

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING MINUTES
MAY 19, 2020
7:00 PM**

Call to Order

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Melanie Hammet. Present were Mayor Pro-Tem Jean Bordeaux, Council Members Augusta Woods, Brandy Hall, Tracey Brantley and Brandy Beavers. Also, in attendance were Chief Sarai Y'Hudah-Green, City Attorney Susan Moore and Administrative Assistant Missye Varner. City Administrator Valerie Caldwell was not present.

Announcements/Communication

Hammet communicated that the City of Chamblee had its first public meeting on May 14th in the Civic Center observing social awareness and a person developed COVID 19 symptoms and is quarantined for 14 days. Judge L'Erin Wiggins husband is the City Manager and is safe and well.

The Mayor announced that the purchases of signage and art installations for managing parking spaces and eliminations at the beach/lake are through donations from MAP; SEED and FEMA funding.

COVID-19 Update

Hammet announced six highlights from the May 19th conference call with Governor Brian Kemp:

- The state has received funding from the Woodruff Foundation for research to determine the reach of the virus within urban and suburban areas
- The data curve is down but is expected to increase
- The warm weather is being studied for the impact of the virus
- The virus is transmissible
- Expect for the virus to be around for some time
- There has been a new discovery of the Kawasaki Syndrome that is affecting children and public health throughout the state has been alerted

Hall thanked the residents that have contacted the Mayor and Council regarding the beach/lake opening. She also said that the leadership of the city cares and has taken the matter under great consideration. Hammet said that she has read all the emails from the concerned citizens and that copies will be placed in the minute book for the record.

Adoption of Agenda to add resolution No. 2020-04

This item was omitted for the adoption.

CONSENT AGENDA

Meeting minutes of 05/05/20 and 05/12/20 Council meeting
Beavers motioned to adopt the agenda; seconded by Hall. 5-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were approximately 21 concerned citizens commenting on the opening of the beach/lake in this virtual meeting as following. The phone numbers are their call-in attendance for the meeting:

Mary Sherman 404-808-3273 suggested to restrict open hours for morning hours and if this is done her husband could swim before he goes to work. She also said that the lake could be open early to swim laps and close late afternoons and evenings.

Stephanie Avery 404-702-0113 commented that because of the COVID-19 Virus she doesn't feel it's safe to have the lake open at any time.

Catrina Davis 404-438-8434 commented that Mayor and Council are making a wise decision not to open on behalf of staff and citizens.

Jan Christiansen 404-782-8235 stated that she wrote a letter to the Mayor not to open the lake and for it to remain closed for the season. She commented to keep the staff safe and that the number of people can't be limited and that it is best to keep closed for the summer.

Barbara Davis 404-840-8782 commented that she was currently walking at the lake while attending the Zoom Meeting and that there are already issues that can't be policed. She also said that there is no way to have resources, police and staff work and be safe. Davis stated that she fully supports total closure.

Adam Gordon commented that there is no way to keep people in or out of the lake and to close it.

Calvin Burgamy and Tina Kite; he said that he seconded what Gordon stated and to close for the 2020 season.

David Brachman commented that he supports the resolution and thanked Mayor and Council. He also said if it was better federal and state level there would be fewer deaths from the virus. Brachman thanked everyone for their concern and comments.

Ms. Heather; resident, commented that she seconded all the previous comments and that the beach would be overrun because there is no way to keep safe and police the beach/lake.

Ms. Sandy; resident, thanked Mayor and Council for the intense work and asked about distancing in the resolution. She said that the Mayor is to encourage social distances, the number of people gathering and those that stay at home to minimize congregating. She also stated that distance will keep us the safest and that this is a different day and asked how will word get out to visitors. Resident Sandy recommended to keep the lake closed and to have a hard solution to monitor the people that come in.

Jeanie and Patty; residents, commented that they agree with all that has been said and the resolution.

Shirley Kinsey commented that she was in total agreement of the resolution and commended the Mayor and Council for doing the right thing.

Susan Lightcap commented that she is 100% in favor closing the beach and rental facilities. Lightcap stated that the Food Truck is doing a fabulous job providing meals for First Responders.

Tom Ramsey echoed David Brachman and thanked the Mayor and Council for making the hard decision by following data and science in keeping the city safe.

Tyler Covington stated that the lake and beach is why he and his wife Megan and kids moved to Pine Lake. He also said that he supports the Mayor and Council on their decision to keep the beach/lake closed.

Resident Stephan was in attendance but did not have a comment.

Jackie Biggers 615-423-6763 commented that she applauds the scientific decision that Mayor and Council has made.

Yvonne Sighn thanked Mayor and Council for the resolution and that all need to be safe. She also said that the demographics are different and that the beach/lake should be closed for public safety.

Margaret; MotoZ3, thanked Mayor and Council for their consideration and the public comments and that the lake should be closed. She inquired about the parking situation and how would it be addressed as not to become side street parking.

Hammet replied that parking will be reduced by 12 spaces and that diagonally spaces do not provide social distance space. Resident Margaret stated that she appreciated the thought that was put into the resolution.

Hammet stated that she received great emails from the community. The Mayor said that she has empathy and understand the parents that have small children desiring to go to the playground, beach and lake.

OLD BUSINESS

Summer status for beach and lake- **Resolution No. 2020-04** A Resolution by the City of Pine Lake to Close Public Facilities that encourage congregating and pose a burden to Public Health, Public Safety and Financial Resources

Council Comment

Hall stated that the decision to close the beach/lake for the 2020 Season was not easy decision; especially having a three-year-old that wants to go to the playground. She said that the decision was the best course of action to keep the community, staff and children safe.

Beavers requested clarification from Moore on the proposed resolution in section #2 regarding the use of green spaces as it relates to the difference of congregating. Moore clarified the request by stating that she doesn't see a difference and would change the wording. that the governor orders expire June 12th. She also said that the city governs the use of its own properties.

Bordeaux commented that section 2 is best for the the safety of the city and that she was ok with the resolution language and best practices.

Hall asked Moore the difference in enforcement of a resolution verses an ordinance. After discussion related to public and council comments the resolution language on Section 2 will be revised. Woods motioned to approve the amended resolution, seconded by Bordeaux. 5-0

Mayor's Comment

Hammet thanked Council and the Police Department for doing a great job during this challenging time. The Mayor also commended Varner for going beyond the call of duty for unemployment benefits for staff. Mayor Hammet thanked Public Works Supervisor Raoul Martinez, Patrick Welch and DeAndre Hodges for their good work.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jackie Biggers commented that the language change of the resolution would structure the message.

Barbara, MotoZ3 commented that a lot of people at the Food Truck are not practicing social distancing.

Barbara Davis commented that it was considerate the way that Mayor and Council worked through the resolution. She also said that if chairs and coolers are on the back path of the lakeshore this is not social distancing.

Yvonne Sighn asked if the swings and tables will remain at the lake and beach through the summer. Hammet replied that public works had taken them up to their building. Sighn also thanked Mayor Hammet and Council for all of their work.

Communications Summary

There was not a summary.

Adjournment : At 8:36 Bordeaux motioned to adjourn, seconded by Hall. 5-0

Residents can access this meeting by calling: Conference line 1 (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID 882-6028-3346
