

**PEMBROKE CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 8, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Pembroke City Council was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at the J. Dixie Harn Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Judy Cook, Mayor Pro-Tem Tiffany Zeigler, Councilmembers Diane Moore, Karen Lynn, Ernest Hamilton, Johnnie Miller, Council Elect Sharon Lewis, and Council Elect Ed Bacon. Also, present were City Administrator Chris Benson, City Attorney Dana Braun, and City Clerk Arlene Hobbs.

**CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE...** Mayor Cook called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm; Pastor Lawrence Butler of the Bridge Church gave the invocation. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Zeigler.

**MINUTES...** A motion was made by Tiffany Zeigler and seconded by Johnnie Miller to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023; regular council meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**SWEARING-IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS...** Judge Billy Reynolds performed the swearing-in of our newly elected officials, giving the Oath of Office to Tiffany Zeigler as Mayor, Ernest Hamilton as Councilmember-at-Large, Johnnie Miller as Councilmember for District 1, Sharon Lewis as Councilmember for District 2, Diane Moore as Councilmember for District 3, and Rufus "Ed" Bacon as Councilmember for District 4.

**PRESENTATION...** Richmond Hill Mayor Russ Carpenter read a Proclamation Honoring Mayor Judy B. Cook upon her retirement this evening.

**COMMENTS...** Congressman Buddy Carter welcomed the new Mayor and Council and thanked Mayor Cook for her many years of service.

**CLOSING PRAYER...** Paster Martha Crawford of Spells Temple Holiness Church.

**RECESS...** The meeting was recessed for thirty minutes to facilitate pictures and refreshments.

**CALL TO ORDER...** Mayor Zeigler called the meeting back to order at 7:54pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS...** There was one public comment deferred to the public hearing portion of the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA...** A motion to amend the meeting agenda to add a Resolution to submit a grant application to DCA for Rural Workforce Housing Initiative Funding as number 4 under the Action Agenda, and to approve the meeting agenda was made by Diane Moore, seconded by Johnnie Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA...**A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Diane Moore, seconded by Johnnie Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

- 1. Election of Councilmember Johnnie Miller as Mayor Pro-Tem**
- 2. Appointment of William Collins as Chief of Police**
- 3. Appointment of Marcus Sack as City Engineer**
- 4. Appointment of Arlene Hobbs as City Clerk**
- 5. Appointment of Dana Braun as City Attorney**
- 6. Appointment of Chris Benson as City Administrator**
- 7. Appointment of Robert F. Pirkle as Municipal Court Judge**
- 8. Appointment of Mayor's 2024 Committee Members**
- 9. Designation of Depositories – First Bank of Coastal Georgia and Ameris Bank**
- 10. 2024 Council Meeting Dates**
- 11. 2024 Holiday Schedule**
- 12. Bryan County High School boys' soccer team bucket brigade on January 20, 2024, from 8am to 12pm.**
- 13. Approval of Bid tabulation for LAS Expansion and Sewer System Improvements in the amount of \$3,700,645 from Y-Delta.**

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 1. Public Hearing to consider the Rezoning of 72 E. Railroad Street from R-1, Residential, to B-3, Village Commercial.** There were no public comments.
- 2. Public Hearing to consider the Rezoning of P#0121-043 on Rogers Road from A-5, Agricultural, to R-2, Residential, and a 5-foot variance on lot width.** James Presnell of Rogers Road commented that he supported the rezoning. Elliott Wilson representing the property owner provided an explanation to support the 5-foot variance.
- 3. Public Hearing to consider the Rezoning to Planned Unit Development of P#015-008, off Wildwood Church Road and 2393 Sims Road, P#015-062.** The applicant, James Dasher, introduced Ryan Thompson, Landscape Architect of Thomas, and Hutton, who presented the plans for the PUD. Jeremy Miles of 2390 Sims Road spoke in opposition. Peter Rossi of Veteran Carriers of 1159 Wildwood Church Road spoke in opposition. Attorney Andrew Lavoie, representing Bryan County residents Russ and Ron Shuman, Ken Copi, Shannon Gill, Robert Lodge, and several others spoke in opposition.
- 4. Public Hearing to consider the Annexation of P#015-008 off Wildwood Church Road and 2393 Sims Road, P#015-062.** Attorney Andrew Lavoie representing Bryan County residents spoke in opposition. Peter Rossi of Veteran Carriers at 1159 Wildwood Church Road spoke in opposition. Jeremy Miles of 2390 Sims Road spoke in opposition. Shannon Nunn of 4053 Hwy 119 spoke in opposition.

## **ORDINANCE (First Readings)**

**Motion to dispense with the reading of the Ordinances to follow.**

- 1. First Reading of an Ordinance to consider the Rezoning to Planned Unit Development of P#015-008 off Wildwood Church Road and 2393 Sims Road, P#015-062.** A motion to dispense of the reading of this ordinance was made by Diane Moore and seconded by Sharon Lewis. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2. First Reading of an Ordinance to consider the Annexation of P#015-008 off Wildwood Church Road and 2393 Sims Road, P#015-062.** A motion to dispense with the reading of this ordinance was made by Johnnie Miller and seconded by Diane Moore. The motion passed unanimously.

## **ACTION AGENDA**

- 1. Approval/Disapproval of the final plat of Pinewood Subdivision on W.E. Smith Road.** A motion to approve was made by Johnnie Miller, seconded by Diane Moore. Ed Bacon and Ernest Hamilton opposed. The motion passed.
- 2. Approval/Disapproval of the rezoning of 72 E. Railroad Street from R-1, Residential, to B-3, Village Commercial.** A motion to approve was made by Diane Moore, seconded by Johnnie Miller. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Approval/Disapproval of the rezoning of P#0121-043 on Rogers Road from A-5, Agricultural, to R-2, Residential, and a 5-foot variance on lot width.** A motion to approve was made by Johnnie Miller, seconded by Diane Moore. Ed Bacon was opposed. The motion passed.
- 4. Approval/Disapproval of the Resolution for the Rural Workforce Housing Initiative Funding Application.** The resolution was read by Mayor Zeigler. A motion to approve was made by Diane Moore and seconded by Ed Bacon. The motion passed unanimously.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS...**

**Police** – Chief Collins reported on the department’s continued search for officers.

**Fire** – Chief Waters reported that the department completed over eight hundred calls in FY 2023.

**DDA** – Fernanda did not have anything new to report at this time. Mayor Zeigler congratulated her on a successful Christmas Market and Parade.

**City Administrator** – Chris Benson had nothing to report.

**City Clerk** – Arlene Hobbs had nothing to report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS...**nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT.**...There being nothing further to discuss, at a motion to adjourn was made by Diane Moore, seconded by Johnnie Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Arlene Hobbs, City Clerk

  
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Tiffany M. Zeigler, Mayor

