

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 26, 2014
7:30 PM**

The City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Kathie deNobriga @ 7:30 PM. Present were Mayor Pro-Tem Megan Pulsts and Council Members Erika Brown, Mike Stuckey, Lynn Ehrlicher and George Chidi. Also present was Chief of Police Sarai Y'Hudah-Green and City Administrator Valerie Caldwell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Pro Tem Pulsts announced that the Council and the Architectural Review Board will have their Retreat on September 20, 2014 from 10:00 am -1:00 pm. The location is to be determined.

Council Member Chidi announced that a couple that reside in Pine Lake has generously donated two computers to the Police Department. The couple wish to remain anonymous and the computers have arrived. The Mayor will extend official thanks without violating their confidentiality.

The Mayor communicated that she spoke with Katie Zorning of Environmental Protection Division of Georgia Wetlands and they are aware of the current lake situation. The Mayor also spoke with the Corps of Engineers and they will assist with the preliminary research regarding the lake and the wetlands. The county cannot work on this issue without a permit from the Corps of Engineers because the lake is federal waters.

Mayor deNobriga communicated that there is a pending announcement to post a survey on the website regarding a community cookout for Labor Day weekend for dates and volunteers. The potential event will be sponsored out of the Mayors budget.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council Member Stuckey moved to accept the Adoption of Agenda, seconded by Pulsts and the vote passed 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Alan Gordon 487 Oak Drive stated that a group of citizens are in the process of forming a committee regarding the issues at the lake. He also stated that the community wants to see a holistic plan for the lake. Mr. Gordon also talked about the prior dredging of the lake and drainage to the creek and the wetlands.

John Weeks 534 Pine Drive commented about the wetlands and said that he has spoken with a representative at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and that they stated that the wetlands are not federally protected. Mr. Weeks gave the coordinates on eastern wetlands to USGS. He said he had spoken with Raoul Martinez, Public Works Supervisor who stated that there is a sewer line that is or may be leaking into the eastern wetlands. Mr. Weeks also talked about sewer leakage and erosion. He said that he would use his own funding to find out what is going on with the source water at the lake.

Cari Loomis 479 Clubhouse Drive commented about the lake levels and requested to have the lake level results available for citizen review. Ms. Loomis also recommended having a fundraiser to obtain a private company to perform the lake testing. The Mayor commented that citizen Karen Styes would be taking water samples from the flume before the water goes into the pipe for testing. Mayor deNobriga also said that the lake is an Eco System issue. Ms. Loomis stated that the fecal coliform numbers went up to 400 one month after the geese were gone and that the flume has been a problem for quite some time.

Phyllis Durmaz 4557 Ridge Drive commented about the 1st reading of the Ordinance Regarding Uninhabited and Unsafe Structures and said that she is against the ordinance. Ms. Durmaz also asked why the need for changed or addition of the ordinance.

Citizen Tommy Conlon stated that the five members of council are being able to exercise too much power as it relates to the proposed Ordinance Regarding Uninhabited and Unsafe Structures.

RECOGNITION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH – COUNCIL MEMBER CHIDI-

Council Member Chidi will establish formal recognitions for contributions to persons or organizations within the community as needed.

PERMACULTURE PRESENTATION

Christina Gibson, Designer for Shades of Green, Inc and Arron Pinkus 455 Forest Drive gave a permaculture presentation on ecologically integrating human and nature environments. The company also does projects with water, bio filtration, ecology systems, eatable spaces, community gardens, urban forestry and teach permaculture. Shades of Green, Inc. offered their ecological design services to the City of Pine Lake in exchange for use of the Clubhouse one weekend per month on Saturdays beginning September 2014 – March 2015 when available 9:00 am-6:00 pm and Sundays from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. Gibson stated that the master designs will be provided for the city pro bono and that additional funding resources are available. She also stated that Shades of Green, Inc could research incorporating a dog park into the design. The Mayor took a straw poll with all in favor and stated that details could began for the project.

OLD BUSINESS

REVIEW OF BIDS FOR CLUBHOUSE ROOF REPLACEMENT

After a brief discussion item was postponed and required additional information.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE REGARDING UNINHABITED AND UNSAFE STRUCTURES – COUNCIL MEMBER EHRLICHER

This agenda item was postponed for September 30th Work Session.

DISCUSSION OF DOG PARK AT FLEEMAN PARK

There was discussion on pricing of a fence, financing and the availability of grants and the need for policies for a dog park. No action was taken on this item.

NEW BUSINESS

There was not any new business.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

DISCUSSION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT ON REPEAT OFFENDERS

Chief Green discussed repeat offenders as it relates to Code Enforcement. The Chief said that there are steps for repeat offenders beginning with issuance of a citation and or jail time if the citation is not resolved in a timely manner. The noise ordinance and parking along Spring Street was also a topic of discussion.

Chief Green also talked about the recent storm and that several homes were damaged due to fallen trees. There were not any injuries as a result of the storm.

Mayor deNobriga stated that Larry Williams, Court Services has gotten computer, Wi-Fi and printing capability into the court room operating efficiently. The chief also provided the monthly report for the Police Department.

Council Member Brown recommended hiring a part time police officer to be on call after hours. This item was placed on the September 8th Council Meeting.

Missye Varner, Administrative Assistant provided the monthly report and stated that Family Dollar will have their Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on September 6th from 8:00am – 12:00 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tommy Conlon asked if the city could offer 10 hours of overtime for a police officer to work policing code enforcement issues.

John Weeks asked if Laradona Jenkins was on a contract with the city and suggested not to pay her if the lake is closed. He also said that he does not agree having a dog park in the city because people will not pick up behind the dogs. Weeks stated that the city does not need a snow plow and that the city has double standards for ticketing homeowners.

Glenn Weinstein 4557 Ridge Drive commented on a snow plow and said that it could tear up city streets.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Ehrlicher commented on the proposed dog park and said that it could build the community with benefits.

Brown stated that she will be attending an Economic Development Class on August 28th. She also said that Family Dollar is open but that we should remember to support the Ingles.

Chief Green stated that a security assessment has been performed with Family Dollar and the Police Department.

Council Member Chidi commented about the tractor and the status of its repairs and wearable body cameras for the police department. This item was placed on the September 8th Council Meeting Agenda.

Mayor deNobriga stated that she will contact Melanie Hammett to assist with the Public Hearing for zoning and land use. The Mayor also stated that she will request an update of the waiver for the Beach House from F. O. G. of Watershed Management as this is all that is needed for the opening of the Beach House.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Chidi motioned to adjourn Executive Session at 9:35 pm and reconvene in regular meeting, seconded by Ehrlicher and approved 5-0.

Pulsts announced she would be out of town for the 09/08/14 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned on motion by Ehrlicher and second by Pulsts. 10:03 PM

Missye Varner, Administrative Assistant

Approved minutes are posted on the website at <http://www.pinelakega.com/city-government/minutes/archive-minutes/>