

**MINUTES
TOWN HALL MEETING
MARCH 21, 2017**

The Mayor and Council held a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 in the Beach House beginning at 7:00 PM. Elected officials present – Mayor Melanie Hammet, Council members Jean Bordeaux, Brandy Hall, Tonja Holder, Megan Pulsts and August Woods. This Town Hall was called to discuss annexation.

Council member Holder began the meeting by addressing why this discussion was both important and timely. The desire of existing municipalities to expand their borders coupled with possibility of future approval of several potential new municipalities brings an urgency to the matter. She stated that the city faced three separate scenarios; (a) keeping the same borders at the same tax rate and ultimately cease to become a city by not being able to continue to provide the necessary city services; (b) keeping the borders the same but increasing city taxes to maintain the city and its services; or (c) increasing the city borders, keeping the tax rate the same which would also maintain the city and its services.

Several maps were presented illustrating the increased municipalization of the county and the possibility of Pine Lake being surrounded by other municipalities with no possibility of future expansion. The Mayor and council members outlined the meetings, discussions and contacts with other elected officials and legislators each has had to determine how to best protect Pine Lake from negative impacts encroaching municipalization.

The need for an Annexation Work Group was discussed. The group's mission would be to collect data, investigate possible annexation of different census tracts and ultimately present findings and make recommendations to City Council.

A second Town Hall meeting was scheduled for March 28, 2017 in the Beach House beginning at 7:00 PM.

Valerie Caldwell, City Administrator