# **Town of Pine Level**

A Place to Call Home

# MINUTES MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION JANUARY 22, 2024, 5:45 p.m.

The Town of Pine Level held a Mayor and Council Work Session on Monday, January 22, 2024, in a meeting room of the Pine Level Volunteer Fire Department.

INVOCATION Councilmember Bixler gave the invocation.

<u>CALL TO ORDER</u> Mayor Bigley called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL Mayor Bigley called roll. Present were Councilmembers Bixler, Hickman, Moore and Worcester. Also, present were Town Attorney Nancy Kirby and Town Clerk Theresa Cook.

#### **DISCUSSIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS:**

#### 1. VACANCY OF COUNCIL SEAT

Mayor Bigley gave a summary of options to fill the vacant Council seat vacated by Mickey Cauthen who passed away on January 6, 2024. He mentioned the process the City of Millbrook followed to fill a vacant Council seat due to a councilmember passing away. Valuable informatician and assistance have been received from Millbrook's Mayor Al Kelley, Council President Michael Gay and City Clerk Lisa Davis.

#### 2. VACANCY OF COUNCIL SEAT

The following process was discussed to fill the vacancy and was set to fill the vacancy:

- Special Called Council Meeting February 5, 2024, 5:45 pm Interviews of candidates
   Pine Level Volunteer Fire Department
- Deadline to submit candidate information will be February 2, 2024, 6:00 p.m., by email to Town Clerk Theresa L. Cook.
- Upon receipt of candidate email, a confirmation email will be returned from Town Clerk with date and time details of interviews with discussion questions to be asked during the interviews.

#### 3. TOWN BANK ACCOUNTS

The financial institutions options were discussed concerning which were participants in SAFE. It was discussed to have two signers on the checks. All present were in agreement. A Special Called Council Meeting will be held on January 25, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. to set the signers on the account(s).

### TOWN EVENT

Mayor Bigley started a discussion of a possible Town and community event. It was discussed having a car show at the Pine Level Cultural Center and half the proceeds with the Center. There were discussions of entertainment, Center yard sale and bake sale. An event volunteer discussion will meet on February 2, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

# 5. TAX REVENUE & BUSINESS LICENSES

Mayor Bigley shared with the Council the details of the meeting with Avenu and the county and municipal rates for Autauga County. There was an overview given of how taxes and business license fees are collected for municipalities. Following was a Council discussion. Town Attorney Nancy Kirby stated that the Town could submit an Attorney General's Opinion on the possibly of a grocery tax.

## 6. POLICE JURDICTION

Mayor Bigley discussed the need to address established a police jurisdiction. Councilmember Worcester mentioned the governmental powers that would be covered in that jurisdiction. Assistant General Counsel of the Alabama League of Municipalities Kaleb Beck had been contacted and gave his opinion on if this is an option for the Town of Pine Level. Town Attorney Kirby agreed with Counsel Beck on submitting a request for an Attorney General's Opinion.

# 7. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Mayor Bigley and Councilmember Worcester provided a summary of the Committee Meeting of the Planning & Development members. Shared information also included a report of the service calls of the Pine Level Volunteer Fire Department.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u> There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded passed unanimously by those present.

Respectfully submitted.

Therex L. Cook

Theresa L. Cook

Town Clerk

APPROVED:

Austin Worcester

Councilmember/Mayor Pro-Tempore