

TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
APRIL 11, 2011
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 Monday, April 11, 2011 at the Pine Level Town Hall.

ROLL CALL

____ COMMISSIONER KAREN ANDERSON
____ COMMISSIONER JIMMY GARNER
 X COMMISSIONER ANTHONY GUDAC
 X COMMISSIONER PHIL PITTMAN
 X MAYOR JEFF HOLT

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

The mayor asked Commissioner Pittman to give the invocation and then asked Commissioner Gudac to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ADDITIONS:

DELETIONS:

- 9. B. Eagle Park dedication (JH)
- 10. B. Time share (JH)
 - c. July 4th fireworks (JH)
 - D. Census results (JH)

MOTION TO APPROVE: Gudac
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 03-07-11, 03-24-11

MOTION TO APPROVE: Pittman
SECOND: Gudac
VOTE: unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

The mayor then called for public comment on any non-agenda issues. Bruce Parrish was first to speak. He said he went to the town hall and inquired about a contact person for an existing subdivision, and the staff gave him answers based upon their recollection of who developed the subdivision initially. He asked what would happen when those employees no longer work at the town hall, who would know the answers then. He thought it would be a good idea to have a listing of subdivisions and a contact person for each development. Commissioner Pittman agreed with the idea, adding that a listing of rental property would be a good idea as well. Sal Navarro suggested that the information could be displayed on a bulletin board at the new town hall.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Mr. Navarro said the Planning Board has not met lately. Commissioner Pittman said the Seniors group recently took a trip on the Amtrak.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

RECREATION: Mayor Holt read over a report of recreational activities from Scottie Hayes, P & R Coordinator. He said it was a busy time with many activities going on. Commissioner Pittman commented that the Easter Sunrise Service would be at the park on Easter Sunday morning, April 24th.

POLICE: Commissioner Pittman. Cars are presently in service. Gas prices continue to increase. Chief has been looking at budget for police department.

WATER/SEWER: Commissioner Gudac. No problems to speak of. Asked Dan Simmons if he had information on water filter. Mr. Simmons indicated that he did. He said that he brought a factory representative to look at the water filtering system. According to recent testing, the manganese count at the wellhead was .325 mpl, which is high. But samples taken out in the system came in below the acceptable level of .05 mpl, so it appears the filter is working as it should. Looked over system, there is a multi-port valve used for backwashing the water system that appears to be leaking and letting water blow by and get into the distribution lines when it should go out when backwashing occurs. Not only that, but the filter system is 53 years old, and the filter box walls could be worn down and in need of replacement. Suggested ultrasonic testing of the filter walls to determine the integrity of the filter. He said the preliminary figures to replace the valve came in at \$45 to \$50 thousand dollars, while a motorized system with an electric motor on the valve and electric control panel would run \$70 to \$75 thousand dollars, and a complete change of the filter system would cost around \$200,000. Mr. Simmons said he would like to get a price on a valve that is motorized but not completely automatic, if that type product is available. He said the ultrasonic testing should be done first and it would cost about \$1000. He said they were also reviewing available funding methods. Commissioner Gudac asked if they were just educated guesses on the costs and if it was a job that would have to be let out for bids. Mr. Simmons replied that it would depend on the dollar figure whether or not it would have to be publicly advertised for bids. Commissioner Gudac asked how often does backwashing take place, and he asked if they could hold off on doing it to see if the water was affected. Ray Stuckey said he backwashes two times a week and Mr. Simmons said he needs to continue to do that or the filter system will not work. Mr. Simmons said he would want to have all the equipment on site before beginning work on the filter, because the town would have to be on county water during the repairs. Commissioner Pittman asked about a guarantee on the valve but Mr. Simmons said he did not know the answer. He went on to say that one company will rebuild old valves but that would mean a much longer down time. Mayor Holt said that the town had just worked on two major projects that will require a large payback, and although he knew that providing good water was important, the town had to keep the costs in mind. Commissioner Gudac said it would be best to let them go ahead and do the ultrasonic testing first. Mr. Simmons said they would also continue to look at ways to pay for the repairs.

PINE LEVEL MAIL DELIVERY

Mayor Holt brought up the issue of people putting up mail boxes on town streets and having their mail delivered by the Selma post office. He said the issue pertained mainly to the census count and whether or not those people would be accounted for in the Town of Selma, causing Pine Level to lose revenues that are based upon population. Town Attorney Frank Wood said he talked with the Selma postmaster, who disliked the practice as much as Pine Level. Mr. Wood felt an ordinance against mail delivery on town streets would probably go against federal regulations. He said they might look at a survey process and try to get a rural route, but it would still be delivered by the Selma postal carrier, they would just stop and pick up the mail at the Pine Level post office and deliver it in Pine Level, with a Pine Level address. Mayor Holt commented that the issue had come up many times over the years but nothing had changed. He said he was not the person to take on this issue because he did not have the interest or time to do it. He said he would be glad to see someone step up to the plate and take it on, but he also said the board did not have to act on it tonight.

DEDICATION OF "EAGLE PARK"

Mayor Holt said the boy scouts want to have a dedication service for the recreation area at Pine South subdivision and had suggested May 9th. The mayor asked the board about meeting on site with the scouts either before or after the next meeting. Commissioner Gudac suggested meeting there first and opening the town's meeting at Eagle Park at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Holt said that sounded like a good idea and they could involve the scouts in the pledge and invocation for the meeting on May 9th, and then recess and come back to the town hall.

PARTNERSHIP TO BUILD A MIRACLE PROCLAMATION

Next, the board considered a proclamation to support efforts to build a recreation area for the many special needs kids in Johnston County. Mayor Holt said it was just to support the idea, and not a request for money. Commissioner Pittman moved to adopt the proclamation and Commissioner Gudac said he would second it for the purpose of discussion. He said every town and rural area has a park, and he asked why they didn't raise money to put equipment at all those parks so the kids could use them in their hometown areas, instead of having to go to Smithfield. Frank Wood said he was not familiar with the organization working on this project, although he was familiar with the Miracle League. The board then voted on supporting the project, with the following vote:

MOTION: Pittman

SECOND: Gudac

VOTE: for - Commissioner Pittman, Mayor Holt
against - Commissioner Gudac

TIME SHARE

Mayor Holt informed the board that a family in town has offered to deed to the town their interests in a time-share plan, with no strings attached. He said the town employees or board members could utilize the plan or perhaps use it for a town retreat. He said they might need to involve the attorney or auditor to see if it would be reportable as compensation on employee w-2's. Kester Kornegay asked if there would be maintenance fees involved. The mayor said there would be annual fees, but that whoever uses the time-share could perhaps pay a prorated portion of the fees. He said he was just throwing it out for information only, and the board members could think about the proposal.

FIREWORKS

The mayor then mentioned the fireworks proposal for July Fourth. He said that last year was the first year that a certified pyrotechnician was required to handle the fireworks display, and since the celebration ended up on July 5th, the fireworks company provided the pyrotechnician at greatly reduced rates. He said the cost of fireworks this year could be doubled if Zambelli provides a technician and the program is on the Fourth. To date, none of the Pine Level firemen have achieved the pyrotechnics certification, so the firemen cannot fire the fireworks program. Mayor Holt said he talked with the Selma fire chief and they have never fired their own fireworks. He said the show could be held on another day, other than the Fourth, and that would probably save a lot of money. He asked the clerk to get prices on the other nights, such as July 2nd or 3rd.

CENSUS

Mayor Holt commented that he received information from the Census Bureau concerning the 2010 census results and whether or not the town would want to challenge the results. He said there would be a two-year window for a challenge to be submitted. The clerk said the town has not received their official census results yet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Gudac reported that the PL Fire Department would hold Fireman's Day on Saturday, May 7th, with barbeque chicken and pork chop plates. He encouraged everyone to support the fire department.

The clerk asked if any board members would be attending the Town Hall Day dinner on Wednesday, May 4th in Clayton, NC. Mayor Holt directed the clerk to let the Town of Clayton know that all five board members would be attending the dinner.

Kester Kornegay asked how the town hall project is progressing. Dan Simmons said it was on schedule and moving right along, toward a mid-July completion date.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, at 7:45 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Gudac

SECOND: Pittman

VOTE: unanimous

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR