



TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
APRIL 10, 2014
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeff Holt declared a quorum present and called a regular meeting of the Pine Level Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at the Pine Level Town Hall.

ROLL CALL

 X COMMISSIONER KAREN ANDERSON
 X COMMISSIONER GREG BAKER
 COMMISSIONER JIMMY GARNER
 X COMMISSIONER PHIL PITTMAN
 X MAYOR JEFF HOLT

STAFF PRESENT

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Holt asked Mr. Nester McClain to give the invocation. Commissioner Anderson then led the Pledge of Allegiance. After that, the mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ADDITION: 11. (B) In-town delivery of mail (JH)
 11. (C) JC Economic Development (GB)

The agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

MOTION: Anderson
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 03-13-14

MOTION: Pittman
SECOND: Baker

VOTE: unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

The mayor then asked if anyone wished to comment on a non-agenda issue. Mrs. Janice White was first to speak. She was accompanied by Mrs. Jackie Woodard, Mrs. Cornelia Narron, Mr. Nester McClain, Mrs. Sarah Newcomb and Mrs. Athlea Peedin, all of whom head up the Pine Level Seniors Group. Mrs. White has served many years as chairperson of the seniors group, but she informed the board that she is stepping down after April 2014. She said they have had a good time working with the seniors, but it has come time for her to move on, and she felt that no one else would step up to lead the group unless she moved aside. Mrs. White said that she met with the mayor and Commissioner Pittman a couple of years ago and discussed working with the Council on Aging in Smithfield. She went on to say that the COA did not offer much assistance, because they didn't have the funds to expand their services to Pine Level. She was open to suggestions on who might take her place, and she said that some of the committee members would agree to stay on and help with the seniors group if needed. Mrs. White said the seniors met on April 9th for the last time before the summer months, and she hoped someone would step forward and take her place by the time cooler weather rolls around. They definitely wanted to see the Pine Level group keep going and not be disbanded. Mayor Holt assured her that the town would continue to give financial support to the senior group and would offer their assistance in any other way. He said they would try to think of someone that might take the helm of the senior group. Frank Wood explained that he set up a corporation for the seniors group, so it was not a board or committee where the town board would just appoint someone to fill her place. Mrs. White said a new leader could start afresh, and that they could do things like they want to and it wouldn't necessarily have to be done the same way. The mayor said the seniors group has been a really good thing for the community and Commissioner Pittman said he appreciated everything that has been done for the seniors. Mrs. White said that everyone has been really helpful to the group and they have funds remaining in their account that she would like to keep on hand for when the group starts back. Mrs. Jackie Woodard commented that whoever takes over will really have to do some work to keep up with what Mrs. White has accomplished.

Robbie Evans then addressed the board. He said that he was the past Lions Club president, and that the Lions are interested in working with leaders in the community to see what the Lions can do to help out in the community. He distributed surveys to the board members to get their input and he said he would pick them up on the 15th. He said the Lions Club has been active in the community for the past 65 years.

Sal Navarro asked about the sidewalk for South Peedin Avenue. The mayor said that topic would come up later in the meeting.

REZONING PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:20 p.m., the mayor opened a required public hearing on a recommendation to rezone three parcels of property, said hearing having been duly advertised on March 26 and April 9, 2014 in *The Kenly News*. The PL Planning Board recommended to the town board that the zoning be changed from RH to C on the property owned by Ronald Whitley, Teresa Corbett and the PL Volunteer Fire Department, at the corner of North Peedin Avenue and West Main Street. The mayor commented that the properties have been that same zoning since zoning came into being in Pine Level, although the use of the properties has always been commercial in nature. He said the rezoning would keep the properties commercial, even if they should become unoccupied in the future. He said the recommendation came from the Planning Board and that all the adjoining property owners had been notified by first class mail of the date of the public hearing. He then asked if anyone opposed the proposal to rezone the three parcels. Randy Holloman asked if the proposed map included the "old Mule Pen" parcel on North Peedin Avenue. Mayor Holt said it was not included on the map and recommendation. Commissioner Pittman asked Mr. Holloman if he thought it should be included. Since that property owner was not notified, that parcel could not be included, but Commissioner Pittman commented that it could go through the same process if that property owner did want to rezone it to commercial. There being no further comment on the issue, the hearing was closed at 7:26 p.m. The board then voted unanimously to rezone the three parcels, as recommended by the Planning Board, from residential housing to commercial. A copy of the ordinance is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Pittman

SECOND: Baker

VOTE: unanimous

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

No activity.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

RECREATION: Commissioner Anderson. Spring sports getting underway. Working on July Fourth celebration. Have one application for re-appointment on the Recreation Committee, Benjamin Creech. Board unanimously approved his re-appointment. A copy of the resolution is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Pittman
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

Worked with Ray Stuckey to get lights that storm knocked down put back up on the ball field. Need to address lighting on the fields, the poles and fixtures are the original ones that were installed around 1978, and they could be dangerous. Jimmy Garner is taking down the old fencing at the park; hope to get it finished in the next two weeks. Porta potties are back on site at the park and working well.

STREETS: Commissioner Baker. Reviewing street resurfacing needs with Ray Stuckey. Ray Stuckey commented that some streets need attention and he could get paving quotes pretty quickly. Crocker Street is built up now and should not have need for more cuts for water or sewer installation. Had to do repairs on old garbage truck recently, probably will be a big bill. Dan Simmons reported that the South Peedin Avenue sidewalk is closer to completion and that bids should go out in May, with construction in June. He said the state indicated that the grant was for \$90,000, instead of the \$50,000 figure originally specified.

WATER/SEWER: Commissioner Pittman. Have infiltration problems with the sewer system; Ray Stuckey spoke with a company that re-lines the manholes. Should save a considerable amount of money and the work should pay for itself in a matter of months. Presented a proposal from J.C.B. Construction Co., Inc., out of Suffolk, Virginia, to repair nine manholes for \$37,234.09. Commissioner Pittman proposed to accept four of the repairs at this time, since they are in the worst condition:

Capps St. & US 70-A	\$3008.48
W. Pine St. & Fitzgerald St.	4537.87
411 and 413 S. Peedin Ave.	4067.04
S. Peedin Ave. & Townview Dr.	5468.85

Ray Stuckey said they are the main ones where the wastewater flow comes in from the pumping stations, and the sewer gases work to destroy the concrete in the interior of the manholes. He said the Town of Four Oaks repairs 4 or 5 manholes each year, as a regular budget item. Mayor Holt asked if the company is ready to do the work right away, Mr. Stuckey said they would probably coordinate it with work they are doing in Four Oaks. Commissioner Anderson asked how long it would take to repair one of the manholes; Mr. Stuckey said they would probably do one in a day's time. He said they have methods to work around sewer flows, but the town might have to close a section or two of streets for a short while. The board voted unanimously on the recommendation to repair the four manholes at this time and to let Dan Simmons verify the pricing before the others are done.

MOTION: Pittman
SECOND: Baker
VOTE: unanimous

POLICE: Chief Sparks. Need to take vehicle off-line and surplus it; too costly to repair. Problem with semi-truck parking on street and driving on town streets. Will talk to driver about same. No more complaints about N. Peedin Ave. since last month. Sal Navarro said the owner is still parking beside his building and blocking vision at the intersection. He said he took pictures of the van while it was parked there, and it stayed longer than thirty minutes. Frank Wood said he would review the site and Mr. Navarro's pictures and see what kind of resolution he could come up with. Police chief said he had waited to put up the traffic mirror, since he was afraid of vandals tearing it up, and he hoped the situation would resolve itself since last month. Mayor Holt said the police department could monitor the situation and handle it as Mr. Wood directs.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Greg Johnson said that Fireman's Day is coming up on May 10th and they will have an open house and dedication for the new fire station, along with the usual flower sales, bake sale and barbeque plates. 5K run is coming up on April 19th also. Will have raffle in conjunction with Fireman's Day with some nice prizes to give away. Pine Level will have ambulance in town, starting in May. Johnston County approved for Selma rescue to house a vehicle in Pine Level for twelve hours daily, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mr. Johnson hoped that would be accomplished by May 15th.

FINANCE: Approved budget amendments for fiscal year 2013-2014 as presented. A copy is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Pittman
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

POLICY ON INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL

The mayor then brought up the policy which was distributed last month, concerning exposure to blood borne pathogens by employees or others. He said it had been open for review for the last thirty days and he felt it was mainly for the safety of the town's employees. The board voted unanimously to adopt the policy, effective as of today's date. A copy of the policy is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Pittman
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

REQUEST FOR WATER/SEWER SERVICE ON WEST BLANCHE STREET

Mayor Holt commented that property is being developed just west of town on W. Blanche Street, and the developers are interested in running water and sewer from the town to the property. He said the developer would have to pay for the installation and request annexation from the town. According to the mayor, the developer is interested in pursuing that avenue, and would then give the line to the town. He suggested that Commissioner Pittman, Ray Stuckey and Dan Simmons could meet with the developer and work out the particulars and he would notify the developer of that decision. Commissioner Pittman said that a hydrant could not be placed on a two inch line, and it would have to be at least a six inch line. He said that others have requested water and sewer for the same property in the past but they were not willing to install the necessary lines. Mayor Holt said one customer would not justify that expense for the town. Commissioner Pittman said they should not move too quickly on the request.

IN-TOWN DELIVERY OF MAIL

Mayor Holt informed the board that more and more in-town residents are asking Selma post office to deliver mail to their homes in Pine Level. He said the post office would deliver the mail in Pine Level unless the town took action to prohibit mail delivery. He said one issue was that Pine Level could not maintain street rights-of-way if they became filled up with mail boxes, and secondly, many of Pine Level citizens may be counted in Selma when the census is taken, because of their street addresses being listed as Selma. He explained that many government revenues are based upon the census count, so Pine Level could be losing many revenue dollars. He said they couldn't reach a decision tonight, but the town might need to adopt some type of ordinance to stop any additional delivery, unless it was based on some type of disability or need. Sal Navarro commented that the post office is in the process of requiring all new developments to have boxes placed in a central location. Mayor Holt said they could probably prohibit street side delivery, but maybe not delivery to a box on the house itself. He also said that the post office said they have plenty of room for boxes in the lobby and that would not be a deterrent. He said he would not want to hurt anyone who needs to get delivery at their residence. He said the information was for discussion only tonight, and they would have to determine just how far the town can go to restrict mail delivery, and if the board wants to pursue some sort of control of the issue.

JC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commissioner Baker reported on a meeting he attended concerning economic development in the county. He said there were four classes held in Smithfield, taught by the former president of the RTP development. He said they covered several topics, one being the way that population is staying mainly in western Johnston County. He said they were looking at different ways to market other areas of the county, and that a lot of decisions on where to locate are based on schools in the area. He also said that many communities are becoming filled with rent-based citizens instead of home owning citizens.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

In lieu of a mayor's minute, Mayor Holt said it has been a pleasure over the past couple of weeks to work with the local school on the former employees' luncheon and the 100-year Heritage Day. He said there were a lot of former students there, and everyone seemed to be having fun and enjoying themselves. He said he appreciated the way that the school has always been a part of the community. He also mentioned that Commissioner Baker had said that when the school is divided up again and becomes Pine Level Elementary School, the board should petition the county to name the school mascots the "Green Hornets" again, as in previous years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The mayor said the board would need to talk about the budget in May, and he reminded everybody to turn in their wish lists.

He also introduced Life Scout, Adam Artis, and welcomed him to the meeting. He said that Adam is working on his citizenship and community requirement, and he is close to completing his requirements for Eagle Scout.

The mayor said the next board meeting would be on May 8th at 7:00 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, at 8:20 p.m. the meeting came to a close.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Pittman

SECOND: Anderson

VOTE: unanimous

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR