



TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE

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REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
6:30 PM
The Anchor

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Chase Moore at 6:39 PM.

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: Bobby Rhodes

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

Invocation was given by Sam Pearson

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the council

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Approval of February 6, 2024 Work Session Minutes:**
Sid Nelson made the motion to accept the minutes, and Sam Pearson seconded. Mayor Moore, Sam Pearson, Sid Nelson, and Ramzi Malek voted yes, and Carl Randall passed. The motion passed.
- **Approval of February 6, 2024 Regular Session Minutes:**
Sam Pearson made the motion to accept the minutes, and Sid Nelson seconded. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds - Carl Randall

The blinds on the Lake side of the Anchor are in need of being replaced. Lowes' came and measured the windows and gave an estimate to replace and install the blinds. The Committee had budgeted \$1,500 for the blinds, but the estimate was \$1,556.66 which included a 20% coupon that expired that day.

Carl Randall made the motion to approve up to \$1,600 for the purchase of the blinds, and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

Chief Kon stated that one of the solar lights in the park is missing and that two should probably be ordered to have an extra. After some discussion, it was decided to look in to the possibility of a CAWACA grant to be able to upgrade the lights.

Carl Randall said that some of the future goals the committee is sending to Lisa Baker include: a playground for the disabled, a fishing pier designated for children, senior citizens and handicapped, and a Senior Center at the Anchor.

Lake Preservation Committee - Bill Rush

Bill Rush would like to get in touch with Birmingham Water Works to get more information to better understand the water report.

He shared that the Committee listed their future goals that they are sending to Lisa Baker to include: dredging and security at the Dam/Spillway and to have a complete inspection done.

Wesley Faulkner and Chief Kon talked with Captain Fulks with Alabama Game and Fish about a school tournament at Highland, and he was greatly interested. They will be talking with him again.

Ordinance Committee - Sid Nelson

No Report

Public Safety Committee - Sam Pearson

The Committee had a meeting Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

They reported that the building of the evidence locker is going well.

Chief Kon said that they are working with LESO to get a speed sign, and writing a grant for new police vests.

John Cotton is working on a draft about the use of the slalom course.

Roads Committee - Sam Pearson and Josh Beck

Josh Beck went over the road repair estimates from Blount County for Gurley Drive and West Lakeshore Drive.

The area of Gurley Drive is uneven road leading to Nancy Stephenson's

driveway. It is about a 100-150 feet area that is shale over mud and stays wet. The estimated cost for this repair is \$5,576.46. (Equipment \$1,894.76; Labor \$1,394.20; Asphalt \$1,894.76; Material \$437.50)

The area of West Lakeshore Drive is the culvert pipe that needs replaced near Melissa Drake's driveway. It is an old metal pipe and is rusting and could collapse. The estimated cost to fix this area is \$2,330.36.(Pipe \$1,462.50; Materials \$437.50; Labor \$430.36)

They are getting quotes to pave from the Peeks Bridge by the park to River Road. Commissioner Bradley Harvey explained several ways to correct the road before having it paved. Mayor Moore asked Josh Beck if he and the Committee would look into getting prices.

Finance Committee – Bobby Rhodes

The Finance Committee met on Monday, February 26, 2024.

Mayor Moore read aloud a handout Bobby Rhodes provided to be read into the minutes. The handout included:

- *Audits*
 - *FY-22 and FY-23 Closeouts*
 - *Brings the Town current on audits*

Carl Randall made the motion to accept the FY-22 Audit and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. All present voted yes and the motion passed.

Carl Randall made the motion to accept the FY-23 Audit and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. All present voted yes and the motion passed.

- *Raymond James*
 - *Jef Freman met with Committee to provide update and performance insight*
 - *\$45,000 from General Fund moved to Raymond James (pursuant to the February 2024 Town Council Meeting)*
- *Criminal Fund*
 - *Discussed with Alex Smith and Jef Freman – no issues*
 - *Setup separate Raymond James account*
 - *Need motion to move \$25,000 from Criminal Fund to new Raymond James account*
 - *Once approved, I'll coordinate the transfer of funds*

Carl Randall made the motion to transfer \$25,000 from the Criminal Fund Account to a Raymond James account and Sid Nelson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

- *Insurance*
 - *Current renewal \$16,661 for 1 year / \$16,335 for 3 years*
 - *Increase of ~\$2847 from last year*
 - *Options from Sid?*
 - *If no better options, recommend renew for one year and seek others quotes next year*
- *Road work (County Commission Bill)*
 - *Previous approval for \$18,500 (June 2023 Town Council Meeting)*
 - *Invoice is \$24,277.83*
 - *Recommend approve change in expenditure*
 - *Pay from General Fund, I'll move funds between General Fund and Permanent Road's Fund accounts*
- *FY-25 Budget Planning*
 - *Data call to be sent out to all Departments and Committees NLT May 2024*
 - *Please begin discussing and considering inputs in your Departmental and Committee meetings*
- *FY-24 Approved projects*
 - *Need Council approval to execute planned blind replacement project for Anchor. Budgeted amount was \$1500.00. Recommend approval.*

The monthly financial report was provided for Council viewing, and he stated that we need to ensure that all Quickbooks recurring charges have been cancelled.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be Monday, March 25, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

OFFICER REPORT – Chief of Police - Scott Kon

Chief Kon reported that the department answered 29 service calls for the month of February.

He reported that the evidence locker is around 80% finished and thanked the Council for their approval.

Chief Kon stated that it is time for the spring maintenance of the boat, and he asked approval to get the boat serviced.

Carl Randall made the motion to approve up to \$500 to have the boat serviced, and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

Chief Kon asked for approval to purchase a camera system for the evidence locker.

Carl Randall made a motion to approve up to \$200 to purchase a camera system, and Ramzi Malek seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Blount County 911 Service Contract

Nothing more to add to what was discussed at the Work Session

2. Recommendation on Maintenance Hours

Building and Grounds Committee provided an updated job description that they would like the Council to look over and discuss at the April meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

3. Lady Lakers approval for 2024 events

The following events for 2024 were presented to the Council for approval:

-PALS	April TBD
-Yard Sale	April 26-27
-Boston Butt Fundraiser	May 24-25
-Lady Lakers Sponsor Movie in the Park	TBD
-Community Breakfast	August 3
-Fall Festival	Oct 6 or 20
-Christmas Decorating Anchor/Park	TBD
-Community Christmas Social	TBD
-5K Run and Barks in the Park being discussed	

Carl Randall made the motion to approve the Lady Lakers 2024 Events, and Sid Nelson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

4. Discuss AMIC Renewal

Sid Nelson made the motion to go with the three-year renewal, and Carl Randall seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

5. Discuss Blount County Commission Invoice

Carl Randall made the motion to accept the increase and pay the invoice, and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

6. Floodplain Development Ordinance

Nothing added to what was discussed during the Work Session

7. Gurley Drive Repair

This was discussed during the report from the Road Committee.

Carl Randall made the motion to make the repair Gurley Drive, and Sid Nelson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

8. West Lakeshore Drive Repair

This was discussed during the report from the Road Committee.

Carl Randall made the motion to make the repair on West Lakeshore Drive, and Sid Nelson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

9. Steve Hammett's request to remodel boathouse

Sid Nelson made the motion to approve Steve Hammett's request to remodel his boathouse, and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. All present voted yes, and the motion passed.

10. Other business items as determined by the Council

Mae Martin addressed the Council, explaining her background with dyslexia and inquired about using the library to tutor children that need help with reading and writing.

Josh Beck suggested that she may want to make a flyer to make available to the community.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Ann Allen – Town Clerk

Chase Moore - Mayor