

CITY OF PINE LAKE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 28th, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA

Call to Order: Mayor Melanie Hammet called the Regular Session to order at 7:00pm.

Present: Mayor Melanie Hammet, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Bordeaux, Council Members Tracey Brantley, Nivea Castro, and Augusta Woods. Also present were City Manager ChaQuias Miller-Thornton, Chief of Police Sarai Y'hudah-Green, and Assistant City Clerk Ned Dagenhard. Administrative Coordinator Missye Varner, and City Attorney Susan Moore were not in attendance.

Announcements/Communications

The Mayor began by welcoming newly appointed Court Clerk Stephanie Capers to the evening's meeting. Additionally, Council Member Brantley reminded attendees of the upcoming Lighting of the Lake and PLAIN Cookie Exchange to take place at 5:00pm on Saturday, December 2nd.

Adoption of Agenda of the Day

- City Manager Miller-Thornton recommended the addition of two New Business items:
 - Call for City of Pine Lake 2024 Special Municipal Election
 - Resolution R-22-2023 – A Resolution Appointing DeKalb County Board of Registrations and Elections to Conduct the City of Pine Lake, GA 2024 Special Municipal Election

Mayor Pro Tem Bordeaux moved to adopt the amended agenda of the day; Council Member Castro seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of the Minutes

- Regular Meeting – November 14th, 2023

Council Member Castro moved to adopt the minutes from the November 28th Regular Meeting; Council Member Brantley seconded. The motion passed 3-0-1. Council Members Brantley, Castro, and Woods voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tem Bordeaux abstained.

New Business

1. Presentation of Revised (to-date) FY2023 and Proposed FY2024 Budgets – Discussion

City Manager Miller-Thornton presented a 3.0% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to be included in the tentative FY2024 Budget. The proposed increase reflects the 3.2% overall increase in cost of living published by the Social Security Administration, and would result in a projected \$13,625 increase in Salaries & Wages line items. Mayor Pro Tem Bordeaux moved to approve the inclusion of the proposed COLA in the tentative FY2024 Budget draft; Council Member

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Woods seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The FY2024 Budget is set for consideration of adoption on 12/19/2023.

2. Resolution R-21-2023 – Recommendation to Encumber Local Fiscal Recovery American Rescue Plan Act Funds

City Manager Miller-Thornton presented a recommendation to select standard allowance for the remainder of the American Rescue Plan Act Fund, which would permit Council's appropriation of ARPA moneys for general government service-related expenditures. Council Member Brantley moved to approve the resolution; Council Member Castro seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Call for City of Pine Lake 2024 Special Municipal Election

City Manager Miller-Thornton recommended for City Council to issue a Call for the City of Pine Lake 2024 Special Municipal Election, in order to comply with Georgia's elections provisions requiring a Call to take place no less than 90-days prior to special election. The purpose of the referenced election is to fill a vacancy left by former-Council Member, Mayor-elect Hall, and will take place on March 12th, 2024, in conjunction with the Presidential Preference Primary. Council Member Castro moved to approve the Call; Council Member Brantley seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Resolution R-22-2023 – A Resolution Appointing DeKalb County Board of Registrations and Elections to Conduct the City of Pine Lake, GA 2024 Special Municipal Election

City Manager Miller-Thornton introduced R-22-2023. The Resolution establishes DeKalb County's role in the upcoming March Special Election in a similar fashion as previous Pine Lake Municipal Elections. Council Member Woods moved to approve the resolution; Mayor Pro Tem Bordeaux seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports and Other Business

ChaQuias Miller- Thornton — City Manager (Director of Administration, Courts and Public Works)

The City Manager's report introduction led to a discussion among Council and attendees over the proposed Dam/Berm revitalization project, which included potential adjustments to scope of work that can help the project be more feasible for the City as well as more appealing to bidding contractors.

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Please refer to [the link](#) to access the City Manager's report dated November 28th, 2023. The City Manager reports are on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyeverner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call (404) 999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

Chief Sarai Y'Hudah-Green — Chief of Police, Public Safety

Please refer to [the link](#) to access the Police/Public Safety report dated November 28th, 2023. The Police/Public Safety reports are on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyeverner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call (404) 999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

Pine Lake News E-Blast

Upcoming Events:

December 2nd Lighting of the Lake: On Saturday, December 2nd at 5:00pm, PLAIN will be hosting their annual Cookie Exchange at the Beach House (4580 Lakeshore Drive). The event will be immediately followed by the "Lighting of the Lake" at 6:00pm. [More Info.](#)

December 12th Budget: Public Hearing to receive public comment on the 2024 budget will be held on December 12th at 7:00 PM preceding the regular City Council meeting. The final adoption is set for December 19th.

December 19th Council meeting: Please note that the second December Council meeting will be held on the 19th of December rather than the last Tuesday, which would be the day after Christmas.

March 12th Elections: On March 12th, 2024 a special election will be held to fill the vacancy in the office of Pine Lake City Council for the unexpired term of Brandy Hall. Qualifying period will be January 8th thru the 10th, 2024 from 8:30am-4:30pm each day.

Other News:

Leaves in the Street: We still have not received delivery of our new Leaf Vacuum/Loader. Public Works is doing the best they can implementing alternate methods to remove leaves. Please do not add to their work by blowing or raking leaves from your property onto the street.

Rosalynn Carter: This week a Georgia native daughter was laid to rest. The former First Lady was a leading advocate for women's rights and mental health. We join her family and people across the globe in honoring this extraordinary woman.

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Adjournment: Council Member Brantley motioned for adjournment at 8:09pm.

Ned Dagenhard
Assistant City Clerk

ChaQuias Miller-Thornton
Acting City Clerk