

**CITY OF PINE LAKE**  
**SUMMARY ACTION AGENDA**  
**April 27, 2021**  
**7:00 PM**  
**VIA ZOOM**

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**CALL TO ORDER** - at 7:00 pm by Mayor Melanie Hammet. Present – Mayor Melanie Hammet, Mayor pro tem Jean Bordeaux, and Council members Brandy Beavers, Tracey Brantley, Brandy Hall and Augusta Woods. Also present were Acting City Administrator Peggy Merriss, Administrative Coordinator Missye Varner, Chief Sarai Y’Hudah-Green and City Attorney Susan Moore.

**Adoption of Agenda**

On a motion by Council member Brantley, second by Council member Woods and all present voting “aye,” the agenda was adopted.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Adoption of the Meeting Minutes for April 13, 2021 and the “One City, Many Voices” Meeting of April 20, 2021.

On a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bordeaux, second by Council member Hall and all present voting “aye,” the agenda was adopted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

COVID-19 Pandemic Report – Mayor Hammet reported that during the last two weekly statewide mayoral calls, COVID-19 information has been provided by a pediatrician and a COVID researcher. Mayor Hammet also stated that the CDC Transmission Report and the Amber Schmidt’s report are great resources, especially for Georgia. The Mayor reported that Georgia still ranks high in transmission cases of the virus especially in suburban areas. She said that Georgia is improving with 23% of adults over 18 years old fully vaccinated.

**WORK SESSION**

Acting City Administrator Peggy Merriss opened the discussion with an overview of how work sessions are used and provided examples such as Mayor and Council discussions on items before final recommendations are made for consideration, directions to staff, presentation of information, and educational sessions on current issues or topics.

Discussion followed among the Mayor and Council members regarding issues to be considered to determine if the beach and lake should be reopened.

Mayor and Council discussed the following topics:

- ❖ Capacity, which is to be determined.
- ❖ Monitoring and limiting crowds.
- ❖ Hours of operation: having specific morning and afternoon/evening hours.
- ❖ The financial burden because the reopening of beach/lake is not in 2021 budget.
- ❖ Scheduling gaps or a day for the beach and lake to be closed.
- ❖ Parking especially for the weekends and holidays for social distancing
- ❖ Date of a regular opening verses a soft opening.
- ❖ Utilizing volunteers instead of hiring beach monitors on Saturday and Sundays
- ❖ Discussion of lake liability issues was led by City Attorney Moore.
- ❖ Availability of public bathrooms
- ❖ Accessibility and a roll out mat to be used moving forward.
- ❖ COVID-19, social distancing and the wearing of face coverings and other safety factor regardless of vaccination status

Additional information will be gathered regarding costs and other details in the next two weeks and a vote will be considered at the May 11th meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Designation of second meeting of each month as a work session.

Council member Brantley stated that there is value to having the work session on the last Tuesday of the month. Mayor Pro Tem Bordeaux agreed especially as it relates to planning for the regular council meetings.

## **REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Public Comments**

Resident Keri Loomis commented that she appreciated the discussion regarding the beach and lake reopening and to look at the big picture in long term as it relates to COVID-19, noise, the health of the lake and crowds. Ms. Loomis said that it is important to find a way to avoid crowds and recommended swim time from 7:00 AM until 12:00 PM. and to have the police officers make sure that the attendees at the beach vacated at noon and that a port-a-john would not be needed. She also stated that the crowds generally come after 1:00 PM and that scheduling can be complicated. Ms. Loomis mentioned the cost of testing and recommended a go fund me account to finance the testing and to have volunteers clean the beach. She also talked about signage and suggested to having two signs. Resident Loomis stated that the swimmers should swim at their own risk to decrease liability for the city.

Resident Deborah Twail recommended swimming be allowed from dawn to 1:00 pm. Ms. Twail stated that she appreciated the information provided and to keep the signs simple. She also commented on COVID-19 capacity and that she liked the idea of having red flags out when the water quality test numbers are high. Ms. Twail talked about mask wearing at the lake and that they will get into the water and cause issue with wildlife and that there needed to be further discussion regarding the bathrooms.

Resident Brandon Dunaway recommended to consider that people get off work after 5:00pm and that it will appear that the lake is always closed and suggested to close at 8:00pm.

Resident Calvin Burgamy commented for the beach/lake be open three days per week with short hours and to have mandatory life jackets for children. Mr. Burgamy recommended no standing fishing and only boat fishing to protect wildlife.

Resident Sarah Spencer commented that she was a prior lifeguard and that parents may want to come with their children during adult swim times.

Resident Deborah Twail recommended donation box for collecting funds to benefit the beach/lake and suggested limiting days that the beach is open to decrease capacity overage.

Resident Megan Pulsts commented that while a member of City Council she worked on signage that were color coded for the beach and lake. Ms. Pulsts stated that she was happy to share the information to assist with any new signage.

### **Staff**

There were no staff reports.

### **Mayor and City Council**

Mayor Pro tem Bordeaux announced that The Pine Lake News was the latest communications outlet and this week's news is as following:

- 1) Comprehensive Plan - On April 28th at 7:00pm to discuss the results of the surveys.
- 2) No appointment Free COVID-19 vaccines at Blueprint Baptist Church parking lot on Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.
- 3) One City, Many Voices Series – A Pine Lake Conversation about Racism, Belonging and Civic Life on Thursday May 13 at 6 pm. Dr. Lee's final conversation in the series will be with Representative Viola Davis and Pine Lake business owner Roger Boyd, inspiring a discussion on belonging and community.

**Adjournment** - On motion by Mayor Pro tem Bordeaux, seconded by Council member Woods, adjournment was approved unanimously at 9:42 pm.