

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (REVISED)
JULY 10, 2017
7:00 PM**

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Melanie Hammet at 7:00 pm. Present were Mayor Melanie Hammet, Council members Jean Bordeaux, Tonja Holder, Megan Pulsts and Augusta Woods. Also present was Chief Saria Y'Hudah-Green and City Administrator Valerie Caldwell. Council member Brandy Hall and City Attorney Laurel Henderson were not present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor.

Announcements/Communication

Hammet communicated that she met with the Economic Director of Georgia Power regarding the commercial district and that they continue to brainstorm to envision and nurture for Pine Lake development.

Woods announced that the Makers Market, the Food Truck and the Pine Lake lounge was a success on. There were nineteen vendors that showed up out of the twenty-one that signed up to participate.

Pulsts communicated that she and Holder were on HR Committee and provided an update regarding their work on Human Resources policies, job descriptions, employee handbook and the process of performance evaluations.

Adoption of Agenda

The Mayor amended the agenda by removing the Appointment of Committee to work toward Bee City USA designation and the Facility Rental Use Policy. The agenda was approved as amended upon motion by Pulsts; seconded by Holder and passed 4-0.

Public Comments

Katrina Davis 492 Spring Street spoke on the fire policy and said that the fireworks were excessively long and loud. She suggested to make it a city sponsored event and to have the PLAIN picnic later; around dinner time and allow forty-five minutes instead of two hours. Davis said that police should be present and that it will be official because at this point the Georgia Law was being violated by allowing people to do fireworks at a public park without a license. She also stated being a true community event it will be supervised and have a time line.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes of meetings held:

- 06/22/17
- 06/24/17
- 06/27/17

The consent agenda was approved upon motion by Holder and second by Bordeaux; 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Climate Resolution – Council member Hall

Following reading of the proposed resolution by Hammet, motion to adopt as read was made by Holder; second by Bordeaux and voted 4-0.

Facility Rental Use Policy

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

Annexation Workgroup Update

Holder recognized the Annexation Committee, Augusta Woods, Mayor Melanie Hammet, Jean Bordeaux, Calvin Burgandy, Dill, Shirley and the residents for their work. Holder presented a handout and map that reflects the phases of the annexation plan which would encompass some of the commercial district on Rockbridge Road and some of the surrounding residential streets. Holder recommended introducing the annexation into the legislative session in January 2019.

** Memmi Sims, 4551 Ridge Drive inquired about the phases of the proposed annexation. She was informed that the phases would be one at a time to the legislative sessions.

The Mayor stated that when she met with Michael Thurmond and informed him that she wants the county to work with the city on the proposed annexation.

There will be a Town Hall on August 9th at 7:00 pm and the topic of discussion will be annexation.

Park Grill Placement

There will be one large grill with placement poles to be installed (a) by the wall in the picnic area and (b) near the back porch for use by individuals renting the beach house (with additional charge incurred for grill usage). The placement will be done by Public Works.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Committee to work toward BeeCity USA designation

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

Fireworks Policy

The Mayor said that she placed on the agenda to begin discussion for a fireworks policy. The State of Georgia have opened up the law and you can do fireworks on private property but not on city property. Hammet said that all along the shore front people shot fireworks for the Fourth of July and the debris ended up in the lake. She talked about the firework that was shot off into the crowd and that she kicked him off the beach, and that she said that she had no authority. The resident apologized as it was an honest mistake. The mayor said that the city has no containment with the firing of fireworks, of kids running, and them landing in the beach and lake. Mayor Hammet stated that her concern is if someone gets injured and that the city must protect the people.

Holder said that she was nervous at the size of the fireworks and how low they were to the crowd. She also talked about the size of fireworks that can be set off; especially as it relates to the tree canopy and would rather have a clean beach.

Pulsts said that she enjoyed seeing the neighbors and did a review of the state law that was passed in 2016 and the city is not liable. She also stated that nothing was illegal and that there is not a permitting process in place and that she does not want to see the city take on having fireworks. Pulsts said that the fireworks shut down at 10:00pm and started at 9:00 pm.

Bordeaux stated that it would be safer on the street and that the lake is the only place that is open enough.

Woods said that the lake is the safer place but to consider drought conditions.

The Mayor said that a policy will be established on specific time limits, size of fireworks, age limit in the firing area, permitting, address droughts and other specifics.

Public Comments

Concerned citizen (did not state name), she said that what happened on the 4th was irresponsible on a lot of levels regarding the fireworks. She said that her frustration is that it was part of the community and that part was put out by it; and that it felt that it was at her expense especially since the police and council was a part of it. She said that the fireworks started a little bit after 8:00 pm and went on past 10:00 pm. She said that she could see the smoke from her house and that it sounded like war on the beach and that it feels alienating to call it part of the community.

Stephanie Weeks 534 Pine Drive asked about the agenda item of the Facility Rental Use Policy. Holder replied that it had been removed.

Calvin Burgamy, 4568 Dahlia Drive commented on the 13 acres on Rockbridge Road becoming a tiny community. He also recommended that council consider purchasing smaller fuel efficient European police cars

Mayor's Comments

There were not any Mayor comments.

Council Comment

There were not any Council comments.

Adjournment at 8:30 upon motion by Pulsts and seconded by Woods.

Missye Varner, Administrative Assistant

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