

MINUTES-TOWN OF POUND, VA  
SEPTEMBER 16 , 2025 @ 6:30 P.M.  
8422 North River Road, Pound, Virginia 24279

**REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL**

Mayor Cauthorne opened the regular session meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Pastor Mike Strouth opened in prayer.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL:**

Cauthorne - Here  
Hall - Here  
Kennedy - Here  
Mullins - Here  
Powers - Here

Mayor Cauthorne states the first item is the consent calendar, and asks for approval of the agenda. Councilwoman Kennedy asks Mr. Dotson if the closed session needed to be changed to accommodate Mr. Hatfield. Mr. Dotson states it would be up to the council whether or not they want to go into closed session. He states if council does want to add the closed session at the end under 17B under VA Code 2.2-3711 A(5). Councilman Cauthorne states that would negate number 13 on the agenda. Councilwoman Kennedy makes the motion to approve the consent calendar with the addition of 17B of 2.2-3711A(5) and striking number 13. Councilman Cauthorne seconds.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Cauthorne - Yes  
Hall - Yes  
Kennedy -Yes  
Mullins - Yes  
Powers - Yes

Mayor Cauthorne states the consent calendar is approved

**AUDIENCE COMMENT**

None

**REPORTS**

**POLICE REPORT**

Chief Wilcox states it is business as usual for the police department, and the digiticket project is underway which will be a 75% reimbursement for the town. The body cams and in car camera systems were finally negotiated. He gives recognition to the work that both patrol officers have been doing, and how hard they have been working. He also addresses the speed limit coming in

#### AUDIT UPDATES

Councilwoman Kennedy states that the pre-audit should be done by the end of September, and then we will be able to get in line with the auditor to be able to get it all done. She states that using this auditor would be a remote audit, and it would reduce the town's cost.

#### GRANT UPDATE

Councilwoman Kennedy states that she knows Brittany has reached out to ARC with regard to using that money to pay for miracles wages while Abby is away, but the last she knew Mrs. Carter had not heard anything back on that yet. She states with regard to the monuments grant it is moving along, and the unveiling has to be done in March. She states she feels the contractor may be delaying coming back due to some discrepancies with the contract and associated costs. Councilwoman Kennedy states that other options are also being looked in to. She states she reached out to VDEM with regard to the slide and at this point we are just waiting on FEMA to allow us to move ahead. The police grant is approved, and the DEQ grant is what is paying for the demolition. Councilman Powers asks about the outdoor grant, and Councilwoman Kennedy states that equipment has not been purchased yet but a deal was negotiated with a quote for that equipment. She also states that we are working on a deal that will allow a grant to not only cover that equipment but a bucket lift as well.

#### POCKET PARK & SLIDE UPDATE

Councilman Cauthorne asks if the slide is still waiting on the audits. Councilwoman Kennedy explains that the slide is waiting on FEMA. She states the AMLER grant is the one waiting on the audits, and that the retaining wall and slope stabilization could go ahead and be done once FEMA signs off on the plan. She states the town has passed everything except FEMA signing off on it, and that is what we are waiting on now. Councilman Cauthorne asks for clarification on the slide vs the retaining wall. Councilwoman Kennedy explains that the slide is where the shock crete is now, and that there is also a plan to build that road back out to where it was originally, and that is part of the VDEM grant which is what is waiting on FEMA.

#### BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT

Councilman Cauthorne asks if the Board of Supervisors are going to have a vote on that. Mr. Hatfield states it is not on the agenda currently, but Randy Carter states that it can be added. Mr. Dotson states he did speak with Mrs. Mullins with the county and she stated that she would speak with the chair and with the county administrator about that as well.

#### NEWLY ACQUIRED BUILDING

Councilwoman Kennedy states that the survey was completed, and Mr. Dotson has the plat as well as the marker information to do the deed. She also states the buyer will be back in town and will provide money for that and the end of this month. Councilman Cauthorne asks if we are down to one buyer now. Councilwoman Kennedy states the first buyer made the commitment before we purchased the building, and that it is only fair that he get first option. Mr. Dotson states that as far as the timeline for this goes, the public hearing would have to be held before

branch to keep an open line of communication and has been beaten with that olive branch. Councilman Hall states that it was not his intention to do that. He states that he is still learning. Councilman Cauthorne states that it bothers him that they asked ahead of time what conflict of interest was on the agenda and the town manager claims she did not know, and that a council member added it to the agenda and didn't even state which one put it on there. Mayor Cauthorne reads the email thread aloud. Councilwoman Kennedy states that a target has been painted on her back. Mayor Cauthorne states he just wanted to know. Councilwoman Kennedy states that to say that she has not been targeted is a flat out lie. She states that she has tried to get along, and keep an open communication and that has not worked. She states that this is a cautionary tale at this point. Councilman Cauthorne tells her to sue him. Councilman Cauthorne asks Mr. Dotson if it is a conflict of interest. Mr. Dotson states that it is not per say. He states that it doesn't fit neatly in to the code section for conflict of interest. Mr. Dotson states that her concern is that he is using his position. Mayor Cauthorne states he was looking out for safety. Councilman Cauthorne states that last month he put marijuana shops on the agenda, and he received from the police chief asking what it was about. He states he didn't tell them to wait til the council meeting to find out he told him what it was on there. He states that when they want clarification they should be able to get it also. Councilman Hall states its payoff. Councilwoman Kennedy states no, that she has extended an olive branch and on two occasions the comment back was we would just get rid of the police force and people will take up arms and defend themselves. Councilman Cauthorne states its about politics. Councilwoman Kennedy states it is not about politics; it is about doing what is best for the town. Councilman Cauthorne states we will see what the majority of people want next November.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Cauthorne asks if there is any other business. Hearing none, the meeting moves on.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Jimmie Vanover, lives out of town, she states as far as conflict of interest and that the company should hire someone to control the traffic up there. She states that anyone on council should work for the town.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Councilwoman Kennedy makes the motion to go into closed session pursuant to 2.2-3711A(8) for the purposes of legal consultation regarding specific legal matters requiring the legal advice from such council and 2.2-3711A(5) Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. Councilman Cauthorne seconds

#### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Cauthorne - Yes

Hall - Yes

Kennedy - Yes

Mullins - Yes

  
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JOHN CAUTHORNE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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COURTNEY MEADE, CLERK