

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA**

NOTE: All attendees are reminded to silence cellular phones and other devices that may cause interruption of the session proceedings.

Call to Order: Mayor Pro tem Jean Bordeaux called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Present: Mayor pro tem Jean Bordeaux and, Council Members Tracey Brantley and Nivea Castro. City Manager ChaQuias Miller-Thornton, Chief of Police Sarai Y’Hudah-Green, Administrative Coordinator Missye Varner and City Attorney Susan Moore were also present. Mayor Melanie Hammet, Council members Brandy Hall and Augusta Woods were not present.

Announcements/Communication

Mayor Pro tem Bordeaux announced that the 2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration will be held on Saturday June 17th 2:00 – 4:00 pm at the Beach House. There will be food and a bounce house for all to enjoy.

Adoption of Agenda of the Day

Council Member Brantley motioned to amend the agenda to add the Placement of Little Food Pantry to Old Business. Council Member Brantley motioned to adopt the amended agenda, seconded by Council Member Castro, the adoption of the agenda passed unanimously.

Adoption of the Minutes

- Regular Meeting – May 30, 2023

Council Member Castro motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Council Member Brantley, the adoption of the agenda passed unanimously.

Public Comments – 3 minutes each please

There were public comments regarding fishing and the potential effect on the waters of the lake. Also, there were comments regarding maintenance of the beach, lake, green spaces and city buildings. The folder is on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyeverner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call 404-999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

Old Business

Placement of Little Food Pantry

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Council Member Castro motioned to approve the Little Food Pantry to be location around the old City Hall at 462 Clubhouse Drive; seconded by Council Member Brantley and passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Resolution R-12-2023 – Confirmation of Executive Session held 05/30/2023

Council Member Castro motioned to approve Resolution R-12-2023 – Confirmation of Executive Session held 05/30/2023; seconded by Council Member Brantley and passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 2023-02 – Fee Schedule Amendment – Plan Review Fees amended by Council action on 05/30/2023 – 1st Read

Council Member Brantley presented the 1st Read of Ordinance 2023-02 – Fee Schedule Amendment – Plan Review Fees amended by Council action on 05/30/2023. There was no action taken on this item and it will be placed on the June 27th agenda for the 2nd read and vote.

3. Proposal – Municipal Court Clerk/Terminal Agency Coordinator Service and Training – Retired Court Clerk Consulting LLC

City Manager Miller-Thornton presented the proposal for – Municipal Court Clerk/Terminal Agency Coordinator Service and Training – Retired Court Clerk Consulting LLC. Council Member Brantley motioned to approve the proposal; seconded by Council Member Castro and passed unanimously.

4. Proposal - Police Department Police Administrative and Terminal Agency Coordinator Services – Tru/Eye Consulting

City Manager Miller-Thornton presented the proposal for Police Department Police Administrative and Terminal Agency Coordinator Services – Tru/Eye Consulting. Council Member Castro motioned to approve the proposal; seconded by Council Member Brantley and passed unanimously

5. Notification of Public Hearings and Meetings to consider Adoption of the 2023 Millage Rate – including Special Called Session of Council to be Held on 06/20/2023.

City Manager Miller-Thornton presented Notification of Public Hearings and Meetings to consider Adoption of the 2023 Millage Rate – including Special Called Session of Council to be Held on 06/20/2023 at 7:00PM in the Court Chambers at 459 Pine Drive.

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REPORT AND OTHER BUSINESS

Public Comments – 3 minutes each please

There were public comments regarding fishing and the potential effect on the waters of the lake. Also, there were comments regarding maintenance of the beach, lake and city buildings. The comments are on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyevarner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call 404-999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

Barbara Davis, 489 Spruce Drive inquired as to what makes a quorum. City Manager Miller-Thornton replied three members make a quorum. Resident Davis also inquired about the plans that former mayor Greg Zarus put in place and who was checking the activity logs for public works. Barbara Davis also commented that the back-up of the creek was documented years ago and presented to mayor and council at that time, although the exact year was not provided. She also commented on the 58k that was being funded for Poplar Park and asked why spending money was the priority with no attention given to things that mattered. In conclusion resident Davis conveyed that she is hopeful for resolutions but has no faith in Mayor and Council.

Staff Reports

City Manager Miller-Thornton
Administration and Public Works

Please refer to [the link](#) to access the City Managers report dated June 13, 2023. The City Manager reports are on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyevarner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call 404-999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

Chief Sarai Y'Hudah-Green
Public Safety

Please refer to [the link](#) to access the Police/Public Safety report dated June 13, 2023. The Police/Public Safety reports are on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyevarner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call 404-999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

Reports/Comments

Mayor

Mayor pro tem Bordeaux thanked the attendees and residents for staying for the remainder of the meeting and thanked City Manager Miller-Thornton for her excellent record keeping and for getting tasks completed so quickly. Mayor pro tem Bordeaux commented that the city now has

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a professional in the position of city manager who brings much expertise and does a lot for the city.

City Council

Council Member Castro

- commented that she appreciated the attendees for coming out to the meeting and stating their concerns and encouraged other residents to do the same.
- Stated that it's distressing to see things happening around the lake and that there is good police response
- Recommends more ticketing and signage that are visible

Council Member Brantley recommended that the beach/lake and green spaces regulations and policies need to be revisited.

City Manager Miller-Thornton talked about a community cleanup regarding cutting the alders around the lake. The city manager requested that a work order be presented to public works and/or would be contractors and that these cleanups must be coordinated with City Hall so that they may relay the efforts to Public Works if utilizing volunteers and requiring removal of debris. SEED and Jennifer Bridges are assembling a clean up day for hauling and the date has not been determined.

Information for “The Pine Lake News” eblast.

Juneteenth Celebration Saturday June 17th 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Join us for our 2nd Annual Juneteenth celebration. We will have an enactment of Sojourner Truth’s conversations with abolitionists by our own Pamela Poole-Starks along with lots of other educational and entertaining content. We will have tables set up for Voter Registration and for DeKalb’s emergency information system, Code Red.

There will be BBQ and Vegan Tacos between 1:00 – 5:00 and a free bouncy house for the kids. So even if you can’t make the program, you can celebrate Juneteenth by avoiding cooking and watching the kids having a great time. See [Flyer](#) for more information.

Millage Rate Hearings to be held June 20th and 27th, 2023.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings regarding the setting of the 2023 millage rate to be held in-person in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and on June 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. See [Official Notice](#).

The millage rate is applied to the assessed valuation of your property to determine the amount

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of tax to be paid. If you believe that your assessment is incorrect you may file an appeal with the DeKalb County Assessor's office. The deadline to file an appeal is July 10th, 2023.

The Town Hall has been changed to June 21st at 7:00 pm in the Beach House

Town Hall has been changed from June 20th to June 21st at 7:00 pm in the Beach House. The scheduled topics are: What does it take to be an elected official in Pine Lake? and Update on the plans for Poplar Park Improvements. There will also be time for Q&A.

Council Member Nivea Castro to Represent Pine Lake at International Conference

In July, Ms. Castro will travel to Mexico City to attend the Conference of LGBTI Political Leaders of the Americas and the Caribbean. Participants from all over the Americas and the Caribbean attend this conference to share ideas, exchange best practices, and lay the foundations for advancing equality in their countries of origin.

We are very grateful that Council Member Castro has taken it upon herself to represent us and to bring back valuable ideas from this important conference.

City Manager ChaQuias Thornton selected for Public Finance Leadership Academy (PFLA)

Ms. Thornton will attend thirteen sessions over a six month period with topics such as Economic Development and Budgeting for Long-Term Sustainability. To apply to this prestigious program, applicants must have completed the Level I and II Finance Officer Certification programs offered by the Carl Vinson Institute.

City Manager Thornton is very excited to be deepening her financial expertise and we are very grateful that she will bring this knowledge back to Pine Lake.

City Accepting Applications for Two Positions:

Beach Monitor - seasonal, part-time position.

Public Works Laborer - temporary, full time position.

If you know someone who might be interested in a summer job, please pass on this information. Application and position descriptions can be found at Employment Opportunities

Food Assistance Available to Pine Lake Neighbors

PLAIN's Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) program assists Pine Lake neighbors in need. If you or someone you know is food insecure or needs other assistance, please call 404 491-0774 and leave a message. A volunteer will call back to discuss needs and help available. All contacts

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are kept confidential.

Adjournment

Council Member Brantley motioned to adjourn at 9:08PM; seconded by Council Member Castro and passed unanimously.