

TOWN OF PIKEVILLE

BOARD MEETING

APRIL 12, 2021

The April 12th Board Meeting was called to order by Mayor Hooks. Commissioners, Hooks, Carpenter, Gardner, West, and Galloway were in attendance. Gary Pittman, Accountant, Lawyer Harry Lorello, Craig Edwins, Chief of Police, Cathy Nichols, Town Clerk, Ann White, League of Municipalities, Sharon Edmundson, N. C. State Treasurer, Debbie Tomosco from the State Treasurer's office, and Mike Myers from Envirolink were also present.

Mayor Hooks immediately asked Ms. Edmundson to take the floor. Ms. Edmundson began by reminding the Town of her earlier visit in November where she emphasized the state of the town's books and the audit being late for the last 5 years. Again, the audit for 2020 is not finished and no date of when it is to be finished. The town has no data to prove that we can make our debts coming up in July. She will be going before the State commission on Tuesday to recommend that the State take over the finances of the Town of Pikeville immediately.

Several questions were asked by the public concerning taxes and rates that might increase. Ms. Edmundson said that all of these would depend on the outcome of the state of the town and evaluations done by the State. Other options would be to cut the budget.

The State will be voting on the Town of Pikeville at 1:30 on Tuesday April 13th, 2021.

After much discussion, Commissioner Lyman Galloway made a motion that we adjourn and Commission Robert Hooks 2nd motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Nichols, Town Clerk

April 28, 2021

Special Called Meeting

Mayor Hooks opened the meeting. Commissioner Carpenter opened with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present as well as Lawyer Harry Lorello, Accountant, Gary Best, Police Chief, Craig Edwins, Susan Edmundson, State Treasurer's Office, Susan McCullen, N. C. Treasurer's Office, Eric Faust, State Treasurer's Office, Ann White, Local Government Commission, and Cathy Nichols, Town Clerk.

Susan McCullen was asked to address the Commissioners and the public as to what exactly the role of the State Treasurer's role in the Town of Pikeville was. She began by saying that after the Local Government Commission decided to take over the finances for the Town of Pikeville, they were in complete control of the finances. Susan would now be the Finance Manager and Michael Milam would be the Deputy Finance Officer. One of them must approve all payments made by the Town of Pikeville. The Town cannot write payable checks or payroll checks without one of their signatures. The Town does NOT have authority to expend any funds without their approval. Susan had a slide which is available in full at the end of these minutes. They plan to keep Anthony and Tabb under contract for the time being. They have been sent a contract with very specific accounting and reporting needs. The contract with Envirolink has been received but there are still a lot of questions to be worked out. We will not be paying Envirolink for Administrative fees until the contract has been approved. Susan emphasized to the Commissioners that the Board sets the tone for the Town. The board should support staff by adopting strong well-developed policies. The Board owes this to the taxpayers, utility customers, and residents, to manage the Town well.

Susan noted that there would have to be an amendment to the 20/21 budget for the June Debt Service that had not been included.

If the Town has emergency sewer spills or large leaks that cause a public issue, the Town can to ahead and get those repaired without waiting for approval.

Commissioner Carpenter brought up that he thought 3 accounts at BB&T were set up for \$1000.00 each. No one was sure if this was ever done.

Ann White with the LGC will be working on our 21/22 Budget. Our budget will be discussed virtually with the LGC on the week of 6/14/21 so that they can be available for questions by the public. Then there will be a Public Hearing on the week of June 22nd to adopt the budget. The commission will take under advisement our proposed budget.

After no further business, the meeting was adjourned and went into closed session.