

TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
AUGUST 10, 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, August 10, 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 Attorney Frank Wood, Police Chief Keith Sparks, Public Works Superintendent Ray Stuckey, Town Clerk Sharon Thompson

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Holt gave the invocation and Commissioner Pittman led the Pledge of Allegiance. The mayor then welcomed all those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE: Gudac
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 07-13-09

MOTION TO ADOPT: Gudac
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNEXATION REQUEST

At 7:03 p.m. the mayor opened a required public hearing on a voluntary annexation request filed by David E. Meyers, said hearing having been advertised on July 22, 2009 in *The Kenly News*. Mayor Holt commented that the board did not have to act on the request and they could let it lay open. He asked if anyone wished to speak, either in opposition to the request or in favor of the request. No one was present to address the issue. Frank Wood advised the board that the request could lay open for six months or it was deemed denied. There being no other comment the board voted to close the public hearing at 7:05 p.m. Commissioner Pittman suggested that no action be taken at this time. Mayor Holt stated that no action was taken on the request for annexation.

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mayor Holt then welcomed Department of Transportation representatives to the meeting to discuss the Johnston County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). Sarah Ezzell, Daniel Van Liere, and Rupal Desai gave a presentation from the NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch. Ms. Ezzell, a transportation engineer with the NCDOT, said Pine Level previously adopted a transportation plan in 1992. She explained how the updated long range planning process utilizes the concept of CTP's. She defined the CTP as (1) a long-ranged, multi-modal transportation plan, (2) developed cooperatively with NCDOT, the local planning organizations, and representatives from the county and its municipalities, (3) emphasizes incorporating local land use plans and community goals, (4) adopted at three levels – local (county/municipalities), regional (MPO/RPO), and state (NCDOT). According to Ms. Ezzell, future projects included in Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP's), which are 7-year planning and funding schedules adopted by the NCDOT Board of Transportation, will be selected from a previous CTP, which have a 25-30 year time span and they are not fiscally constrained. She went on to explain the following components of a CTP: (1) emphasis on multi-modal (highway, public transportation and rail, bicycle and pedestrian), (2) map set and written report, (3) recommendations as to what is existing or what needs improvement, (4) highway categories (freeways, expressways, boulevards, etc.), and (5) strategic highway corridors (with ultimate vision of statewide mobility). She stressed that a CTP would create a plan with common, cohesive future transportation vision among the county, the municipalities, the NCDOT and the planning organizations. It would also incorporate local priorities, local use plans, community goals, and statewide goals; it would emphasize multi modes of transportation and ease travel demand, provide customer friendly documentation and provide corridor protection for future growth needs.

Commissioner Pittman asked if sidewalk projects could be included; Ms. Ezzell answered yes, that sidewalks could be a part of the plan. She also stated that their next committee meeting would be on August 27th. Mayor Holt commented that adopting the proposed resolution in support of the CTP would not mean Pine Level was committing to any particular plan. Ms. Ezzell agreed, since there is no plan as yet. She said they would just be agreeing to come and participate in the discussions and planning. Commissioner Pittman said they went and gave their input at earlier DOT meetings concerning the Super 70 Corridor, but to no avail. Daniel Van Liere said that was not related to the program they were presenting. Mayor Holt added that no project in Johnston County would affect Pine Level like the Super 70 Corridor project will, and he said the board could simply not get excited about a CTP. Mr. Liere again said they had no input on the 70 project, but they would like to see Pine Level included in the planning stages for other projects. After more discussion about the Highway 70 project, Mayor Holt summed up that Pine Level was extremely displeased with the harmful results to the Town of Pine Level, but he acknowledged that there is a need for a plan in Johnston County to address future growth.

Ms. Ezzell said the best information comes from local participants, since they are more familiar with the areas they represent. She said the board did not have to act on their request tonight, that they could take it into consideration and study it before deciding whether to participate or not. She said she understood the town's concerns over the 70 project, and that the section in the resolution in support of that plan could be removed from their proposed resolution. The mayor said they would study the proposal further before taking any action on it.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The mayor then called for public comment on non-agenda items. Kester Kornegay said he had a question for Dan Simmons, but he was not here. Mayor Holt said Mr. Simmons was hospitalized for a heart procedure but he is recuperating well at home. Commissioner Gudac assured Mr. Kornegay the waterline project was not completed and that his property would be put back as it was before the project was initiated.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Mayor Holt pointed out that Sal Navarro had applied to serve on the Pine Level Planning Board. He said there was a vacant in-town alternate seat on the board and that Mr. Navarro could be appointed to serve in that capacity. The board unanimously adopted a resolution appointing Mr. Navarro to fill the vacant alternate seat on the Planning Board, with a term to expire October 31, 2012. A copy of the resolution is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION TO ADOPT: Gudac
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

STREETS: Commissioner Garner. Everything going well. Hot weather affecting trash pick-up. Hope to look at paving possibilities in near future.

RECREATION: Commissioner Anderson. Football practice starting tonight. Pine Level to participate in local league this year – JC Football League, and not the East Wake Football League. Fall sports signup still underway. Seniors group to meet this Wednesday, August 12th. New park lights are up and operational. Fencing is almost complete, everything looks very nice.

WATER/SEWER: Commissioner Gudac. Said that no news is good news. Trying to finish waterline to Custom Assemblies and put everything back in order; going well so far.

POLICE: Commissioner Pittman. Chief Sparks reported that the police department observed traffic in the Laura/Mark Subdivision in response to the petition requesting traffic calming devices on Jill Boulevard. He said they observed the area for 48 hours and that just under 50% of the traffic in the area exceeded the speed limit by at least 7 MPH. He said the speed limit is 15 MPH and that several vehicles exceeded 40 MPH. He recommended approval of the traffic calming devices in that neighborhood, as requested by the petition. He said the only risk of liability in other areas has come from lack of signage and not the humps themselves. He said their placement should avoid driveways on Jill Blvd. Commissioner Gudac said that could be done using Powell Bill money and he moved to accept the chief's report and recommendation on the traffic calming devices. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

Commissioner Pittman commented that school starts on August 25th, so the department will need to work with the school to ensure safety in the school area and to see that traffic is not blocking residents' driveways. Kevin Kornegay questioned how the collaboration has worked between local police departments. Chief Sparks said they have had good results thus far with the traffic check points.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Town Attorney Frank Wood reported that he met with Dan Simmons on the land deal for the new water tank and everything appeared to be on track.

Mayor Holt added that the buffer and playground area have not been completed at Pine South II because the developer has not completed his obligations.

Commissioner Anderson reported that the Recreation Committee has studied use of the ball fields by outside teams and has come up with a proposal for charging them for usage. She said there are a lot of teams coming to Pine Level to practice because Pine Level does not charge for use of the fields. She said that would probably be coming up in the near future.

Mayor Holt commented on the budget amendments at June 30, 2009, which were included in the agenda packets. He also made note of the county's annual wastewater facilities report from Tim Broome.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to address, at 8:05 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION: Anderson
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR