickest date another employee can even try to take the test for it will be May 2023 so Phil has agreed to let the town operate under his OCR license at a cost of \$800 monthly which will cost the town around \$9,600. He also asked to

be paid at his current salary for a minimum of 2 hours if he had to be called in to help with something. Along the same line questions came up concerning call time and a possible increase for the new Public Works Director. The Board discussed establishing current policies to address the call time pay. The other issues will be discussed later, but the Board did ask the Town Administrator to check into these issues.

C. Public Comments

Mayor Harrell opened the floor to public comments at this time.

1. Dennis Hussey – 103 Reason St.

Dennis Hussey told the Board one of his main complaints was the number of ditches and roads in town that need repair. He stated if the town would just clean out the ditches and culverts it would help alleviate the drainage issues. He closed by suggesting the Board Members take a good look at the NCLM website to see what type of salaries other town's with similar population to ours pay their employees. He told them that numerous positions here are overpaid in comparison.

D. Close Public Hearing

Commissioner Sugg made a motion to close the public hearing on the FY 2022-2023 Budget. Commissioner Mabry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A. Call Special Meeting to Order

Mayor Harrell called the special meeting to order.

B. Adoption of FY 2022-2023 Budget & Fee Schedule

Commissioner Webb made a motion to adopt the 2022-2023 Budget and Fee Schedule as written and presented. Commissioner Sugg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The Finance Officer asked the Board's permission to close around 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 30, 2022 in order to close out fiscal year 2021-2022 and make sure the new fiscal budget is available on July 1, 2022. The Board agreed that this would be fine.

C. Reminder: No July Board Meeting

Mayor Harrell reminded the Board that there was no Board Meeting scheduled for the month of July due to the July 4th holiday.

D. Adjournment

Commissioner Webb made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Sugg seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Date, 8/2/2022

ATTESTED,

Tammy Keesler

Finance Officer/Town Clerk Tammy Keesler

Brenda Harrell

Mayor Brenda Harrell