

**CITY OF PINE LAKE  
WORK SESSION ACTION AGENDA  
November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 PM  
Pine Lake Clubhouse  
300 Clubhouse Drive, Pine Lake, GA**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Brandy Hall called the Work Session to order at 6:00pm.

Present: Mayor Brandy Hall, Mayor Pro Tem Bordeaux, Council Member Jeff Goldberg, Council Member Thomas Torrent, Council Member Tom Ramsey, and Council Member Augusta Woods. Also present were Interim City Manager Billy Beckett, Chief of Police Sarai Y'hudah-Green, Public Works Special Projects Manager Bernard Kendrick, and Assistant City Clerk Ned Dagenhard. City Attorney Susan Moore was not in attendance.

**Announcements/Communications**

Council Member Woods informed attendees that she and other Council Members had attended the DeKalb Municipal Association conference, and met with the delegation including State Representative Viola Davis, who represents the district that includes Pine Lake.

Mayor Hall added that she had also met with DeKalb CEO-elect Loraine Cochran-Johnson.

Mayor Hall continued that the City Manager search had begun—with the position being listed on the Georgia Local Government Access Marketplace—and one candidate was already scheduled for an interview.

Council Member Goldberg thanked Council Member Woods for being proactive in notifying other Council Members about the DMA conference, adding that he had also enjoyed conversation with Rep. Davis.

**Adoption of the Agenda of the Day**

Council Member Woods moved to adopt the Agenda of the Day; Council Member Torrent seconded.

No discussion took place.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

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**New Business**

**1. Swearing-in Ceremony – New Reserve Officers – Jamie Hayes & Anthony Brooks**

Mayor Hall performed the facilitated swearing-in Reserve Officers Jamie Hayes and Anthony Brooks. The officers respectively recited their oaths of office, and were formally welcomed by the Mayor.

No discussion took place.

No action was taken by City Council.

**2. Public Works Department – Level of Service - Discussion**

Special Projects Manager presented the Mayor and City Council with a categorization method for service level expectations, ranging from untouched natural spaces to highly-manicured gardens. City Council discussed at length in which categories they felt each area of public land fell. The consensus of Council suggested that the goal of Public Works would be to reasonably maintain the spirit of Pine Lake as a natural refuge with the practically necessary landscaping required to maintain functional spaces.

No action was taken by City Council.

**3. GMA Retreat Report**

Mayor Hall notified City Council and attendees that the retreat report had been received by the Georgia Municipal Association. The Mayor encouraged Council to read the report, stating that it mainly contains a suggested timetable and objectives.

No action was taken by City Council.

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**4. Passage of Statewide Homestead Exemption Amendment – Discussion**

The Mayor, City Council, Interim City Manager, and City Attorney discussed at length the ramifications of the statewide homestead exemption (HB 581), should the City choose not to opt-out. The consensus was that the exemption would lead to a revenue collapse for the City of Pine Lake, with potential to—as Mayor Hall described—“kill us.” Interim City Manager Beckett echoed this sentiment, stating “if you cut your revenue, you cut your throat.” Mr. Beckett continued that City Council would need to have candid conversations with its residents about the impact of this measure.

Multiple City Council Members reflected on conversations with other cities, suggesting that this summarization was fairly uniform across those delegations. Council Member Torrent added that this highlighted the urgency of diversifying Pine Lake’s tax base as to not rely so heavily on residential property taxes, a comment with which all members strongly concurred.

Mayor Hall suggested the City collect an impact report prior to public hearings.

No action was taken by City Council.

**5. FY 2025 Budget – Schedule/Timeline – Discussion**

A discussion took place, wherein City Council discussed the timeline for presentation and adoption of the FY2025 Budget. The following was agreed upon by consensus, and required no formal action:

- November 13<sup>th</sup> – Submission of Public Hearing Notice to News Organ
- November 26<sup>th</sup> – Presentation
- December 10<sup>th</sup> – First Public Hearing
- December 17<sup>th</sup> – Second Public Hearing, Tentative Adoption

No action was taken by City Council.

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**6. Contractual Agreement Between the City of Pine Lake and Foster Engineering and Design for Pedestrian Bridge Project**

Council Member Ramsey moved to adopt the Contractual Agreement; Council Member Torrent seconded.

Interim City Manager Beckett recommended approval of the contract, contingent on final approval by City Attorney Moore.

Mayor Hall called for a vote.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

**Reports and Other Business**

**Administration – Interim City Manager Billy Beckett**

Mr. Beckett restated his concern over the low bid for the Oak Road project. He added that he suspected the awarded-contractor may back out, and prepared City Council for a potential need to rebid.

**Public Safety – Chief Sarai Y’hudah-Green**

The supplemental report presented is available to the public upon request. Please contact Asst. City Clerk Ned Dagenhard at (404) 999-4901 or [neddagenhard@pinelakega.net](mailto:neddagenhard@pinelakega.net) for more information.

**Public Works – Special Projects Manager Bernard Kendrick**

The supplemental report presented is available to the public upon request. Please contact Asst. City Clerk Ned Dagenhard at (404) 999-4901 or [neddagenhard@pinelakega.net](mailto:neddagenhard@pinelakega.net) for more information.

**Mayor**

Mayor Hall expressed the importance of local participation and activism “in light of divisions,” and thanked the City Council and public “for continuing that focus.”

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**Adjournment**

Council Member Goldberg moved for adjournment at 8:08pm.



Ned Dagenhard  
City Clerk or Delegate

