

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 28th, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Pine Lake Courthouse
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA**

Call to Order: Mayor Hall called the Public Hearing to order at 6:01pm.

Present: Mayor Brandy Hall, Mayor pro tem Bordeaux, Council Member Jeff Goldberg, Council Member Thomas Torrent, Council Member Tom Ramsey, and Council Member Augusta Woods. Also present were Chief of Police Sarai Y'hudah-Green, City Attorney Chris Balch, Public Works Special Projects Manager Bernard Kendrick, and Assistant City Clerk Ned Dagenhard. City Manager Stanley Hawthorne was not in attendance.

Public Hearing

The first of three public hearings to discuss the potential ramifications of HB 581 (Statewide Homestead Exemption, FLOST) was held.

Seeing no requests for public comment, Mayor pro tem Bordeaux moved to close the Public Hearing at 6:17pm; Council Member Ramsey seconded.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor of closing the Public Hearing, and the motion carried.

Call to Order: Mayor Hall called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:17pm.

Announcements/Communications

Mayor Hall expressed gratitude to Mayor pro tem Bordeaux for acting as meeting chair during the January 14th Work Session, citing an unexpected family tragedy.

Council Member Ramsey announced that—following the City Attorney affirming the validity of a 2014 Resolution related to domestic partnership certification in the City of Pine Lake—a resident-couple had received their certification.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he and other members of the governing authority had attended the swearing-in ceremony for recently-elected DeKalb County CEO Lorraine Cochran-Johnson. The Council Member added that he appreciated the recognition of each of DeKalb's municipalities and their governing bodies.

Council Member Woods announced that she had attended the swearing-in ceremony for recently-elected DeKalb County Super District 7 Commissioner LaDena Bolton. The Council Member continued that she had invited the new Commissioner to visit Pine Lake, hoping to build a constructive relationship in the same vein as that held with former-Commissioner Steve Bradshaw.

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 28th, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Pine Lake Courthouse
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA**

Adoption of the Agenda of the Day

Council Member Ramsey moved to adopt the Agenda of the Day; Council Member Goldberg seconded.

No discussion took place.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Adoption of the Minutes

- **December 17th, 2024 – Regular Meeting**
- **January 14th, 2025 – Work Session**

Mayor pro tem Bordeaux moved to approve the (2) sets of Minutes; Council Member Torrent seconded.

No discussion took place.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Old Business

- 1. Ordinance 2025-01, Domestic Partnerships – Discussion & Potential First Read**

City Attorney Chris Balch performed the first read of Ordinance 2025-01.

No action was taken by City Council.

CITY OF PINE LAKE
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 28th, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Pine Lake Courthouse
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA

2. Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for Regular & Part-time Employees

Mayor pro tem Bordeaux moved to approve the COLA for Regular & Part-time Employees, in the form of Resolution R-2025-05; Council Member Woods seconded.

No discussion took place.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

Members voted 4-0-1. Mayor pro tem Bordeaux and Council Members Goldberg, Ramsey, and Woods voted in favor of the motion; no members voted against; Council Member Torrent abstained. The motion carried.

3. Communications Policy – Discussion & Revisions

Council Member Ramsey moved to adopt the Communications Policy as amended, in the form of Resolution R-2025-06; Mayor pro tem Bordeaux seconded.

The Mayor and City Council discussed highlighted points of revision suggested by the City Manager. The governing authority was agreeable to all of the revisions, save for the striking use of *Facebook* as a social media platform. The Mayor did affirm the body's desire to strike use of *X* (formerly *Twitter*).

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

New Business

1. One-month Extension of Contractual Agreement with Special Projects Manager Bernard Kendrick

Council Member Torrent moved to approve the Extension of Contractual Agreement; Council Member Woods seconded.

No discussion took place.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 28th, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Pine Lake Courthouse
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA**

2. Resolution R-2025-01 – Setting Qualifying Fees for 2025 Council Elections

Council Member Woods moved to approve Resolution R-2025-01; Council Member Torrent seconded.

A discussion took place, wherein Council Member Goldberg alerted the City Attorney of a clerical error, wherein qualifying fees reflected 2022 City Council salaries, which were later increased from \$600/year to \$3600/year.

Council Member Torrent inquired as to what metric is applied to calculate qualifying fees and why. City Attorney Balch responded that the State sets the qualifying fee formula as 3% of the annual salary of the elected office. Therefore—as Council Member Ramsey posited and the Mayor and Council affirmed—the 2025 qualifying fee would be \$108.00.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

3. Resolution R-2025-02 – Establishment of SPLOST II Bank Account

Mayor pro tem Bordeaux moved to approve Resolution R-2025-02; Council Member Torrent seconded

Mayor pro tem Balch advised that the State mandates SPLOST funds be segregated from the City's general fund.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

CITY OF PINE LAKE
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 28th, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Pine Lake Courthouse
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA

4. Resolution R-2025-03 – Authorization of City Manager or Designee to Apply for Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG)

Council Member Ramsey moved to approve Resolution R-2025-03; Council Member Goldberg seconded.

City Attorney Balch advised the governing body that LMIG is an annual grant available to local governments. He continued that the resolution would empower the City Manager to administer the application process.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

5. Resolution R-2025-04 – Authorization of the Acceptance of a Bid in the Amount of \$345,000 – Oak Road Maintenance

Council Member Torrent moved to approve Resolution R-2025-04; Council Member Ramsey seconded.

Special Projects Manager Bernard Kendrick advised the governing body on the development of a bid with *Construction 57*. The option of additional work—establishing a water line to service two residences on Oak Road—was also discussed; application of this additional work is contingent on a shared cost between the City and the (2) affected-residents.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

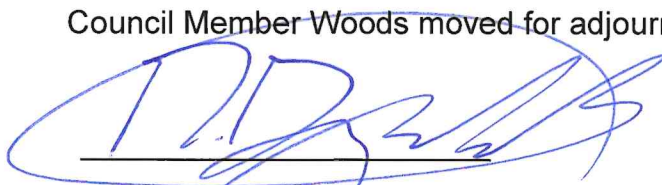
All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Reports and Other Comments

There were no additional comments made by the Mayor and City Council.

Adjournment

Council Member Woods moved for adjournment at 7:28pm.


Ned Dagenhard
City Clerk or Delegate

