

**Town of Pinetops
Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting Minutes
Public Hearing USDA Police Cars Financing
September 22, 2025, 5:30 p.m.
Pinetops Town Hall**

A. Call Special Meeting to Order

Mayor Harrell called the special meeting to order. Commissioner Ransome was absent due to a prior engagement.

B. Invocation

Commissioner Taylor led the invocation.

C. Call Public Hearing for USDA Police Cars Financing to Order

Mayor Harrell called the Public Hearing on USDA police cars financing to order.

D. Present specifications & advertisement

The Police Chief, Stacy Harrell, explained the need for, and the specifications for the proposed purchase of (3) police vehicle & equipment for the Town of Pinetops. The public hearing date was scheduled for September 22, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The public hearing was advertised on September 10th in the paper where all interested parties were invited to attend.

E. Open Floor for Public Comments

Mayor Harrell opened the floor for public comments pertaining to the USDA police cars financing.

No citizens were present for the public hearing; therefore, no comments were made.

The Board had no objections to the proposal and comments were generally favorable in nature.

F. Close Public Hearing

Mayor Harrell closed the public hearing.

G. Guests

1. Monica Thornton, USDA Area Specialist Community Programs

Monica appeared before the Board to present the Loan Resolution and Security Agreement as well as the funding package needed to pursue USDA financing on 3 police vehicles. She explained that the Board would need to adopt the Loan Resolution and Security Agreement in

order to give the Mayor and Town Clerk authorization to execute all forms necessary to obtain a grant from Rural Development. The Board would also need to make a motion to accept the funding package if they are interested in moving forward with the Rural Development Loan/Grant.

Monica then proceeded to explain the loan/grant in more detail. The town is eligible for up to 35% grant consideration not to exceed \$50,000. The remaining balance would be a loan through Rural Development. The proposed loan amount is \$122,000 with an interest rate of 4.875% for 7 years making the annual payment \$20,989. She explained that if the interest rate drops lower than 4.875% before we are ready to close then the town would receive the lower interest rate but if it went higher the town would not have to pay more than 4.875%. The town would not have to begin paying back the loan until 1 year after we close on the loan.

She informed the Board that their grant/loan application has been approved by the state office and DOGE but we are waiting for the notification that they have put money in the account.

H. Action Items/New Business

1. Adoption of Loan Resolution and Security Agreement

Commissioner Bullock made a motion to approve the Loan Resolution and Security Agreement authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to execute all forms necessary to obtain a grant from Rural Development as submitted. Commissioner Sugg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Accept USDA Financing Funding Package

Commissioner Bullock made a motion to accept the USDA Financing Funding Package for 3 police vehicles as presented by Monica from USDA. Commissioner Sugg seconded the motion. Motion carried.


3. Adjournment

Mayor Harrell closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Oct. 7, 2025


Tammy Keesler, Finance Officer/Town Clerk


Brenda Harrell, Mayor