

MINUTES OF A CITY OF PINEY POINT VILLAGE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M. AT 7660 WOODWAY DR. SUITE 460, HOUSTON, TEXAS.

Councilmembers Present: Aliza Dutt, Michael Herminghaus, Dale Dodds, Joel Bender, Margaret Rohde, and Jonathan Curth.

City Representatives Present: Bobby Pennington, City Administrator; David Olson, City Attorney; Jim Huguenard, Police Commissioner; Solace Southwick, Police Commissioner; Ray Schultz, Police Chief; Henry Kollenberg, Fire Commissioner; Howard Miller, Fire Chief; John Peterson, City Engineering; Gracie Moylan, City Engineering; and Annette Arriaga, Development Services Director; and Frederick Johnson, Public Works Manager.

Call To Order

At 6:02 p.m., Mayor Aliza Dutt declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Council led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America Flag.

Citizens Wishing to Address Council

- Steve Oldham (Jan Kelly) does not favor changing the current dog ordinance and requested the data to support the change.
- Betsy McKean (Lanecrest) does not favor changing the current dog ordinance and requested including an e-collar, if proposed.
- Kathryn Smyser (Wickwood) requests information on the maintenance of local drainage tributaries leading to the bayou.
- Chief Schultz presented an award to Jim Huguenard for his dedication and service to the police commission.

Agenda Items

1. **Consideration and possible action on approval of the Council Meeting Minutes held on February 24, 2025.**
 - Councilmember Herminghaus proposed approving the minutes of the Council Meeting on February 24, 2025. Bender seconded the motion and carried unanimously.
AYES: Herminghaus, Dodds, Bender, Rohde and Curth.
NAYS: None.
2. **Consideration and possible action on the Memorial Villages Police Department: a) Update on activities, b) Consideration and possible action on employee insurance coverage for April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, including health, vision, and dental partnership with the Memorial Villages Police Department and the City of Bunker Hill Village, Texas.**
 - Chief Schultz provided the most recent update for the monthly report, outlining information on various organized burglaries. In February, the MVPD responded to and handled 1,058 calls and incidents for Piney Point Village alone. Additionally, 627 house watch checks were conducted, and 236 citations, with 168 as warnings, were issued during this period.
 - Chief Schultz recommended health, vision, and detail renewal.

- Councilmember Herminghaus motioned to accept the employee insurance coverage renewal. Councilmember Bender seconded the motion, and the action was carried unanimously.

AYES: Herminghaus, Dodds, Bender, Rohde and Curth.

NAYS: None.

- No further actions were taken.

3. Consideration and possible action on the Village Fire Department, including (a) Updates on activities.

- In February, the VFD responded to and handled 105 calls and incidents across all cities. Piney Point Village accounted for 14 of those calls.
- Chief Miller and Commissioner Kollenberg reported on various VFD activities.
- No further actions were taken into consideration.

4. Consideration and possible action on an ordinance (ORD. 2025.03) of the City of Piney Point Village, Texas, amending Chapter 6, Article III. Division 2, Section 6-99, Failure to Control Dogs of the code of ordinances regarding controlling a dog under leash.

- The City Administration provided background on the changes to the draft ordinance from earlier versions, and the council discussed how the ordinance would be enforced.
- Councilmember Herminghaus proposed a second motion to approve Ordinance (ORD. 2025.03) of the City of Piney Point Village, Texas, which amends Chapter 6, Article III, Division 2, Section 6-99 regarding the failure to control dogs with the e-collar provision as presented. Councilmember Rohde seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following results:

AYES: Herminghaus, Dodds, Bender, and Rohde.

NAYS: Curth.

5. Consideration and possible action on City Engineering; a) Engineer's Report.

- Gracie Moylan provided an update on various engineering activities.

6. Consideration and possible action regarding the joint election with Spring Branch Independent School District for the General Municipal Election on May 3, 2025: a) to accept a certification of the unopposed candidate for Positions 1, 2, and 5; b) to adopt Ordinance (ORD 2025.03-A1), officially canceling the 2025 City of Piney Point Village election as all candidates are unopposed; and c) to clarify under a resolution (RES 2025.03-A2), the early voting schedule stipulated in the joint election agreement with the Spring Branch Independent School District for May 3, 2025.

- Councilmember Dodds motioned to accept a certification of the unopposed candidate for Positions 1, 2, and 5; to adopt Ordinance (ORD 2025.03-A1), officially canceling the 2025 City of Piney Point Village election as all candidates are unopposed; and to clarify under a resolution (RES 2025.03-A2). Councilmember Bender seconded the motion, and the council passed the action unanimously.

AYES: Herminghaus, Dodds, Bender, Rohde and Curth.

NAYS: None.

7. Consideration and possible action on a resolution (RES 2025.03-B) of the city of Hunters Creek Village, the city of Piney Point Village, the city of Bunker Hill Village, the city of Hedwig Village, the city of Spring Valley Village, and the city of Hilshire Village to form a committee to make recommendations to the city councils of each of the above-named cities regarding the response to proposed legislation.

- Stuart Marks advocated for forming a committee to fight legislative bills that impact municipalities.
- Councilmember Bender motioned to approve a resolution to form a committee to make recommendations to participating city councils regarding proposed legislation. Councilmember Dodds seconded the motion, and the council passed the action unanimously.

AYES: Herminghaus, Dodds, Bender, Rohde and Curth.

NAYS: None.

8. Consideration and possible action regarding the Mayor's Report.

- The mayor provided updates on Beautification's project to create a space highlighting different native plant species suited for the city and showcased in the Marchmont/Wilding easement. Additionally, the committee intends to light up the trees in Carol Tree Park, with potential enhancements including pathway lighting.

9. Consideration and possible action regarding the City Administrator's Monthly Report, including but not limited to: (a) Financial Related Items: Financial Report – January 2025, Property Tax Report, Disbursements (greater than \$10,000); (b) SBISD Bond Election information.

- Herminghaus recommended that we request that SBISD open the facilities to the public.
- Councilmember Bender motioned to accept the disbursements presented in the report. Councilmember Herminghaus seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following results:

AYES: Herminghaus, Dodds, Bender, Rohde and Curth.

NAYS: None.

10. Discussion of the Fire Commissioner and the VFD Fire Commission representation for Piney Point Village.

- Keith Brown responded to questions and summarized the impressions of the other participating cities and commissioners regarding our current representation.
- Curth raised concerns about other villages' dissatisfaction with our appointed official. He also believes the fire commission is facing significant issues that require attention, which do not relate to our appointment.
- The mayor requested that the Council adjourn to executive session.

➔ EXECUTIVE SESSION: The City Council holds a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provision of Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.071, Legal Consultation - to obtain confidential legal counsel from the City Attorney concerning matters that fall within the attorney-client privilege; Section 551.074.

- An executive session was officially called to order at 7:55 PM.
- The Council resumed the regular session at 8:17 PM.

11. Discuss and consider possible action on future agenda items, meeting dates, and similar matters.

- The schedule includes the Beautification Meeting on April 14, the Engineering Meeting on April 9, and the Regular Council Meeting on April 28. Good Friday falls on April 18, and offices will be closed.
- There will be a special beautification meeting on March 31.
- Ecclesia SUP is to be placed back on the next regular agenda.

A. WORKSHOP: Discussion Regarding the Maintenance of City Right-of-Ways.

- The item was tabled.

➔ EXECUTIVE SESSION: The City Council holds a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provision of Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.074, Fire Commissioner Review - The City Council shall convene in a closed session to deliberate on the duties and responsibilities of the Fire Commissioner.

- An executive session was officially called to order at 8:19 PM.
- The Council resumed the regular session at 9:01 PM.

13. Consideration and possible action on items discussed in the Executive Session.

- No formal action was taken.

Adjournment

- Councilmember Bender made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Councilmember Herminghaus.
- Mayor Dutt adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.