

Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

The Highland Lake Town Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at the Anchor. Mayor Vice called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Sid Nelson gave the invocation. The Mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Connie Vice
Council members Chase Moore, Donna Hanby, Greg Posey, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek

Absent:

Town Attorney Alex Smith was also in attendance.

December 5, 2017 Work Session Minutes – Moore made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Malek seconded. Roll call. Nelson, Malek, Moore, Hanby and Vice voted yes. Posey abstained. Motion carried.

December 5, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes – Hanby made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Moore seconded. Roll call. Nelson, Malek, Moore, Hanby and Vice voted yes. Posey abstained. Motion carried.

Financial Report – Council member Donna Hanby gave the monthly financial report. Nelson made a motion to accept the report, as presented. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

October 2016 – September 2017 Financial Audit Results – The Mayor reported the town received a clean opinion. Moore made a motion to accept the report presented/reviewed by Lori Criswell, CPA during the earlier work session. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds – Chairman Posey reported the committee met January 18 and discussed the following: (1) Anchor deck project, (2) solar lamps to trial in the park (associated with Lights in the Park grant the town received) and (3) carpet samples for the Anchor.

Lake – Chairman Nelson reported the committee will meet January 30. The town obtained a quote from Southern Pond Professionals to conduct a Fish Study. The study will answer questions regarding fish population.

Dredging – Chairman Malek reported the committee needs to revisit the entire dredging process. We prefer to dredge as much as possible on dry dirt to reduce costs. The permits are still valid and we plan to work within the permit constraints. Discussions will take place with C & C Contracting and another dredging contractor that Councilmember Posey recommended for additional information. The town will not lower the lake in 2018 to dredge.

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Roads – Councilmember Moore reported he discussed with Commissioner Calvert the possibility of placing reflectors on West Lakeshore Drive (intersecting with County Road 29) to help with visibility as requested on a Road Form by Fran Campbell. Moore explained the county cannot do this due to county right-of-way. This would also set a precedent. An option is for the property owner to purchase a street light and pay the monthly fee. The property owner does not wish to do this. Moore will look for grant opportunities and other possible solutions for this request.

OFFICER REPORT

Chief Kon reported the town participates in the 1033 program (Law Enforcement Support Office) that allows us to participate and acquire LESO property, i.e. boat for government use. This program requires a three hour class each year and \$150.00 fee. This program benefits law enforcement.

With River Road closed for bridge repair, Chief Kon stated the traffic has increased on Lakeshore Drive by the Anchor and reminded everyone of the 15 mph speed limit in the “S” curve.

Officer Buck Buchanan is feeling better and is back at work.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Petition to Vacate Sunset Circle – Mayor Vice announced the town received a request from Jon Doss to vacate town road Sunset Circle. A public hearing has been scheduled for March 6, 2018 at 6:30 PM to hear this request.

NEW BUSINESS

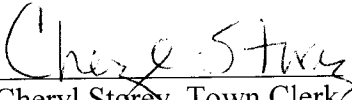
Insurance Renewal Policy Options – Moore made a motion to renew the town’s policy for three years with a 2% discount each year. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

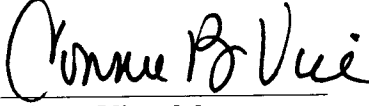
Changing the Name of the Lake Use Permit Ordinance to educate property owners of the benefits the revenue provides from this fee – Attorney Alex Smith advised changing the name will not have any affect because it is a lake usage ordinance. We also have the Attorney General’s Opinion regarding the lake use permit. Attorney Smith suggests not changing the name. The Mayor expressed that ideas were welcome for educating property owners and encouraging everyone to pay the annual \$100.00.

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

With no other business to come before the council, Moore made a motion to adjourn. Hanby seconded. All said I. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted:


Cheryl Storey, Town Clerk


Connie B. Vice, Mayor