



TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
NOVEMBER 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, November 14, 2013 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, Consultant Dan Simmons, Public Works Supt. Ray Stuckey, Recreation Coordinator Scottie Hayes, Town Clerk Sharon Thompson

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Holt asked Commissioner Gudac to give the invocation and Commissioner Garner led the Pledge of Allegiance. The mayor then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

MOTION: Anderson
SECOND: Gudac
VOTE: unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 10-10-13

MOTION: Gudac
SECOND: Pittman
VOTE: unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Holt asked if anyone wished to comment on a non-agenda item. Greg Baker, who resides at 503 East Pine Street, addressed the board. Mr. Baker was elected in the recent municipal election on November 5th to serve on the Board of Commissioners. He offered his sincere thanks to Commissioner Gudac for his many years of service on the board and said that he knew he had a lot to learn but he was really looking forward to serving on the board. He said he was humbled by his victory and really didn't have any idea that he would win on his first attempt to get elected. Mayor Holt thanked Mr. Baker for his comments and said they too, looked forward to what Mr. Baker would contribute to the board of commissioners.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

No committees were represented, however Scottie Hayes reported that the Parks and Restoration Committee had about 20 people to participate in the 5k race on October 26th. \$280 in race revenues was turned in at the town hall in October.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

WATER/SEWER: Commissioner Gudac. Nothing much going on in water/sewer. Unsure if sewer pump has been replaced at Eastside pump station. Still looking at long range plans for infrastructure with Dan Simmons. Ray Stuckey reported that the sewer pump has not come in yet.

STREETS: Commissioner Pittman. Engine has been replaced in garbage truck. Men are busy with leaf pick-up. Mayor Holt said it was good there would be no more smoke coming from the garbage truck engine.

POLICE: Commissioner Garner. Working to keep crime down in town. Holidays coming up, will have more men on duty at night. Police department has a new cell number for contacting the officer on duty.

RECREATION: Commissioner Anderson. Scottie Hayes reported that registration is wrapping up for basketball. Will have about 11 teams playing. Also participating in a football invitational tournament Thanksgiving weekend. Has been a good year in recreation. Christmas parade coming up on Sunday, December 8th. Possibility of three bands for parade. Will run same route as last year.

FINANCE: Town Clerk reported that the auditor has been working in the office and should be through with the audit within a few days.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Dan Simmons informed the board that Johnston County will be able to enforce erosion control in the near future, instead of NCDENR. He said he should soon have a memorandum of understanding for the board to adopt, which would allow for the county to handle this enforcement on behalf of the town.

Commissioner Pittman asked Mr. Simmons to check on the status of the sidewalk project for South Peedin Avenue, which has been dragging along.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED RAILROAD CROSSING CLOSING

Mayor Holt said the project was still in the design phase and they could probably take the topic off of the agenda until the railroad comes back with definite plans. Commissioner Gudac said it was his understanding that they ran into a problem with wetlands in the area and he didn't know if they would be able to accomplish the project as originally proposed.

UPDATE ON PRIMITIVE CHURCH PROPERTY

Mayor Holt reported that he received word from the church that they had the church building and property appraised, and the appraisal came in at \$89,000. He said the board needs to decide how to proceed with the offer to purchase the old church property. Commissioner Gudac said he would like to see the town own the property, although he was uncertain as to the value of the old building. He suggested that the town form a committee to assess the building and determine how much money it would take to bring it up to a condition that would be of use to the town. Commissioner Anderson suggested Randy Holloman for the committee. Mayor Holt asked the board if they would empower the mayor to study the issue and appoint a committee to look into the value of the property and whether or not it could be of use to the town. The board unanimously approved that suggestion.

MOTION: Gudac

SECOND: Anderson

VOTE: unanimous

UPDATE ON WATER/SEWER FOR EAST JOHNSTON INDUSTRIAL PARK

The mayor reported that he informed the board last month on a meeting between the parties involved, and he said the ball was now in their court. Dan Simmons said he spoke earlier today with Skip Green, who would be the grant writer for the project, and Mr. Green said the General Metals people don't want to spend any money and that they have some areas of their business that don't comply with grant requirements. He indicated that the owners need to make some decisions and they simply have not done that. Mayor Holt said they would all like to see the business grow, but the town does not have the money to throw into such projects. He also felt that this issue could be deleted from the agenda, at least until the business owners come to some decision on what they are willing to do.

COUNTY WIDE STUDY ON PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Mayor Holt said he received information last month from JC Tourism Authority, asking approval from JC municipalities for a study of recreation facilities in the county. He said they would use it as a tool to enhance growth in the county, and they also provided a sample resolution that could be adopted by the board. He turned the information over to Frank Wood and asked him to review it and make a recommendation to the board in December.

PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The board unanimously approved the reappointment of Randy Holloman, Berry Godwin and Terry Rains to new three year terms on the Pine Level Planning Board, to expire 10-31-13. A resolution is included with and made a part of these minutes by reference.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Mayor Holt commented that there would be an annual Christmas luncheon with the board and employees sometime before the next board meeting. Commissioner Anderson said Tuesday or Friday suited her best, Commissioner Gudac said Monday or Tuesday would be best for him. The mayor said he had thought of having the living World War II veterans as the parade Grand Marshals this year. Donald Ray Thompson said that Carlee Pittman, Nester McClain, Walter Ralph Edwards and Leyland House would all qualify. Commissioner Pittman said to put the story in the newspaper and see if any other veterans would qualify, from the Pine Level area. Mayor Holt said he would contact those four men and see if they would agree to serve and that they could ride in the horse-drawn carriage in the parade. He also said he hoped to get a jeep in the parade that was used at the invasion of Normandy in World War II.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

The mayor read from newspaper clippings that came from 1966. The first concerned Boy Scout news, which listed registration fees as 50 cents, and stated that Dick Parker was the new Scout Master. Then he read from an article concerning the Pine Level Fire Department, wherein they had gone to Michigan to pick up their new pumper truck, which cost them \$12,000. He said Ralph Styron was fire chief at the time and that the annual truck payment was \$1200 a year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Pittman asked who would perform the swearing in for the board in December. Mayor Holt suggested doing the same thing as for the last election. He said the clerk could swear him in as mayor and then he could swear in the commissioners.

MEETING ADJOURNED

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

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR