



TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE

612 Lakeshore Drive

Highland Lake, AL 35121

(205) 625-6407

Email: highlandlake612@gmail.com

Website: www.townofhighlandlake.com

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

6:30 PM

The Anchor

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Chase Moore at 6:46 PM.

ROLL CALL:

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Chase Moore, Sam Pearson, Sid Nelson, Ramzi Malek,
Carl Randall

ABSENT: Greg Posey

OTHER ATTENDEES: Alex Smith-Attorney, Chief Scott Kon, Mary Ann Allen-Town Clerk

Swearing In of Councilman Sam Pearson

Councilman Pearson opted not to have a ceremonial swearing in since he had been officially sworn in at the January 11, 2023 meeting by Alex Smith.

Invocation was given by Ramzi Malek

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the council

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Approval of January 3, 2023 Work Session Minutes: Ramzi Malek made the motion to accept and Sid Nelson seconded. Mayor Moore, Sam Pearson, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek voted yes, Carl Randall Abstained.
- Approval of January 3, 2023 Regular Session Minutes: Sid Nelson made the motion to accept and Ramzi Malek seconded Mayor Moore, Sam Pearson, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek voted yes, Carl Randall Abstained.
- Approval of January 11, 2023 Special Called Meeting Minutes: Sid Nelson made the motion to accept and Carl Randall seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed. It was then brought to attention that the January 11, 2023 meeting minutes needed to be amended to state that Sam Pearson did not leave, but was Sworn In by Alex Smith, Attorney at that meeting. Carl Randall made the motion to reconsider the motion of approved minutes and Sid Nelson seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.

Carl Randall then made the motion to amend the minutes to make the correction stated above and Sid Nelson seconded and all present voted yes and motion passed.

- Approval of January 18, 2023 Special Called Meeting Minutes: Carl Randall made the motion to accept and Sam Pearson seconded. Mayor Moore, Sam Pearson, Carl Randall and Ramzi Malek voted yes, Sid Nelson Abstained.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds - Carl Randall

Carl presented that it is time to replant some trees in the park area. Types that were mentioned were pecan, walnut, fig, blueberry, etc. He said that a nursery had been located and the estimated cost would be \$100-125 per tree and \$40-50 per bush. He suggested that it could be done as a fundraiser. Karen Murphy said that she would present it to the Lady Lakers at their Thursday meeting as a possibility in place of bricks. Carl said he would work with the Lady Lakers on this.

Carl Randall made the motion to spend up to \$1000 for trees to plant and Ramzi Malek seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.

Lake Preservation Committee – Bill Rush

The committee has not met.

The barge was not working, so they did not get to meet with Birmingham Water Works workers as planned last month.

The post is ready for the sign to be posted and Chief Kon said that he should be able to take care of putting the sign on the post.

Ordinance Committee – Sid Nelson

The committee met last week and discussed several items including: making the Financial Committee a permanent committee, the possible repeal of the Lodging and Gasoline Tax Ordinance, and making a change in the HL 16-01 Zoning Ordinance involving people that owned property prior to September 1999.

Public Safety Committee – Jonathan Sims and Greg Posey

No Updates

Roads Committee – Josh Beck and Sam Pearson

They had their first meeting of the year last week and Commissioner Bradley Harvey was in attendance.

Financial Committee – Bobby Rhodes and Carl Randall

It was reported that the CRI transition is moving along well. Raymond James is Setup and ready to go, and they are working on rates with Jef Freeman now.

The 2021 audit has yet to be completed by the current auditor. It was discussed that if the audit is not received by March 1st, the town should look at other options.

OFFICER REPORT – Chief of Police - Scott Kon

Chief Kon reminded everyone that he will be in Montgomery next week for a conference. He gave an update on the repair on the tractor, and so far, it appears to be the battery as the main problem. The person repairing it felt comfortable saying that all together the repair work would be under \$500. He also reported that the drain under the sidewalk in the park area was cleaned out free of charge. Also, the Bobcat will not lift well, probably a hydraulic issue. Also, he and Bobby Rhodes have been looking over the Criminal Division Funds account and getting that in order.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Pontoon repair status:

No change – Jay Bates will hopefully be able to take a look next week.

2. Status of post installation for police dock barrier along with sign

Post has been completed, just needs sign mounted and Chief Kon is going to do this.

3. Status on HL 14-05 verbiage on bladder boats

Ordinance Committee still needs to look at this

4. Lake Preservation Open Seat

Carl Randall made the motion to appoint Jake Lemley to a three year appointment on the Lake Preservation Committee and Sam Pearson seconded. All present voted Yes and motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

5. Request by Alexander Anderson to build a dock

A motion was made to table, since Tim Moore the Building Inspector was not present and needed time to review plans.

Sid Nelson made the motion to table and Carl Randall seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.

6. Request by Lady Lakers to use The Anchor on February 25, 2023, for their 21st reunion

Sid Nelson made the motion to let them use The Anchor and Sam Pearson seconded. All present voted Yes and motion passed.

7. Request by Josh Beck to build a boat house

The request was to build the boat house on his neighbor's property.

Attorney Alex Smith suggested to give him time to look at it.

Carl Randall made the motion to continue at next meeting and Sam Pearson seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.

8. Discuss HL 16-01 Zoning Ordinance

This proposed amendment was presented tonight by Sid Nelson and will be voted on at the next meeting.

9. Discuss Repeal Lodging and Gasoline Tax

Attorney Alex Smith advised that HL 2020-05 and HL 2020-06 be repealed. Records do not show where they were voted on and there is no need for them at this time.

Sid Nelson made the motion to repeal both and Sam Pearson seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.

10. Discuss having Christmas in the Park November 26

Mayor Moore explained that pending sponsorship, there is someone that is available that day that would have a petting zoo, live nativity, and carriage rides. It would last around four hours. He will have more information at the next meeting. Karen Murphy said that the Lady Lakers would like to help if Mayor Moore would like for them to, and he expressed that that would be great.

11. Resignation of Greg Posey

Greg Posey turned in his resignation of Council Place 2 by email.

Carl Randall made the motion to accept the resignation and Sid Nelson seconded. Mayor Moore, Sam Pearson, Carl Randall, and Ramzi Malek voted yes and Sid Nelson voted No. Motion was passed.

Carl Randall made the motion to declare Council Place 2 vacant. Sid Nelson Seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.

Carl Randall made the motion to adjourn and Sid Nelson seconded the motion and all present approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Ann Allen – Town Clerk

Chase Moore - Mayor