

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 14, 2017
7:00 PM**

Call to order by

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Melanie Hammet at 7:00 pm. Council members present was Megan Pulsts, Jean Bordeaux, Augusta Woods, Brandy Hall and Tonja Holder. Also present was City Administrator Valerie Caldwell, City Attorney Laurel Henderson and Chief of Police Sarai Y'Hudah-Green.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Hammet.

Announcements/Communication

Woods:

- ❖ Announced that on August 11th she, residents Dave Brachman and Jan Christiansen attended a meeting with Al Wiggins, City Manager for the City of Chamblee. Mr. Wiggins presented ideas that included a DeKalb County Block Grant, fundraisers, auditing franchise fees and promoting the rental facilities for additional revenue streams. He also offered the city to partner with the City of Chamblee.
- ❖ Communicated that the Second Saturday event had a good turnout and that she will present a report at the August 29th work session meeting.

Pulsts:

- ❖ Communicated that National Night Out on August 11th was successful with the community, police and city officials.

Hammet:

- ❖ Communicated that she, Henderson and Caldwell met with Richard Edinger, the new Storm Water Consultant regarding Rockbridge Road which he has concerns of water flow. The expansion project is slated to begin 2018 and Hall will be working closely with Edinger.

Adoption of Agenda

Bordeaux requested to remove the 7/25/17 minutes from the Consent Agenda to Old Business for clarification. Pulsts amended the agenda by moving the 7/25/17 minutes from the Consent Agenda to Old Business, the Annexation Map Review to the top of New Business and the first Public Comment the afterwards, seconded by Holder. 5-0.

Public Comments

Debbie Liam, 60 Iris Road commented that she has lived in Pine Lake for eighteen years and loves the city and the arts. She commented that the city is known for the all-female crew of governing. She said that we are family and the leadership is in the hands of sisters. Liam oversees Lakefest 2017 Flash Mob and she and her daughter danced to the popular song "We Are Family" for the leadership and audience. She also said that she oversees the Lakefest 2017 Flash Mob. Liam invited all ages to participate and commissioned the sisterhood of leadership to crash the mob this year like the police did in 2016.

Tommie Storms, 4585 Park Drive said that she was a 30-year resident and thanked the all-female mayor and council for the work that they do. Storms also talked about annexation, the change of the city and some of its history as it related to racism of the past. She said that she loves the city and its diversity and that the city was not a racist community

Recognition of Marcus Grant

Pulsts presented a Commendation Letter to Mr. Grant for the rescue of a drowning individual at the beach on August 2, 2017. The well attended audience rendered a standing ovation followed by a thank from Mr. Grant. Grant stated that he appreciated the city allowing citizens to enjoy the community, the lake and beach.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of meeting held:

- Revised Minutes of 07/17/17 meeting
- Minutes of July 25, 2017 meeting

Bordeaux requested clarification of the revised Facilities Rental Agreement in the July 25th minutes. Holder motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Bordeaux. 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Bordeaux asked for clarification of the revised Facilities Rental Agreement as it related to the resident and non-resident. There was discussion and Holder provided clarification. [See discussion from August 14th minutes].

NEW BUSINESS

Annexation Map Review

There was lengthy discussion and public comments on this item. Attorney Henderson stated that council needs to express their policy for the annexation concept and that the map needs to be approved at a future meeting. Pulsts gave a brief overview of the legislative timeline as it relates to consideration for annexation.

The Mayor said that Greenhaven's request to become a city is in the legislative pipeline and that their map had been approved. She said that there are three critical solutions that are needed 1) potential for a Greenhaven becoming the second largest city and surrounding the entire city of Pine Lake; 2) the environmental impact for local controls both ecological and developmental and are environmental stewards of such and 3) the cost of doing business as DeKalb's budget change with the addition of new cities the cost shift to municipalities. The Mayor stated that a lot can happen and that the city cannot stop moving although there is a timeline associated with annexation.

Mayor said that Holder stated that the next phase of the annexation process will be the actual annexation report and then annexation study. She said that council had not passed anything to guide them for annexation. Holder also said that the process of annexation is very complicated.

Public Comment

Tommie Storms thanked mayor and council for their work on annexation and volunteered to help and stated that she had a contact at Carl Vinson that would assist if needed.

Dugan Trotter, 432 Spruce Drive commented on the home owners that pay property increases and asked what role do renters pay in the community. Bordeaux stated that renters vote and pay taxes and that there are commercial business owners.

Brian Engle, 4562 Orchid Drive asked for clarification of the down side of annexation. Holder stated that it is to bite off more that the city can chew and not to be able to deliver a better quality of life and better services. Bordeaux said that one of the up side would be increased revenue and that the down side is the hard work that goes into it.

Susan Turnnow, 439 Spring Drive asked if Brookhaven has returned since it was not approved for a city. The Mayor replied yes for becoming a city. Holder replied that there are a lot of politics involved and that the city must have every tool possible to protect the city and annexation is one of them.

Barbara Whitlow, 526 Pine Drive asked if residents came up with better creative ideas would council be open. Pulsts replied yes and that there has been a massive amount of work done and that the citizens are privy to the study. Bordeaux said that it is important to have the correct information needed for annexation and that she would not vote for any annexation unless she feels comfortable and viable for the city and the people that will be coming in thus. Pulsts recommended further studies of full feasibility and analysis and stated that Carl Vinson Institute could be approximately \$40K.

Tommy Colon, 4597 Orchid Road thanked all for the work that had been done. He also questioned about how to get the message out for the meetings and doubling the size of the city. He said that he really needs to know how it will affect the city. He was advised that the meetings are publicized.

Mimme Stubbs, 4551 Ridge Drives said that she loves the size of the town and that the purpose is not to fight council and to have a committee to come up with creative ways to cut expenses. She also recommended to have a committee to come up with the right data. Stubbs stated that Facebook is controversial and that she is in total disagreement of Pulsts' point of view and that it should always be about economic development.

Kim Anderson, 4641 Orchid Drive commented that she was grateful for the work that had been done and there needs to be a plan before spending any money.

Matt Pulsts, 648 Laurel Road read a statement for resident Faye Ridling, 639 Ivy Road requesting the city not to get rid of the police department because she feels safe therefore her vote would be to try annexation.

Tommy Colon stated that city information needs to be made more viable to the residents.

Tommy Storms stated that she has lived in the city for 30 years and that there are approximate 316 voters in the city. Wanda Coolidge, resident said that the highest was approximate 1000 voters.

Budget Amendment

Pulsts motioned to approve the amendment; seconded by Holder. 5-0.

Special Purpose Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) Draft Project List

There was a brief discussion on the project list with revisions. There was not any action was taken on this item and it will be placed on the August 29th work session agenda.

Public Comments

There were not any additional public comments at this time.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Hammet commented that she has asked resident Susan Edwards to obtain quotes for removing the kudzu from the wetlands.

Council Comments

Hall commented that the tonight's meeting was a great council meeting.

Pulsts requested an update from Chief Green an update on the no parking signage especially down by Spruce and Hemlock's ingress and egress. Green will provide information at the August 29th meeting.

Pulsts commented about the past events that occurs at Charlottesville, Virginia that has shaken the country and that she is against the march that is slated for the upcoming weekend.

Hammet thanked everyone for their comments and for attending the meeting. She also commented on the Charlottesville incident.

Executive Session to discuss potential Real Estate transaction

Holder motioned to enter executive session; seconded by Pulsts. 5-0. There was no action taken on this item. Pulsts motioned to enter back into the regular meeting; seconded by Holder at 9:21 pm. 5-0.

Adjournment

Pulsts motioned to adjourn; seconded by Bordeaux at 9:22 pm. 5-0.

Missye Varner, Administrative Assistant

Approved minutes are posted on the website at <http://www.pinelakega.com/city-government/minutes/archive-minutes/>