

*Town of*  
**Pikeville**  
*The Gem of Wayne County*

Regularly Scheduled Board of Commissioners Meeting

June 1, 2020 at 6pm

Mayor Hooks	Commissioner Hooks	Commissioner West	Commissioner Galloway	Commissioner Carpenter
Commissioner Gardner	Town Attorney Harry Lorello	Town Administrator Lisa Jones	Deputy/Acting Town Clerk Katie Johnson	WWTP ORC Jennifer Bray
Utilities Supervisor Bobby Hunt	Town Accountant Gary Pittman	Police Chief Craig Edwins	Jerry and Mary Bailey	Kellie West
Cecil Madden	Trey Gurley	Randy and Sharon Jones		

- I. Call to Order, Prayer, and Pledge
  - a. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hooks at 6pm. Commissioner Gardner led the Board, employees, and residents and guests in prayer. All individuals remained standing for the pledge of allegiance.
- II. Additions/Deletions
  - a. Addition: Old Business (F) Protocol for Closed Session Minutes and the Approval of Closed Session Minutes.
  - b. Deletions: Steve Hooks Farm Damage.
- III. Approval of minutes from May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting.
  - a. Motion of approval by Commissioner Hooks, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Galloway. Vote of 4-1 with Commissioner West dissenting with note that not all items that were discussed were in the minutes.
- IV. Old Business
  - a. McDavid and Associate
    - i. Wastewater treatment plant modification/expansion: The contractor has begun building the lagoon structure. The contractor has found the necessary clay; however, no more construction can be completed now due to the heavy rains that Pikeville has recently experienced. The rainwater in the ground does not properly allow for the soil to be compacted.
    - ii. Sewer line replacement at Pikeville Estates, LLC (previously Jones Mobile Home Park): The contractor has had a recent

name change from Bridgepoint Civil to JSmith Civil. Individual with the company bought out the other investor and changed the name. Previously, engineers at McDavid and Associate had been waiting on video of the sewer lines that had been placed in the mobile home park. The contractor submitted the video to the engineers. It was viewed and discovered that three of the sewer lines (located at Ann, Terri, and Lisa) had "bellies" in them that would cause water to collect between the manholes which is not acceptable. The owner of the contractor said that he would fix it and began work on correcting this issue on May 25, 2020, by removing around 700 feet or more of sewer to redo it in order to have it videoed and to get it completed. Estimated time for this repair is three weeks.

- iii. Pumpstation: The pump station is generally ready to go; however, the generator attached to it is not starting correctly. The contractor has contacted the supplier and they are supposed to be checking and fixing this issue.
  - iv. Wastewater treatment plant: Seeding has begun near the pivot; this seed is a specific type of grass that has to be planted due to restrictions on our permit. There can be no soybeans, and no fertilizer may be used on these fields as it damages the monitoring wells.
  - v. Trey, Contract 21 (water lines in Pikeville Estates): Project is on hold until the sewer line is complete, the contractor is ready to begin.
  - vi. Town Administrator Lisa Jones asked Trey if she would be able to contact him tomorrow about the breakdown of the two checks that were written to reimburse the Town of Pikeville. Trey affirmed that she would be able to contact him tomorrow regarding this situation.
- b. Solar Panels
- i. Commissioner Galloway asked at the last meeting for Town Administrator Lisa Jones to check on the county's policy for solar panels. Ms. Jones provided three different ordinances that the county had to each commissioner in their packet. Commissioner Galloway stated that he had looked over them and they did not reveal what he wanted to know. Electricities has three different plans for solar panels and energy buy back and he would like to know what to tell residents about solar panels when they ask him. It was suggested that office staff contact LaGrange (John Kraft) regarding their solar

panel ordinances. Commissioner Galloway expressed to the Board that this is why they ask the Town Administrator to do things like this, so they can get the information they need in order to give her guidance on items in order for her to make good decisions for the town.

- ii. Commissioner Carpenter asked if we did not allow solar panels and Commissioner Galloway stated that we have issued permits for individuals who have wanted to install solar panels because we do not have an ordinance stating that they cannot have them. Commissioner Carpenter asked if that was the way it worked. Commissioner Galloway stated that was not what they wanted regarding solar panels, that they needed to have some sense and didn't know what they were talking about- didn't know if we [the Town of Pikeville] has the money or capability of doing some of the things that have been talked about. Commissioner West asked for an example. Commissioner Galloway stated that he was talking about the solar panel ordinance. Mayor Hooks directed the town administrator to call around to other municipalities to see what they are doing regarding their solar panels.

c. Sewer Plant Fence

- i. Utilities Supervisor Bobby Hunt stated that the fence could not be completed until the silk fence that the contractor had put up which is about three hundred feet. Commissioner West asked if the fence was adequate for what they need. Wastewater Operator Jennifer Bray stated that when she got to the plant that the gate was wobbling and scraping. Mr. Hunt stated that they had set the gate straight in cement and left one side open for the contractors; however, they must have needed the other side and pulled the other one open making the gate uneven. Mr. Hunt stated that after the contractors were complete, they would reset the gate.

d. COVID-19 Revenue Loss

- i. Deputy/Acting Town Clerk Katie Johnson stated that there was about \$28,000.00 of debt for this past month of utility billing before the new bills were updated in the system. Over the weekend a group of residents paid their full balances up to the new bills that just went out.

e. Protocol of Closed Session Minutes and Approval of Closed Session Minutes – Mayor Hooks

- i. Previously, closed session minutes had been added to the packet sent out before a meeting and were being allowed to

be kept by the commissioners at their homes. Previous Board found out that this was illegal so they began to get the previous closed session minutes in the current closed session to review and approve; however, this fell by the wayside as you could possibly go two to three months without having closed session. Mayor Hooks stated that this was not Lisa's fault; it had just fallen to the side. Beginning tonight during closed session the previous meeting's minutes will be passed out, reviewed, approved, and then shredded. An official copy will be kept for record. Commissioner Galloway added that after they had been approved, you could request to view them in the office.

V. New Business

a. Payroll Schedule Change

- i. Currently the payroll for regular employees run Friday through Thursday with payroll being completed on Wednesday for a payroll date of Friday. This would leave Thursday as being a no-man's day that employees have already been paid for and can call out and take off without time being properly deducted.
- ii. New payroll would be Monday-Friday, with payroll being completed on Monday for a paydate of Wednesday for the previous week worked. This would prevent confusion with time being taken off and two different payrolls in one calendar week.
- iii. Commissioner Galloway asked that it be updated in the personnel manual and for it to be voted on next month.

b. Pond/Cross Country Trail (CBA)

- i. In the 200+ acres of land that the Town purchased for the expansion of the wastewater plant, there is a pond and a cross country trail. Last year, CBA high school began using the cross-country trail that stretches on the Town's property. In the past two months, the Town Hall has received many calls asking for permission to fish in the pond on the property (they have not been given permission as it would make the Town liable should they get hurt/die.) In an effort to work with the school system, Town Administrator Lisa Jones asked that they secure a liability waiver with the help of Town Attorney Harry Lorello. Mr. Lorello stated that they would probably secure one from the school and all individuals likely to run on this trail. Cecil Madden with McDavid and Associate stated that the trail runs almost into

the pivot field and they are not allowed to run on this property; signs are to be installed soon. This would be noted in the liability waiver.

c. Budget Update

- i. Revenues and payroll has been covered so far in the budget.
  1. All salaries will be moved to one line item instead of breaking salaries down into two- or three-line items. This will simplify the budget.
- ii. Basic line items are to be worked on tomorrow, June 2, 2020.
- iii. Next step is to meet with department heads to decide what they need/want during this fiscal year.
- iv. The budget must lay out for 10 calendar days. Budget workshop meeting June 15<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

VI. Police Department

- a. Commissioner Gardner stated that he received a phone call regarding Pikeville's procedures should there be any riots within the city limits. He stated that he would like to propose the idea of all cops being able to take home their vehicles in case they had to be called in for an emergency. Commissioner Gardner also proposed that this would prevent any vandalism to the police cars should there be any riots.
- b. Commissioner Carpenter asked what the cost was to take home the cars and which individuals lived in town.
- c. Police Chief Craig Edwins stated that only one cop lived farther than 10 miles away, Detective/Sergeant Rodney Jarman. Chief Edwins stated that Detective/Sergeant Jarman had completed a study on the taking home of patrol vehicles during a class he recently completed and that most police departments are having their officers drive home their vehicles. Chief Edwins also told the Board that he had spoken with Town Accountant Gary Pittman regarding the police department's budget and it is projected to come in under budget. Driving police vehicles home would increase the gas usage around \$500-\$800/year.
- d. Chief Edwins stated that the Sheriff's Department had been in contact with him regarding riot gear and a riot team should things escalate here. They instructed Chief Edwins to contact them and they would deploy an eight-man team to help our officers. Commissioner West stated that we did not have any officers on duty Saturday and Sunday so they would just have the cars at their home for no purpose. It would also allow for more miles to be put on the Dodge Chargers that are already difficult to keep out of

the shop. Chief Edwins stated that they were working on alleviating that issue. Commissioner Galloway stated that he did not have a problem with them driving their patrol vehicles home- if they were all marked. Chief Edwins also stated that he was asked about a curfew for Pikeville. Goldsboro currently has a curfew set in place for 9pm-6am. This does not prevent people from going out during those hours; however, it allows officers to stop and asking individuals who are walking around what their business is. Chief Edwins stated that our current curfew in place is 12am. Chief Edwins then stated that Officer Royall was the only officer that lives in the city limits, with Officer Shipp living about 3 or 4 miles outside of city limits. Chief Edwins also stated that Officer Shipp has expressed no interest in driving his vehicle home and that Commissioner West was correct in expressing that the Chargers were difficult to keep out of the shop. Currently Detective/Sergeant Jarman's was doing okay, but Officer Royall's was in rough condition.

VII. Public Forum

- a. Commissioner Galloway wanted to thank the Town of Pikeville from the American Legion for allowing them to put flags on the veteran's graves. He stated that after their flags had been put up, he drove around the county and noticed that they were one of the only ones who had done so for Memorial Day. He also wanted to thank the utilities crew for their hard work and maintaining the cemetery so nicely.
- b. Resident Kellie West stated that the flags around town needed to be replaced as they were torn up. She stated that she believed whoever was bringing them to half-staff was laying them up against the brick and that was causing the flags to be ruined. She was assured that if there were no flags in the office they would be ordered and put up right away. Mayor Hooks asked Utilities Supervisor Bobby Hunt to make sure that the flags not be laid on the bricks when lowered to half-staff.

VIII. Closed Session

- a. Motion to go into closed session by Commissioner Galloway, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner West, vote 5-0.

X   
Katie Johnson  
Deputy/Acting Town Clerk

X  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Hooks III  
Mayor

V. Open Session

- a. Commissioner West made a motion to reinstate Joanne Honn with backpay until this thing was over, let her come back to work and if the SBI finds that she is guilty then "adios." Second by Commissioner Carpenter. Vote 3 (Commissioner West, Commissioner Carpenter, and Commissioner Gardner) to 2 (Commissioner Hooks and Commissioner Galloway)



b. Mr. Pittman stated that with that vote, that he had lost faith in you and if you can give someone a check where someone has stolen money and you just over look it, it was obvious that the Town did not need him, or his services and he resigned. Commissioner West told him to not let the door hit him on his way out.

VI. Adjournment

a. Motion Commissioner Gardner, second by Commissioner Carpenter.

X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie Johnson  
Deputy/Acting Town Clerk

X  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Jones  
Town Administrator

X  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Hooks III  
Mayor