



TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 14, 2013
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeff Holt called a regular meeting of the Pine Level Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2013 at the Pine Level Town Hall.

ROLL CALL

- X COMMISSIONER KAREN ANDERSON
- X COMMISSIONER JIMMY GARNER (in at 7:15 p.m.)
- X COMMISSIONER ANTHONY GUDAC
- X COMMISSIONER PHIL PITTMAN
- X MAYOR JEFF HOLT

STAFF PRESENT

Town Attorney Frank Wood, Consultant Dan Simmons, Police Chief Keith Sparks, Public Works Supt. Ray Stuckey, Town Clerk Sharon Thompson

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Holt asked Commissioner Pittman to give the invocation and Frank Wood to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Holt then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO ADOPT: Anderson
SECOND: Gudac
VOTE: unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 02-14-13

MOTION TO ADOPT: Pittman
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES

The mayor then recognized Ray Stuckey, Public Works Superintendent, for having worked twenty-five years with the town, since March 14, 1988. He presented him with a plaque and gift certificate from the town and thanked him for his service to the town and community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

The Seniors Group met Wednesday; they have another outing on their schedule.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

WATER/SEWER: Commissioner Gudac. Men did good job with installing new hydrant on Fitzgerald Street. New meter has come in for Starling Mobile Home Park; awaiting new yoke. Commissioner Anderson asked if there had been any water problems around Cyn Mar Greenhouses; she said Paige Avery called with a complaint about her water, but it has since cleared up. Ray Stuckey said the water was off earlier in the week, to put in the new hydrant, and that could have stirred up sediment in the lines.

RECREATION: Commissioner Anderson. Baseball season getting underway, tee ball sign ups going on until April 5th. Planning already for July Fourth. Reverse Raffle ticket sales not as big this year. Need to fill in muddy area near new park equipment. New sign looks really good on new fields, Alex Pilkington's scout project. Mayor said they could have a small dedication service sometime in the near future. Talked later about use of the ballfields by travel teams. Commissioner Anderson said they could use the fields for free as long as they don't use the lights. She said the police should keep an eye on the park so there are no conflicts over field usage; she asked Scottie to send an e-mail to authorized users so they could have that to show other people that they are authorized to use the fields. Commissioner Pittman said they need to review that policy, because the travel teams are not from Pine Level. Commissioner Garner asked if the town had any liability with the travel teams; Frank Wood said no more than any other properties. Mayor Holt said he only had a problem with it if they were tearing up something at the park. Commissioner Anderson asked if any rules exist about smoking at the park; since there are none, she suggested putting some smoking urns on site to try and control the cigarette butts that are discarded everywhere.

POLICE: Commissioner Garner. Everything going okay. Chief said he would like to contact state about doing some street repairs, where tree roots are pushing up the pavement. He asked if Powell Bill money could be used for that purpose. Commissioner Gudac said he and Ray had looked at that issue too. He questioned just where is the town's right of way on town streets. Ray Stuckey said most of them are fifty feet, but some are questionable. He also said that certain citizens have talked with him about cutting down the trees that are causing problems with the pavement.

STREETS: Commissioner Pittman. Peedin Avenue sidewalk still in progress with the DOT. They made more changes to the plans. Had a problem with the hydraulics on the garbage truck; it is now repaired, but it was costly. Citizens trimming back trees need to keep them small so the men can handle picking them up.

FINANCE: Approved budget amendments for fiscal year 2012-2013. Copy included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Garner

SECOND: Gudac

VOTE: unanimous

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Mayor Holt advised the board on House Bill 150, concerning Zoning/Design and Aesthetic Controls. He said the proposed bill would eliminate cities' ability to shape development and would impose aesthetic controls on new subdivisions, unless developers agreed to the proposed regulations. He did not know if the bill would pass in the house or not.

Frank Wood advised the board concerning a bill that would eliminate ETJ areas. He, too, said he did not know if the bill would pass or not, but it could cause some big changes in zoning if cities have to give up their extraterritorial jurisdiction areas. Mayor Holt commented that legislators said that people living in the ETJ area don't have representation on municipal boards, whereas they would be able to vote for county representatives. He said the town's argument would be that the ETJ is where the towns can shape the areas nearby the city limits, which might be included in future annexations. He asked if the board would like to take a stand on the issue; Commissioner Pittman said he would like to wait and see where it goes in the legislature. Commissioner Gudac agreed. The mayor said it would not create a big effect for Pine Level if the ETJ area disappeared. Commissioner Gudac said he was more concerned with inside the city limits than the ETJ. Mayor Holt suggested that if the bill passes, the county should consult with the towns if a development is proposed nearby the city limits. Dan Simmons said if the bill passes, it might create more requests for annexation, since the counties would be more stringent in their regulations. He said towns would want to monitor any activity that is going on near to their city limits. Mayor Holt said the idea might be better for municipalities, especially small ones like Pine Level.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

Mayor Holt informed the board that he sent a letter to the Smithfield mayor, endorsing the idea of naming the Neuse River bridge in memory of Deputy Paul West. He also said that he attended a recent meeting of the Moccasin Creek Board of Directors and they talked about renewing the maintenance and mowing contracts and trapping muskrats, beavers and nutrias. He said the town board will probably start budget discussions next month. He felt that one issue would be trash pickup in town. The trucks roll every day and that means a lot of wear and tear on the trucks, not to mention fuel for the vehicles. Commissioner Pittman said he would do some research on that issue before the budget comes around.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, at 7:35 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Gudac

SECOND: Garner

VOTE: unanimous

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR