



TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE

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REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 18, 2023
6:30 PM
The Anchor

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Chase Moore at 6:34 PM.

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: Bobby Rhodes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Chief Scot Kon, Alex Smith-Attorney, Tim Moore-
Building Inspector, Mary Ann Allen-Town Clerk

Invocation was given by Carl Randall

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the council

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Approval of September 5, 2023 Work Session Minutes:** Sid Nelson made the motion to accept the minutes, and Ramzi Malek seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.
- **Approval of September 5, 2023 Regular Session Minutes:** Sid Nelson made the motion to accept the minutes, and Carl Randall seconded. All present voted yes and motion passed.
- **Approval of September 14, 2023 Special Called Session Minutes:** Carl Randall made the motion to accept the minutes, and Sid Nelson seconded. Mayor Chase Moore, Car Randall, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek voted yes, and Sam Pearson abstained. Motion passed

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds - Carl Randall

No Report

Lake Preservation Committee – Bill Rush

No Report

Ordinance Committee – Sid Nelson

No Report

Public Safety Committee – Sam Pearson

No Report

Roads Committee – Sam Pearson and Josh Beck

No Report

Finance Committee – Bobby Rhodes

Mayor Moore gave the Finance Committee updates per an email received from Chairman Bobby Rhodes.

The Finance Committee met on September 25, 2023. The items that were reported from the email included:

- Ms. Lisa Baker, a grant writer, attended the meeting and discussed the opportunities for the Town. The committee would like for her to speak with the Town Council at the November Council meeting.
- The FY22 audit is underway
- The FY24 budget was approved at the Special Called Meeting on September 14, 2023. He wanted to thank everyone for their assistance and participation during the planning of the budget.
- Chairman Rhodes wanted to remind everyone that the budget is an approved plan, but that they still need to present to the Council for expenditure approval.
- The current Raymond James balance is \$263,250.79 remaining steady at 4 – 4.5% return
- A monthly handout of the Town financials was provided for review with a reminder that the financials lag by one month.
- The Finance Committee's next scheduled meeting will be Monday, October 30, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Anchor.

OFFICER REPORT – Chief of Police - Scott Kon

Chief Kon reported that they had twenty-three service calls for the month of September. He reported that the cameras for the vehicles that were approved by the council have been installed and are working.

Everyone was reminded to please lock your doors, take keys out of cars and pay attention to your surroundings. He also reminded people to report anything that doesn't seem right.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Slalom Ski Course Update

There was still concern about the liability of the course. After discussion, Sid Nelson made the motion to place a moratorium on the use of the course until further notice to give time for Attorney Alex Smith to further research the topic and give his final opinion to the council before making their decision. Sam Pearson seconded the motion and all present voted yes, and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Blount County Commission Memorandum of Understanding Renewal between The Blount County Commission and The Town of Highland Lake Regarding Debris Removal and Monitoring Services

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

3. Approval of Alabama League of Municipalities Dues

The dues were budgeted for \$529 but increased to \$555 from last year.

Carl Randall made the motion to increase the budget amount to \$555 and make the payment. Ramzi Malek seconded the motion, and all present voted yes. The motion passed

4. Appalachian Youth Football request to use The Anchor for their banquet Sunday, November 12, 2023, at no charge

Carl Randall made the motion to allow the Appalachian Youth Football group to use the Anchor at no charge on November 12, 2023, for their banquet. Sam Pearson seconded the motion, and all present voted yes. The motion passed.

5. Adam and Ally Blakely's request to replace deck boards on their deck and dock

Building Inspector, Tim Moore explained that all they were wanting to do was replace the old top boards and not adding anything. They only needed council to approve the dock.

Sid Nelson made the motion to approve the request of the Blakely's to replace their dock boards, and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

6. Other business items as determined by the Council

Mayor Chase Moore explained that the Community Arts Council of Blount County is having a gala November 18, 2023, and would like to borrow the round tables that are in the Anchor.

Sid Nelson made the motion to approve the use of the round tables by the Arts Council, and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. Sam Pearson, Carl Randall, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek voted yes, Mayor Moore abstained. The motion passed.

With no other items needing to be discussed, Carl Randall made the motion to adjourn and Sam Pearson seconded. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Ann Allen – Town Clerk

Chase Moore - Mayor