

Town of Pink Hill
Board of Commissioners Special Meeting
January 17, 2023

Minutes

The Town of Pink Hill Board meeting was held January 17, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Robert Elmore board room. Present at the meeting were: Mayor Yvonne Deatherage, Commissioner Penny Murphy, Commissioner James Quinn, Commissioner Pete Fantini, Town Attorney George Jenkins, Town Clerk Lisa McGee, Police Chief Michael Hoffman, Public Works Supervisor Timmy Kennedy and Public Works Assistant Phillip Swinson.

Visitors present were: Robin King, Carolyn Whitfield, Rhiley Marshburn, Debbie Heath, Cierra Dunhan, Joseph Fatini, Daniel Hines, Kelsey Ramsey, Brandon Marshburn, Joshua Dunham, Joe Baker and Daniel White.

Mayor Yvonne Deatherage called the meeting to order. In talking with the attorney, we will need to go into close session. Mayor Deatherage asks for a motion for closed session. Commissioner Quinn made a motion to go into closed session to instruct the attorney on contract negotiations and seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Commissioner Fantini asks for discussion, per the statute this is not a requirement to go into closed session, because it is not personnel or anything like that. It is something that is being discussed about taxpayer money being spent. I do not think we should be going into closed session; we can discuss this in a regular meeting. If it is that direct forward like you said last meeting, then we can discuss that in a regular meeting.

Mayor Deatherage said I'm doing what I was ask by the attorney, who is our legal advisor. Mayor Deatherage asked, is there any more discussion?

Commissioner Fantini asked, do I need to pull the statute for that?

Attorney Jenkins stated that he had read the statute plenty of times and the board can instruct the attorney on contract negotiations in closed session. The law does not require that the commission go into closed session on that, but it does permit it.

The open meetings act does allow that in closed session. If the commission votes to go into closed session this is something that can be discussed in closed session and instruct me as it relates to the contract.

Commissioner Fantini stated that it was not a necessity for it to go into closed session. Attorney Jenkins said that is for the 3 commissioners to decide.

Commissioner Fantini said that the statute doesn't say that this is a requirement.

Attorney Jenkins said that is correct.

Commissioner Quinn stated it is a matter of do we want to or not, and I want to.

Mayor Deatherage stated we have a motion and a second, are we going into closed session? Commissioner Quinn said yes, Commissioner Murphy said yes and Commissioner Fantini said I oppose. Vote carried 2 to 1.

Mayor Deatherage stated at this time we will go into closed session. Visitors left the board room.

The Mayor, The Board of Commissioners, the Attorney and Town Clerk went into closed session to discuss the contract for codification. After discussion of the contract in closed session, the board came out of closed session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fantini and seconded by Commissioner Quinn to come out of closed session.

After closed session, Mayor Deatherage asks for a motion to table any contract for entering into codification. Commissioner Quinn made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Fantini. There was no discussion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Deatherage asks for a motion to have another special called meeting for codification on January 31st. Commissioner Fantini made motion, seconded by Commissioner Fantini.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Deatherage stated the meeting was adjourned.