

TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE
The Anchor – 612 Lakeshore Dr. Highland Lake, AL 35121

Minutes of the
Special Council Meeting
Monday, November 07, 2022

The Town of Highland Lake held a special meeting on Monday, November 7, 2022 in the Town Library. Mayor Donna Hanby called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Councilmen Chase Moore, Carl Randall and Sid Nelson were in attendance. Greg Posey and Ramzi Malek were absent.

Mayor Hanby made the recommendation that Councilman Chase Moore take minutes for the meeting. Motion made by Councilman Sid Nelson, seconded by Councilman Carl Randall. Vote taken, Councilmen Randall and Nelson voted yes, Moore abstained, Mayor Hanby voted yes.

Councilman Greg Posey joined the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

Unfinished Business:

Approval of November 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

The regular session minutes of the November 1, 2022 minutes were read at the previous meeting, but were not approved. Mayor Hanby explained there was discussion about the minutes being correct, regarding the Clerk's salary. After much discussion, the minutes were corrected, and Councilman Nelson submitted a secondary addendum regarding the Clerk's hours from the 2022-2023 Budget, and requested that it be attached to the minutes as a permanent entry. Motion was made by Councilman Randall, seconded by Councilman Posey. Motion was approved unanimously.

Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve the following contributions:

Appalachian School - \$1100.00
Art Council of Blount County - \$1000.00
Blount County Economic Development Council - \$836.00
Blount County Animal Adoption Center - \$820.00
Straight Mt. Fire Dept. - \$1,000.00

Motion seconded by Councilman Posey. Councilmen, Nelson, Posey, and Randall voted yes, Councilman Moore abstained. Mayor Hanby voted yes.

Ordinance 22-02 – Permanent Roads Committee – replaces Ordinance HL19-02.

Motion to approve by Councilman Nelson, seconded by Councilman Posey. All voted yes.

Lady Lakers game day at the Anchor on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Motion made to approve by Councilman Nelson, seconded by councilman Randall. All voted yes.

Allowing Appalachian Youth Football banquet to be held at the Anchor, at no charge. Security deposit must be made, and Anchor cleaned after the event by the group.

Councilman Moore made the motion to accept, and was seconded by Councilman Nelson. Councilmen Moore, Nelson and Mayor Hanby voted yes. Councilmen Posey and Randall voted no. Motion passed.

Update Resolution 22-02 – Allowing Kayaks and Canoes. The Mayor will bring a replacement of this resolution at the next meeting.

Discussion of non-resident fishing permits.

Half year permits, beginning December 1st and ending May 15th for \$230.00. Limit number of permits sold to 6 – 8, not to exceed 60 total non-resident fisherman. There was no interest by the council in doing this.

New Business:

Discuss Air B&B.

Inspector Tim Moore addressed the Council regarding an Air B&B being advertised inside Town. The Council asked that a letter be sent to the resident and inform them that at this time, the Town does not have an ordinance in place to allow Air B&B's. Further discussion regarding Air B&B's will be addressed at a later date.

Discussion of new Auditor. The Mayor informed the Council that we have not received an audit for 2020-2021, nor 2021-2022. The Mayor has tried to get in touch with the auditor, but has not been successful. Cost of the audit is \$2300.00. Chief Kon asked if the Auditor had met the contractual requirements. The Financial Committee will help seek out possible new Auditors for the Mayor to consider and hire.

Discussion of Letter to Rescind Resignation by the Town Clerk.

The Mayor discussed the letter to the council, as well as the system (quickbooks) of which the Mayor cannot access, because it is not on her computer. The Mayor said this is a good system and that in her opinion, the Town Clerk had done a good job, even though she may have been unruly. The Clerk resigned at the November 1st Council meeting, but the Mayor has not received her formal letter of resignation.

Motion to NOT accept Letter to Rescind Resignation by the Town Clerk, was made by Councilman Randall, and seconded by Councilman Posey. Councilmen Randall, Posey, Nelson and Moore voted yes, Mayor Hanby voted no. Motion passed.

Discussion of the resignation of the Clerk.

Motion was made by Councilman Randall to accept the "I quit" statement that was said by the clerk as she exited the door at the November 1st Town Council Meeting. Councilman Posey seconded the motion. Councilmen Randall, Posey, Nelson and Moore voted yes. Mayor Hanby voted no.

The Mayor then handed out the Clerk's written resignation letter, which the Council had not been informed of, until it was presented, and asked for its approval. The Mayor asked why the Council would not approve the written letter (instead of the verbal resignation), and Councilman Posey stated "we don't just approve things just for the fun of it, without a chance to read it". Our Legal

Council advised the Council to put the letter in the personnel file. The attorney knew the Mayor was going to try to get a letter of resignation, but he was not made aware of the Mayor obtaining the letter, until it was handed out.

Motion to open the Clerk's position. Motion was made by Councilman Randall, seconded by Councilman Nelson, Councilmen Randall, Nelson, Moore and Posey voted yes. Mayor Hanby voted no. Motion passed.

Councilman Moore asked if the keys had been turned in. The Mayor replied, yes, everything has been turned in.

Chief Kon asked about the security of the software that the Town uses, and are those Cloud or local programs. Mr. Bobby Rhodes advised that the programs need to have passwords changed. Motion was made by Councilman Nelson to request Mr. Rhodes to change the passwords. Motion seconded by Councilman Randall. All voted yes.

Motion to approve advertisement for the Clerk position made by Councilman Randall, seconded by Councilman Posey. Motion passed.

Other Business

The Mayor passed out minutes from the Work Session and Regular Session of the November 1, 2022 meeting. The Mayor informed the Council, that if you see any changes make notes. The Mayor handed them out because she cannot access the computer.

Councilman Moore informed everyone that the Financial Committee will meet November 9th at 6:30 p.m. at the Anchor.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Posey, seconded by Councilman Nelson. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Chase Moore