



September 16th, 2020

Dear Neighbors,

I have been thinking about the teachers in our city and the stress of returning to the classroom these last weeks, be it virtual, in-person, or a combination. So I want to start by thanking our neighbors, the educators, for the work they do.

There is a lot happening in our community and without the usual public meetings, breakfasts, and events we share together it's hard to know what work is being done; what is being attended to; what concerns are being addressed. I'm always glad to hear directly from neighbors with questions, feedback, ideas. Keep emailing; it's much appreciated.

Following up on works in progress: Next Wednesday, September 23rd at 7pm we will hold our first ZOOM Town Hall. The topic of this meeting will be a presentation and discussion of the report that Jean Bordeaux and Tracey Brantley have been assembling over several months regarding public safety and judicial practices in Pine Lake. We will make a link to the report available this Saturday in advance of the Town Hall. ZOOM link TBA.

We are also working with Ed Lee (<http://www.emory.edu/election/2020/experts/lee.html>) to prepare a series of facilitated conversations on race after the November election. Mr. Lee has worked with the City of Decatur and the Decatur police department, among other organizations, and is putting together a structure for us to bring residents, businesses, police, and elected leadership into this necessary work.

If you weren't able to attend Judge Wiggins class on Municipal Court two weeks ago (also a great introduction to our Pine Lake Judge), the Judge provided an excellent window to better understand how our City courtroom functions and to dispel misconceptions about ticketing and fines.

One more work in progress: the lake and the berm. We are currently working with our engineering consultant on a long-term plan for repairing eroded parts of the wetlands bank, mowing parts of the back berm, and the removal of trees safely so as not to destabilize the earthwork.

Lastly: There's still the Census. We are at a 57.5% self-response rate. Please fill it out (if you haven't yet) or help a neighbor do so.

There's still COVID. It's as real as it ever was and the **only vaccine** continues to be: Wear A Mask. Wash Your Hands. Keep a Safe Distance.

Our City moves forward, thanks to the commitment and hard work of so many residents. We continue to ask ourselves how we can improve—based on honest assessment and solid information—and we stay focused on building a stronger Pine Lake.

Be safe, stay well, keep in touch-

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Melanie Hammet
Mayor, City Of Pine Lake GA
"Arts' Natural Habitat"

Pine Lake City Council Meetings - Zoom – second and last Tuesday at 7:00 PM
Conference line: 1 (929) 205 6099
Meeting ID: 813 0156 9377

PL COVID-19 webpage: <https://www.pinelakega.net/Covid19Updates.aspx>
Georgia COVID-19 hotline: 1-844-442-2681.

<https://www.dekalbhealth.net/covid-19dekalb/>