



TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2014
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

After declaring a quorum present, Mayor Jeff Holt called a regular meeting of the Pine Level Board of Commissioners to order at 7:04 p.m. on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at the Pine Level Town Hall.

ROLL CALL

 X COMMISSIONER KAREN ANDERSON
 X COMMISSIONER GREG BAKER
 X COMMISSIONER JIMMY GARNER
 COMMISSIONER PHIL PITTMAN (out of town)
 X MAYOR JEFF HOLT

STAFF PRESENT

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Holt gave the invocation and Commissioner Baker then led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ADDITIONS: 10. (D) Property maintenance (GB)

MOTION TO APPROVE: Anderson
SECOND: Baker
VOTE: unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 09-11-14

MOTION TO APPROVE: Anderson
SECOND: Baker
VOTE: unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

SENIORS: Senior group met yesterday, had good attendance. (Commissioner Garner in at this point at 7:10 p.m.)

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

STREETS: Commissioner Baker. Men in public works dept. working hard lately. Nothing major to report. Mayor Holt asked if there are any plans for paving, Mr. Stuckey said that he plans to patch several areas where the streets have been cut. Commissioner Anderson asked about putting a message on water bills reminding citizens to pull in their garbage carts after their garbage has been picked up.

RECREATION: Commissioner Anderson. Football, cheering, soccer underway. Winter sports sign-up coming up next. Cleaned up a couple of the park shelters, still studying what to do with old tennis courts. Mayor commented that Halloween is coming soon and asked what times were established for trick or treating. The answer was 6 to 8 p.m. and the clerk said that she sent the information on Halloween to the *Pine Level News*. Chief Sparks asked about a blanket approval for the upcoming local civic group turkey shoot events. The board voted unanimously to approve turkey shoots for the PL Lions Club and the PL American Legion.

MOTION: Baker
SECOND: Garner
VOTE: unanimous

Commissioner Anderson noted that the annual Christmas parade will be held on Sunday, December 14th. She also reported that the county approved for the recreation grant to be applied to the fence repairs at the park.

POLICE: Commissioner Garner. Everything going well. Holiday season approaching. Citizens should call 9-1-1 for any suspicious activity. Bids for second police car should soon be available.

WATER/SEWER: The board considered a recommendation from Commissioner Pittman that the town go ahead and repair the following manholes, at a total cost of \$17,903.50.

111 N. Capps St.	\$3102.54
Country Est. MHP	3320.28
1306 US Hwy 70-A	3740.15
205-A S. Capps St.	3967.04
N. Capps St. & W. Blanche	3773.49
Total	17903.50

Mr. Stuckey said those five manholes were the next ones most in need of repair. The board voted unanimously to approve the sewer repairs by JCB Construction Co., Inc., 645 Madison Avenue, Suffolk VA, 23434.

MOTION: Garner
SECOND: Baker
VOTE: unanimous

FIRE DEPT: Greg Johnson reported that the Fire Department hosted the Seniors' meeting yesterday at the new fire station. He also said they went to the elementary school earlier today and educated the kids for Fire Prevention Week. He said their Reverse Drawing would be coming up on November 8th, with a \$4000 grand prize to be given away.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

The town clerk reported that the annual audit was still on-going. She also reported that the new awning from Signs and Awning Systems in Dunn, NC was installed earlier in the day over the drive-thru window. Working with mayor and insurance representatives to find best health insurance proposal for December 1st renewal. Started accepting debit/credit cards for payment on October 1st, seems to be well received. Received a \$99 payment as a result of Debt Set-Off letters being distributed. Briefly reviewed annual report on Frank H. George appearance fund.

RESOLUTION SEEKING ASSISTANCE FROM NCDOT ON DRAINAGE PROJECT

Mayor Holt stated that he has been talking with the NCDOT about drainage repairs needed on SR#1927, (West Main Street), and they require a resolution approved by the Board of Commissioners, to provide help with the engineering, design and funding for the project. He said a letter would probably be necessary from the railroad as well, since the work is along their right of way. The board voted unanimously to approve the resolution, a copy of which is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Garner
SECOND: Baker
VOTE: unanimous

Ray Stuckey said he recently repaired a hydrant in the same area on West Main Street and in doing so, he located the water line and valve on that end of town that he never knew existed.

PROCLAMATION FOR RED RIBBON WEEK, OCT. 23-31

Mayor Holt said that the elementary school will be observing "Red Ribbon Week" in honor of a drug free community, from October 23-31, 2014, and they want to hold a parade around the block on October 31st at 10:00 a.m. The board voted unanimously to approve a proclamation for Red Ribbon Week, a copy of which is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference. Mayor Holt advised the police chief to be in contact with the school principal concerning the parade.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Anderson
SECOND: Garner
VOTE: unanimous

PETITION FOR SPEED BUMPS

The board then reviewed a petition submitted to the town, requesting speed bumps, or "traffic calming devices," on James Drive. The petition drive was organized by Keith and Lisa Vaughn and it contained 16 signatures out of a total of 26 property owners. Chief Sparks said the James Drive area was much like LauraMark Subdivision, in that the police department had nowhere to sit and monitor speed in the area, unseen by passing motorists. Mayor Holt commented that a couple of bumps would probably be enough for James Drive and the police department could decide on their placement. Commissioner Garner said that there must be a problem in the area, with that many residents signing a petition to request help with speeding. The board then voted unanimously to approve the request for speed bumps on James Drive, as petitioned by the residents.

MOTION: Garner
SECOND: Baker
VOTE: unanimous

APPOINTMENTS TO PL PLANNING BOARD

Next, the board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution re-appointing Cecelia Weaver and Faye Starling to three year alternate seats on the Pine Level Planning Board, terms to expire 10-31-17. Mayor Holt said the board could make those appointments since they are both in-town members, and he welcomed both Mrs. Weaver and Mrs. Starling back on the Planning Board. A copy of the resolution is included with and hereby made a part of these minutes by reference.

MOTION: Baker
SECOND: Anderson
VOTE: unanimous

PROPERTY APPEARANCE ISSUES

Commissioner Baker commented on two houses in town where the yards are severely overgrown and in need of immediate attention. He said one was at 103 Jill Blvd. and the second was at 105 Lori Drive. He said the owners need to be put on notice to take care of the yards. Chief Sparks thought that the USDA owns one of those properties; he said they are slow to give their approval for such requests. The chief said he has had a couple of lots cleaned up, by a private individual paid by the town. Mayor Holt stated they would leave the issue in the chief's hands to look into and take care of.

REQUEST FROM CHRIS JOHNSON

Mayor Holt then recognized a latecomer to the meeting, who identified himself as Chris Johnson, owner/operator of Carolina Sporting and Security, located on US Highway 70. Mr. Johnson indicated to the board that he talked previously with Scottie Hayes about the possibility of an indoor firing range at his business location. He said he has already applied with the NRA and he would like to meet with the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on November 13th and discuss the idea more fully. Mayor Holt agreed and asked Mr. Johnson to come back to the November meeting.

In conjunction with that idea, Mayor Holt said that George Moore had also talked to Scottie Hayes about teaching a "Concealed Carry Permit" class through the recreation department and teaching the classroom part here at the town hall. The actual shooting part would be done at Springhill Outfitters, out from Selma. The mayor said he wasn't sure about any liability to the town for that type of program and they would have to look more into that possibility, as well.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

Mayor Holt reiterated about the renewal coming up on December 1st for employee health insurance. Commissioner Anderson asked about the personnel policy review and questioned exactly what were they supposed to do with the policy. The mayor said to review the policy and make note of any items that need to be reviewed or updated.

He then read a thank you note from the elementary school for the teachers' planners that the town provides for them each year.

Next, the mayor read from a memo written by Major General O. O. Howard to General W. T. Sherman, dated April 11, 1965, while the Union forces were encamped in Pine Level in the area next to the railroad tracks.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, at 7:50 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION: Anderson
SECOND: Baker
VOTE: unanimous

TOWN CLERK

MAYOR