



## TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE

612 Lakeshore Drive  
Highland Lake, AL 35121  
(205) 625-6407

Email: [highlandlake612@gmail.com](mailto:highlandlake612@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.townofhighlandlake.com](http://www.townofhighlandlake.com)

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 5, 2023  
6:30 PM  
The Anchor

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Chase Moore at 6:40 PM.

#### **ROLL CALL:**

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

**ABSENT:** None

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

Invocation was given by Carl Randall

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the council

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **Approval of August 1, 2023 Work Session Minutes:** Bobby Rhodes made the motion to accept the minutes, and Sam Pearson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of August 1, 2023 Regular Session Minutes:** Sid Nelson made the motion to accept the minutes, and Ramzi Malek seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **Building and Grounds - Carl Randall**

Zavala's will now be adding the Lakeshore Drive area around the park to what they are already cutting.

### **Lake Preservation Committee – Bill Rush**

The committee was not able to have a meeting last month to further discuss the school Tournament. Jake Lemley has agreed to head up a subcommittee for the tournament. It was recommended that a school representative and Chief Kon be part of the discussion when they do meet. It was stated that the Town would probably need to have the State Biologist do their own study of the fish, at no cost, before the tournament is held.

There is significant vegetation growth at the back of the dam that needs to be taken care of. The person that has done this in the past is not able to this year. Kellis Vegetation Management from Birmingham is working on getting a quote ready to get it taken care of before the end of September.

Bobby Rhodes made a motion to approve \$2,500 to use for the vegetation growth at the dam and Carl Randall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Ordinance Committee – Sid Nelson**

No Report

### **Public Safety Committee – Sam Pearson**

No Report

### **Roads Committee – Sam Pearson and Josh Beck**

The West Lakeshore culvert problem was discussed and how it was handled rather quickly. It was discussed that there needs to be a definite plan of who to contact when a problem occurs. It was decided that when there is an issue to contact the office, then the office will contact the mayor, and the mayor will contact the committee chairman or commissioner.

Three members will need to be appointed to the committee by October 1, 2023. A chairman will then be elected by the committee for the 2024 Fiscal Year. The committee will meet in October to develop a new five-year plan.

### **Finance Committee – Bobby Rhodes**

The committee will have their monthly meeting Monday, September 28. Hollon should have the 2022 audit finished by the end of September. Bobby went over the monthly financial report and Raymond James report. He explained that they have had several budget planning meetings and the next Budget Meeting will be September 14, 2023, at 6:00 pm to present the FY-2024 Budget.

### **OFFICER REPORT – Chief of Police - Scott Kon**

Chief Kon reported that the department answered forty-one service calls and had two arrests last month. He stated that there were no major issues over the Labor Day weekend, but that people were not as careful

as they need to be. He suggested that next year that every person that gets a decal needs to receive a handout about rules and safety.

The Suburban needs a sensor replaced that will cost \$600. There is money left in the budget, and he would like to get approval to get that done this month.

Carl Randall made the motion to spend \$600 to repair the Suburban and Sid Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **1. Ordinance – Prohibition of Business Activities for which there is no in-force applicable business license**

Sid Nelson made a motion to pass the ordinance putting a hold on Airbnb and short-term rentals with the stipulation that it is only a twelve-month moratorium to allow enough time to evaluate the pros and cons. Carl Randall seconded the motion. Bobby Rhodes, Carl Randall, Sid Nelson, and Ramzi Malek voted yes and Mayor Moore and Sam Pearson abstained. The motion passed.

### **2. Slalom Ski Course Update**

There had been more concern over the safety of the course since the last meeting, especially at night and the location. After much discussion, a motion was made that in addition to requiring lights to be added and a Hold Harmless Agreement to be signed by the owner, that it would need to be placed at a location that the Town, with the recommendation of the Lake Preservation Committee, decided on. Bobby Rhodes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **3. Hiring a cleaning person for Town Hall and the Anchor**

The previous person that was hired has since accepted a full-time job and will no longer be able to clean. The next lowest quote that was given was: \$175 initial cleaning then \$75 for the Town Hall and \$100 for the Anchor each cleaning.

Carl Randall made the motion to hire this person and Sid Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **4. Police Department's request for approval for the following FY23 purchases:**

Item	Purchase Number	Cost
Annual ammo purchase	2,500	\$1,299.00
Garmin Dash Cam tandem	3	\$900.00
SanDisk 256GB High Endurance Video microSDXC Card	3	\$75.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,274.00</b>

Carl Randall made the motion to approve the Police Department's request for the above purchases and Sam Pearson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Police Department's request for approval to start divestment activity of the tractor and small boat**

Chief Kon in addition to the small boat and the tractor, the Dodge Charger needed to be added as well.

Carl Randall made the motion to declare the Dodge Charger, the small boat, and the tractor as surplus property. Sam Pearson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**6. Airbnb updates**

This was covered under UNFINISHED BUSINESS #1.

**7. Discuss establishing a procedure/chain of command for when road issues arise**

No more to add to what was discussed during the Roads Committee report

**8. Discuss when the next lowering of the lake will occur due to residents questions**

At this time, the next lowering of the lake is planned for September 2024 after Labor Day. It was discussed that the last lowering was stretched out too long. It was said that next time, it needs to be announced far enough in advance that people that want to have work done, have enough time to make plans to get it done during the time frame that will be given.

**9. Review and vote on proposed expenditures allocation adjustments for FY-23 Budget**

Bobby Rhodes went over the handout and explained the adjustments and answered any questions.

Carl Randall made the motion to accept the adjustments and Ramzi Malek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**10. Other business items as determined by the Council**

A resident brought up a concern that her had. He asked if there were any plans on building another pier. He said that the existing pier is difficult for some to get in and out of their boats on to, especially handicapped and older people. He said he would like to see a lower pier. The Lake Preservation Committee is going to look into his concern.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

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Mary Ann Allen – Town Clerk

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Chase Moore - Mayor