

**TOWN OF PINE LEVEL
MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2017
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, October 9, 2017 at the Pine Level Town Hall.

ROLL CALL

X Commissioner Karen Anderson
√ Commissioner Greg Baker
√ Commissioner Jimmy Garner
√ Commissioner Phil Pittman
√ Mayor Jeff Holt

STAFF PRESENT

Town Attorney Will Barham, Consultant Dan Simmons, Public Works Supt. Ray Stuckey, Recreation Coordinator Scottie Hayes, Police Chief Keith Sparks and Deputy Clerk Connie Capps

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Holt asked everyone to remember Town Clerk Sharon Thompson and her family on the passing of her Dad, Johnnie Wootton, earlier this morning. He said a graveside service is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Next, Commissioner Greg Baker gave the invocation and Mayor Holt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

Mayor Holt said he would like to amend the agenda to add item (F.) under #11 New Business – Pine Level VFW Building and Commissioner Phil Pittman said he would like to add under #6 Public Comment- Mr. Arnold Turner.

Motion to approve: Commissioner Greg Baker
Second: Commissioner Phil Pittman
Vote: Unanimous

MINUTES: September 11, 2017

Motion to approve: Commissioner Phil Pittman
Second: Commissioner Greg Baker
Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING AMENDMENT

The Mayor then opened a required public hearing on a recommendation from the Planning Board to amend Section 308, Table of Permitted Uses, in the Pine Level Zoning Ordinance that will allow the outdoor display of merchandise in Commercial Districts. He said everyone received a copy of the amendment which was enclosed with the agenda items. The public hearing having been duly advertised on September 20th and September 27th in the *Pine Level Edition of the Kenly News*.

Mayor Holt asked that anyone wishing to speak at the public hearing should be sworn in. There was none. He said the Planning Board has requested amending the Table of Permitted Uses on page 23 of the Zoning Ordinance under Outdoor Display of Merchandise, to add a "D" for Development Standards under the Commercial District. Mayor Holt said this would allow businesses in the Commercial District to display merchandise outside of their business during normal business hours. Commissioner Phil Pittman made a motion to amend the ordinance as presented, and Commissioner Greg Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. Commissioner Greg Baker made a motion to close the public hearing and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. Motion passed on a unanimous vote. The public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Holt invited Mr. Arnold Turner to speak next. Mr. Turner told the board that he resides at 1246 Evans Road in Princeton. He said he had previously purchased land on 70-A Highway in the ETJ of Pine Level and placed a garage on the property. He said he would like to have water and sewer on this property. He said he had contacted the County and the price was going to be \$1515.00. He said the property has a sewer tap already on it and there is a sewer line running beside his property. He said he had laid a line from his building to the existing tap and then contacted the town in order for them to show him where he could connect. He said he was told he could not connect to the town lines without paying a sewer tap fee. He questioned why he had to pay for a sewer tap when there was a tap already on the property. The Mayor informed Mr. Turner that anyone requesting water and sewer from the town would need to request for annexation. Mr. Turner said the rates that he was quoted from the town are higher than Johnston County. Water and Sewer Commissioner Pittman said the town's fees are higher due to this property being out-of-town. Mayor Holt asked if there was any action from the board on this request. Commissioner Pittman said he could see Mr. Turner's concern and would like to be of help but he felt the board could not go against the town's policy. Mr. Turner said that he would take the line up and forget the water and sewer and cover back up what he had started. He said he did not think this was fair. The board agreed with Commissioner Pittman and said they were sorry Mr. Turner's plan did not work out.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

None.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

Recreation: Scottie Hayes said football and soccer were underway and basketball sign-ups are now in progress. Mayor Holt also said that the Lions Club and American Legion Turkey Shoots would be coming up in November and that these events could be approved tonight also.

Motion to approve: Commissioner Garner

Second: Commissioner Pittman

Vote: Unanimous

Water/Sewer: Commissioner Pittman presented a copy of the Utility Fees Rate Sheet to the board. He said utility fees vary from subdivisions to private lots and commercial lots. He asked that the board review this sheet to see if any modifications need to be made. Dan Simmons also said he would need to meet with Ray Stuckey for half a day to discuss plans for the waterline projects.

Streets: Commissioner Baker stated that the men are working hard and doing a good job. He said the garbage truck is still working.

Police: Commissioner Garner said the policemen have had to stop a few crimes in town, but are cracking down on speeding and drugs. He said the town was growing and may need to look into funding two more policemen in the future.

Finance: None

Fire Department: Vice-President Brandon Holloman informed the board of the fire department's annual reverse raffle to be held on Saturday, November 4th. He also said this week was Fire Prevention Week and that the firemen would be at the schools and daycares to inform children on Fire Safety.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Holt stated that Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Garner attended the banquet for the American Legion's 70th Year Gathering on behalf of the town. He said that Mr. Garner presented the Legion with a plaque on behalf of the Town of Pine Level. He said the event was well attended and supported. Mayor Holt also reminded everyone of the American Legion turkey shoot to be held in November.

APPOINTMENTS TO PLANNING BOARD

Mayor Holt said Faye Starling and Cecelia Weaver had applied for the advertised positions as in-town alternates on the Planning Board. He said terms are for 3 years and their term would expire October 31, 2020.

Motion to reappoint: Commissioner Pittman

Second: Commissioner Baker

Vote: Unanimous

APPOINTMENT TO MOCCASIN CREEK SERVICE DISTRICT

Mayor Holt said only one person had applied with Johnston County for the position on the Moccasin Creek Service District. He said he was the only one that had applied.

Motion to recommend Jeff Holt for re-appointment: Commissioner Garner

Second: Commissioner Baker

Vote: Unanimous

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN

Mayor Holt presented the Limited English Proficiency Language Access Plan for the Town of Pine Level. He said this plan is compliant and was a requirement from the USDA. He said we now have a plan in place. The town attorney has approved this plan as well. This plan is included and made a part of these minutes.

Motion to approve LAP: Commissioner Pittman

Second: Commissioner Garner

Vote: Unanimous

RESOLUTION FOR OBSERVING HALLOWEEN

Mayor Holt read a Resolution urging residents to observe a safe Halloween. He said Trick-or-treating will take place on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and should be restricted to children under the age of 13. A copy of the resolution is included and made a part of these minutes.

Motion to adopt: Commissioner Garner

Second: Commissioner Baker

Vote: Unanimous

RECOGNIZING RED RIBBON WEEK

Mayor Holt announced that National Red Ribbon Campaign will be celebrated the week of October 23-29, 2017 at Pine Level Elementary School. He said there will be a parade on Friday, October 27th at 10 a.m. He said the Police Chief will be leading the parade and helping with traffic control. The mayor said he and other board members would be walking with the children. He also encouraged all citizens to participate as well. He read the proclamation and offered the citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to a drug-free lifestyle and a way to take a stand of saying NO to drugs and alcohol by wearing and displaying Red Ribbons during this week-long campaign.

Motion to accept proclamation: Commissioner Baker

Second: Commissioner Pittman

Vote: Unanimous

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Holt said due to the dwindling of ownership in the Pine Level VFW, the by-laws state that the property would become town property. He said when they lose their charter, a usage policy would need to be written and put in place. He said someone on the board would need to be in charge of this transition and oversee that the policy is carried out with the assistance of the Town Attorney. Commissioner Pittman made a motion to authorize Mayor Holt for this position. Commissioner Jimmy Garner seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Mayor Holt said in the past Johnston County Superintendents have met once a quarter with all town leaders, and he said Superintendent Ross Renfrow has scheduled a meeting at the Board of Education building on Thursday, October 12th at 9:00 a.m. He said he was unable to attend and asked if anyone would be interested in attending in his place. He said he would like Pine Level to be represented. Commissioner Phil Pittman said he could possibly attend, but would let him know.

Mrs. Hilda Moore who resides in Clearview Subdivision was present and asked the board members if there was an ordinance prohibiting roosters and chickens in the city limits of Pine Level. The board said there was an ordinance stating no roosters and chickens in town. She said she was awakened every morning too early. Scottie Hayes said that he and the Police Chief would follow up on this.

Austin Barbour was present to report on the Pine Level PTA and their fall celebration. He said it was a success and they raised over \$6,000. He also thanked Mayor Holt and Commissioner Pittman for cooking and for all their help and support in making this year's event a success.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Pittman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.

Connie N. Capps
Deputy Clerk

Jeff Holt
Mayor