

Minutes for Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting  
Pikeville Town Hall  
6:00 pm, Monday, March 11, 2024

Present: Mayor Johnston, Commissioner West, Commissioner Wallace, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Langston

Absent: Commissioner Hooks

Staff Present: Tim Biggerstaff, Town Manager, Harry Lorello, Town Attorney, Rodney Jarman, Police Chief, Wendy Holland, Town Clerk

Mayor Johnston called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Moment of silence for Commissioner Robert Hooks.

Mayor Johnston gave the invocation.

Mayor Johnston led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Adoption:**

Commissioner West made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Thomas seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mayor Johnston requested a motion to approve the regular session minutes for February 12, 2024, amending the regular session minutes for February 12, 2024, by correcting the date for approval of minutes from December 11, 2023, to January 8, 2024. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the regular session minutes for February 12, 2024. Commissioner Thomas seconded. Motion carried. 4-0.

**Presentations:**

Electricities – Rick Vander Maas, Rates Manager

Mr. Vander Maas works with the load forecasting group to forecast the load that Pikeville will buy from Electricities to meet customers' needs each year. He works on the retail side to assist town staff in developing electric rates to bill customers appropriately. Mr. Vander Maas recommended the town have a complete rate study.

**Old Business:**

Town Garbage/Recycling Proposal

- o Garbage/Recycling Proposal – NC Waste & Recycling out of La Grange has come in with a bid. See attached Letter, References, Proposal, and Sample Contract

A decision will need to be made next month on whether to change service providers. Tim Biggerstaff, Town Manager, has requested a quote from APLUS.

### **New Business:**

#### **Library Building – Future Plans**

- Plans for library building moving forward. The library closes to the public on March 11<sup>th</sup> and will be moved out of the building by March 28<sup>th</sup>. There has already been interest from outside.

Future plans for the vacant library will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Mayor Updates/Notes**

#### **Grant**

Mayor Johnston and Commissioner Langston are working together on the scope of work for the million-dollar grant awarded the town. Together, they are putting numbers together to bring before the board for approval.

#### **Fireworks**

Mayor Johnston stated the board needs to decide as to whether the town should take ownership of the fireworks event with the assistance of GPIC or partner with GPIC on the event. The board was unanimous on taking over the fireworks event which will cost between ten and twelve thousand dollars. Finances will be reviewed before a final decision is made.

### **Administrative Reports:**

#### **Town Manger**

- International Economic Development Council – Jim Gibson of Rockdale, Texas will be here Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> and part of the day on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. He will be touring the town to help provide a Strategic Action Plan for Pikeville's future economic development.
- Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> is the next scheduled Sewer Regionalization meeting for everyone in the county. We expect to hear some of the results of the initial study, but not expected to provide us with any details in terms of what rates would look like, how the regionalization would be set up, or would growth be hindered or restricted. Those type of questions should be more of the focus on the next round of studies.
- NC League of Municipalities Town & State Dinner – For municipal elected officials to meet and build relationships with regional state legislators. Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> @ The Firehouse in Goldsboro. If interested, you can find the information on the NC League's website or reach out to myself or Wendy to point you in the right direction.

- **Budget Workshop**  
Several drafts for the proposed budget will be presented at the April board meeting.
- **Next Special Meeting for Ordinance**  
The next meeting will be scheduled for March 21, 2024, at 6:30.
- **Trello Work Board Presentation**  
The Trello board will be used to prioritize ideas and projects. This will enable the board at any given time to know the progress of an idea or project and what has been accomplished.  
Police Golf Cart – The board agreed to surplus the golf cart as is.  
Public Works Inventory Spread Sheet – An inventory list will be compiled on all tools \$5 or more with a completion date of May 1, 2024.  
Building Inspector – In the next few weeks, the county inspector will be touring the downtown properties and house next to Hardees.  
Budget – Black Mountain software provides a budget module which is being utilized to prepare the 24-25 budget.  
Website – The website is in progress of being completed.  
Vehicle Titles – Vehicle applications have been submitted for lost titles. Once received, vehicles will be posted on a government website for sale.

#### **Corporal Kalkbrenner**

Corporal Kalkbrenner rides every year for an organization called Law Enforcement United. The organization raises over 500k each year which is used for the fallen, survivors, and families of loved ones that have passed in the line of duty. There is a ceremony in Raleigh on May 5<sup>th</sup> and the ride begins on Mays 6<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh. The ride will end in Washington DC. The board agreed to donate time (6 days) to Corporal Kalkbrenner to ride in this year's event.

#### **Wendy Holland: Finance**

The profit loss statement was presented for the month of February. Approval for a budget amendment in the Cemetery fund was requested due to unexpected bills. Commissioner Thomas made a motion to decrease appropriated fund balance and increase Cemetery expenditures by \$7,150.00. Commissioner Langston seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Request for budget amendments in Police and Sewer operations will be addressed at the next board meeting. Commissioner Thomas inquired on property tax collection and retirement contributions which will be reviewed.

#### **Police Report: Chief Rodney Jarman: See Attached**

Officer Rose was recognized for completing his probationary period.

#### **Committee Reports:**

Danny Van Devender – Requested to expand the planning board to seven positions.  
Harry Lorello, the Town Attorney recommended that anyone interested in assisting the planning board will need to complete a volunteer form.

**Public Comments:**

Natalia Lancaster GPIC Representative

This week or early next week the fireworks event will be on social media. Currently a total of ten food trucks and three merchandise vendors have committed to the event. Sponsorship forms have been sent out for assistance with the event.

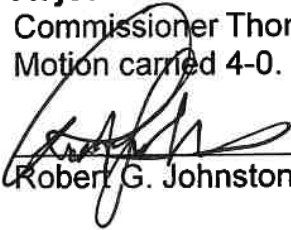
**Closed Session:**

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to move into closed session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Wallace seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**Commissioners Comments: None**

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner West seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

  
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Robert G. Johnston, Mayor

  
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Wendy Holland, Town Clerk