

Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

The Highland Lake Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 4, 2015 at the Anchor. Mayor Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Skip Davis gave the invocation. The Mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Gail Bailey
Council members Skip Davis, Donna Hanby, and Tim Peek
Absent: Council members Shani Ort and Connie Vice

Town Attorney Alex Smith was also present.

April 6, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes – Davis made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Financial Report – Town Clerk Cheryl Storey gave the monthly financial report. Hanby made a motion to approve the financial report. Peek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Lake – Chairman Davis reported a lake cleanup day was held Saturday with good participation. Davis stated the lake looked good, with little debris. Davis added he is working on obtaining regulatory markers. The next Lake Committee will be May 11 @ 7:00 PM.

Buildings & Grounds – Chairman Donna Hanby reported the committee did not meet last month. The River Road entrance sign needs to be repaired. We are waiting on a price estimate from Lakeside Boathouse for the posts. Hanby added that paper towel dispensers were added to both restrooms in the Anchor. The Buildings & Grounds Committee will meet May 14 @ 10:00 AM.

Roads – Tim Peek stated he had no report.

The Mayor stated she had talked with Commissioner Calvert and the county has completed paving all the roads that were affected by the April 2014 storm damage. The county has ordered material to fix potholes on Lakeshore Drive and Sunset. It was mentioned that there are also potholes on West Lakeshore Drive and Lakeshore Loop. The potholes should be fixed either this week or the next. The Mayor also stated that the town has budgeted \$15,000.00 for additional road projects later in the year.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

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OFFICER REPORT

Chief of Police Scott Kon reported that Officer Joe Franklin has a heart catheter tomorrow, and to please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Kon added that he will pick up another tire for the police truck tomorrow. Kon reported that all parties involved in the burglary two years ago have been indicted.

Kon discussed the chief's conference in Gulf Shores in August. The CEU's are needed to maintain his chief status. The trip will cost approximately \$1500.00 and is included in the Police Related Expenses category of the town's budget. Peek made a motion to approve the police conference and associated expenses. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Re-Introduce HL-11-05 Amendment – Regulate Construction of Docks, Piers, Boathouses - Sections 7 & 8 – Mayor Bailey re-introduced proposed updates to Sections 7 (Derelict Docks, Piers, Boathouses and Seawalls) and Section 8 (Penalty). Updates were made to Section 8 to reflect the property owner has the option to bring the structure into compliance with the building code. This amendment will be voted on at the June council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution HL-15-03 – Tax Levy – Each year during the month of May, the municipality must levy a tax on the property situated in the municipality for the next succeeding tax year. There is no change from last year. General taxes required for the expenses of the Town of Highland Lake are 12.5 mills on each \$100.00 worth of taxable property, as assessed. Hanby made a motion to approve. Davis seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kathy Brodock – Request for a home business – Discussion took place. Hanby made a motion to approve request for a catering home business contingent on written approval from the health department. Peek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried. Plans for the kitchen addition will need to be submitted to the town's Building Inspector for review and approval.

Fire Extinguisher/Cabinet for Anchor – Our insurance company recommended that we have our fire extinguishers inspected every year. Discussion took place regarding purchasing a larger fire extinguisher and cabinet to mount it in, for the Anchor. We've had problems in the past with renters moving the fire extinguishers. A proposal from Star Fire Equipment Company was reviewed. Davis made a motion to approve the proposal from Star Fire Equipment for \$301.85. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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Offsite Data Storage – the Mayor asked the council for their thoughts regarding having offsite data storage for town records. In the event of a disaster, we could lose town records. Some records, like the ordinances and minutes, are on the town website; however, there are older records that need to be scanned and backed up. We do have an external hard drive that we use for backup in case we lose the office computer. Everyone was in agreement that we should investigate offsite data storage. It's estimated the cost would be approximately \$200.00 - \$300.00 a year.

The Mayor stated she would also like to investigate a grant for a storm shelter to attach to Town Hall that would hold approximately 10 people. Everyone was in agreement this should be investigated.

June Council Meeting date – Davis made a motion to move the June council meeting from June 1 to June 8. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes.

Graduation Ad in the Blount Countian – Davis made a motion to place a 1/8 page ad in the Blount Countian for \$126.00 congratulating the Appalachian High School graduates. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kenny Branch – add covered boat slip and boat launch – Since this was not on the agenda and plans were received today for this request, the Mayor asked the council if there were any objections to addressing this request tonight. There were no objections. Mr. Branch was also in attendance to address questions. Discussion took place. The pier will be 35' from the property line. The boat slip will be 25' from the property line. The cement driveway/boat launch will be down the property line. The covered boat slip will be relocated at the end of the pier. Peek made a motion to approve plans with the change of moving the covered boat slip to the end of the pier. Davis seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried. Mr. Branch thanked the council for addressing his request tonight.

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

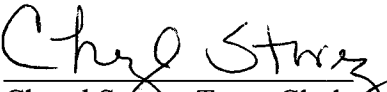
Bill Rush questioned the timeframe for Tetra Tech to do the feasibility study. Tetra Tech advised they will begin the study sometime this month.

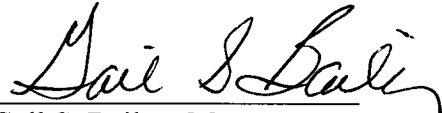
Kenny Branch expressed concern regarding the house on the corner of Lakeshore Lane/Lakeshore Drive. The Mayor advised we have contacted the property owner and that they are in the process of taking this structure completely down, and plan to add on to the other building.

Tim Peek thanked Chief Kon for his diligent efforts regarding the burglary that occurred two years ago. He appreciated Kon staying on top of it.

With no other business to come before the council, Hanby made a motion to adjourn. Peek seconded. All said I. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:


Cheryl Storey, Town Clerk


Gail S. Bailey, Mayor