

TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JUNE 15, 2009
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, June 15, 2009 at the Pine Level Town Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

STAFF PRESENT

Town Clerk Sharon Thompson

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Holt gave the invocation and Commissioner Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE: Gudac
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 05-11-09, 05-18-09

MOTION TO APPROVE: Pittman
SECOND: Garner
VOTE: unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

The mayor then opened the floor for discussion of any non-agenda items. Terry Rains asked about carrier routes for Pine Level. The mayor said the postal service received copies of the town's 279 addresses that receive mail on a Selma route, and he talked with the representative a couple of weeks ago and they may send letters out to all of those customers. He said the postal service is working on the issue. Terry Rains asked about going after a telephone exchange for Pine Level. Mayor Holt said they first need to resolve the postal issue before jumping onto anything else.

In other public comment, Kester Kornegay commented that he appreciated the fact that the board members had given up their pay from the town for the next fiscal year.

SPECIAL RETIREMENT RECOGNITION

Next, the mayor announced that the town was losing one of its long-term employees of 25 years. He said Calvin Watson has made the decision to retire after a lengthy period of poor health. He said the employees held a luncheon earlier in the day to honor Calvin and his wife, Linda. He quoted Commissioner Pittman as saying that "we can fill the position but we cannot replace the person." Many changes have taken place in the last 25 years and the town sincerely appreciates the hard work that Calvin has always exhibited. He wished Calvin well in his retirement and he presented a plaque to him and a check from the town. The mayor said Pine Level has been blessed with many good employees who have chosen to stay with the town for the long term.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2009-2010 BUDGET

At 7:10 p.m. the mayor opened a required public hearing on the budget for fiscal year 2009-2010, said hearing having been duly advertised on June 3, 2009 in *The Kenly News*. Mayor Holt highlighted a few items from the budget, one being no tax increase. He did say, however, that there were slight increases in water, sewer and garbage. He mentioned a 2% salary increase for employees. He also said that the board had cut some corners, such as all of the board members choosing not to be compensated for the upcoming year. He said they were passing along increases from the county for water and sewer treatment. He said they hoped to build up some funds to use toward the new water tank as well as a replacement for the garbage truck. He mentioned that one drawback to the budget was that several subdivisions had not developed as quickly as originally hoped, but there was one subdivision currently on the starting blocks.

Kester Kornegay asked a few questions concerning the changes in the budget from last year to the proposed year and asked about the recreation expenses, which are new to the town's budget. Commissioner Anderson commented that the recreation department raises money for their expenses, such as uniforms. There being no further comment on the budget, the mayor closed the hearing at 7:20 p.m.

The board moved quickly to approve the budget ordinance, a copy of which is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference. Mayor Holt expressed appreciation to everyone for his or her hard work on the budget.

MOTION TO ADOPT: Gudac
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nester McClain said things were going well with the seniors group. Commissioner Pittman said next month would be the third anniversary for them. The mayor commented that their financial statement looked good.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

STREETS: Commissioner Garner. Everything going okay; had to do some repairs to the garbage truck. Need to plan for a truck replacement. Trucks usually good for about 12 years. Hate to see Calvin leave the public works department. That position will be advertised in the local paper.

WATER/SEWER: Commissioner Gudac. Water system is back on town water. Had a few incidents with low water pressure during change over, but everything should be getting back to normal. Water tank interior is painted and in good shape. Commissioner Pittman asked about a policy to notify customers when water problems come up. Commissioner Gudac said Ray Stuckey personally notified one of the businesses, which complained the most about the water, and the manager did not pass along the information to the home office and the other employees. Kevin Kornegay said his tenants asked him about the water being out and they did not know what was going on. Commissioner Gudac said they might need to look at some way in the future to let customers know when water problems arise.

RECREATION: Commissioner Anderson. Sports underway, registration gearing up for football and cheering. July Fourth coming up, many activities will take place at the park. Lights are up on new ballfields, fencing will be next.

POLICE: Mayor explained that a proposal had come up in the legislature to charge law enforcement for training, re-testing, certification, etc., but it has since been rescinded. Commissioner Gudac said it could have cost the town

about \$1,000 a year, if it had passed. Commissioner Pittman pointed out more kids are out on the streets since school is out now and the summer days are stretching longer, and he encouraged everyone to keep an eye out for them. Commissioner Anderson said there was a controversy at the park with the field use, but she thought that was cleared up.

ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT

Next, the board considered a proposed text amendment to the Pine Level Zoning Ordinance. Mayor Holt commented that Bob Harned came before the board last month, asking for a change in the town's zoning regulations that would allow horses, cows, and other livestock on an RA parcel of five acres or more. He said the board members each had a copy of the proposed text change. The amendment would require a public hearing and it would be referred to the Planning Board for their review and recommendation. The board unanimously agreed to call for a public hearing on the proposed text amendment at their next meeting on July 13, 2009.

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Garner
VOTE: unanimous

Commissioner Anderson questioned if this was the proposal that Frank Wood drew up. The mayor said Dave Holmes and Frank Wood worked on the text proposal. Commissioner Anderson asked if the Planning Board meeting is the place to discuss the amendment. Mayor Holt said the board could take action after the public hearing.

CDBG PUBLIC HEARING

The board unanimously agreed to call for a public hearing on July 13th to consider changing CDBG funding from construction costs to administration purposes.

MOTION: Garner
SECOND: Gudac
VOTE: unanimous

POLICE CAR FINANCING

The board unanimously adopted a resolution to approve financing for the purchase of a 2009 Chevrolet Impala police car from Bobby Murray Chevrolet. A copy of the resolution is hereby included with and made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

JC 3-YEAR UPDATE OF SOLID WASTE PLAN

Next, the board unanimously adopted a Resolution to Approve a 3-year Update of the Johnston County 10-Year Solid Waste Plan. A copy of the resolution is hereby included with and made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

REQUEST FOR SEWER FROM DAVID MEYERS

Mayor Holt explained that Mr. David Meyers, who runs Meyers Mini-Mart on US Highway 70, has asked the town for permission to tie his business onto the town's sewer system at Trailwood Village Mobile Home Park. Mr. Meyers said his septic system is failing and the county has said it is not suitable for repairs. Dan Simmons reported that Mr. Meyers has an existing pump system and he has obtained easements for the property between him and the Trailwood Village pump site. He said it would cross private property and would not be on the road shoulder, or it would have to belong to the town. He said it would go through a force main to the Trailwood pump and Mr. Meyers would own the lines and he would be responsible for them and their maintenance. Commissioner Pittman asked whose property the sewer connection would cross; Dan Simmons said it was Charlie Snipes and Ray Whitley. Mayor Holt asked if there would be any need to upsize the line, but Commissioner Gudac explained that this would be a private service and no one would be able to tie onto it in the future. Commissioner Anderson asked if the county would inspect the line; Dan Simmons said it would actually be up to the town to inspect the line.

Commissioner Gudac asked Mr. Meyers if he would want to have his property annexed by the town. Mr. Meyers said that was up to the town. Mayor Holt asked if the board would need to take action tonight. Dan Simmons said yes, to decide on the sewer request. The mayor asked how would the town bill Mr. Meyers for his sewer usage. Dan Simmons said he would become a town water customer as well, and the county would bill the town for water and in turn, the town would bill Mr. Meyers. Mayor Holt questioned the pleasure of the board concerning the request to connect to the town's sewer system. The board unanimously approved for Mr. Meyers to connect to the sewer system as explained by Dan Simmons.

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

REQUESTED WAIVER OF FEES FROM JIMMY AND FAYE STARLING

The board then considered a request made by Jimmy and Faye Starling to waive the fees required by the capital reimbursement agreement they have with the town, concerning the sewer system that they constructed to serve Trailwood Village. Dan Simmons explained that Mr. Meyers would be required to pay over \$67,000 to tie his business into the sewer lines constructed by Mr. Starling. He also explained that there is a section in the agreement that allows a waiver of the fees if both the Starlings and the town agree to it. Mayor Holt said they received a copy of that particular section of the agreement in their agenda packets this month. The board agreed unanimously to approve the waiver for Mr. Meyers as proposed by the Starlings.

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

ANNEXATION REQUEST FROM DAVID MEYERS

As a prerequisite to being able to connect to the town's sewer, Mr. Meyers must make a voluntary request for annexation to the town. The board next considered the request made by Mr. Meyers for annexation of his two tracts on US Highway 70. Commissioner Gudac asked if it would slow down Mr. Meyers' project if a public hearing were put off until August. Dan Simmons said it would not affect his connecting to the sewer system. The board agreed unanimously to hold a public hearing on the request for annexation on August 10, 2009 and to direct the clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the annexation petition. Copies of those two resolutions are hereby included with and made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Garner
SECOND: Gudac
VOTE: unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION: Pittman
SECOND: Gudac
VOTE: unanimous

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR