

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
CITY COUNCIL RETREAT MINUTES
March 28th, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Shades of Green Permaculture
2835 Washington Street, Avondale Estates, GA 30002**

Call to Order: Mayor Hall called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:11AM.

Present: Mayor Brandy Hall, Mayor pro tem Bordeaux, Council Members Jeff Goldberg, Thomas Torrent, Tom Ramsey, and Augusta Woods. Also present were City Manager Stanley Hawthorne, City Attorney Chris Balch, and Assistant City Clerk Ned Dagenhard.

Adoption of the Agenda of the Day

Council Member Ramsey moved to adopt the Agenda of the Day; Mayor pro tem Bordeaux seconded.

No discussion took place.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

New Business/Discussion Topics

1. Planning Retreat Report Update from Octoebr 25, 2024

a. Retreat Report, October 25, 2024

b. Strategic Action Items Update

c. Strategic Priorities Update

A discussion took place, wherein the Governing Authority, City Manager Hawthorne, and City Attorney Balch “checked-in” on those priorities outlined during the October 25, 2024 City Council Retreat. Topics included project management; communication between the Governing Authority and staff; and development of the City’s commercial corridor. No action was taken by City Council.

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2. Council Project List Strategy

a. Moving into the New Year, Input

Council Members discussed a simplified approach to capital project timeline updates, functional code compliance with respect to the Pine Lake naturalist ethos vis a vis vegetation management, as well as putting together a “comprehensive master plan,” with the goal of clearly communicating cooperative opportunities to DeKalb County and other local stakeholders.

3. Map Out Town Hall Meetings Strategy

a. “What is a Town Hall Meeting” Article

b. “How to Run a Town Hall Meeting” Article

As an introduction to the topic of community outreach, Council Member Goldberg led an exercise, asking each attendee to answer the question, “what brought you to Pine Lake?”

The Governing Authority was presented with a brief overview and history of town hall meetings.

The discussion then segued into information priorities, as an outline for issue-based town halls. The Governing Authority also discussed the merit of open-ended town halls versus subject-oriented town halls.

A consensus was observed by City Council regarding the holding of *two (2) town hall meetings in 2025: one to be issue-specific, and one to be a general Q&A.*

No other action was taken by City Council.

4. Roles of City Officers, Per New Charter

a. City Charter

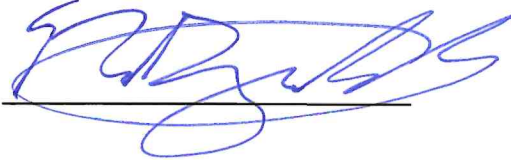
City Attorney Balch gave a PowerPoint presentation covering municipal government, the Council-Manager form of government, aspects of the City Charter reflecting the Mayor’s authority during meetings, and City Council authority over Department Directors.

No action was taken by City Council.

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Adjournment

Council Member Woods moved for adjournment at 3:15PM.



Ned Dagenhard
City Clerk or Delegate

