



TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE

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**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WORK SESSION**

Tuesday, November 7, 2023
6:00 PM
The Anchor

Mayor Chase Moore called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

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

ABSENT: Sam Pearson

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

1. Lisa Baker, Grant Writer

Lisa Baker met with the Finance Committee a few months ago and was present tonight to explain what she does and what she could do for the Town. She explained that she has experience working with small municipalities on grant writing and action planning. The plan would include identifying three to five projects that the Town would like to do over the next couple of years, creating an action plan, and identifying ways to cover the cost. The cost to hire Ms. Baker would be \$1,500 which would be paid in three payments: beginning, midway, and end.

2. Executed FY-24 Expenditures that need to be Council approved:

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham \$249
Blount County Communications \$2,302.66
Donation: Appalachian School \$1,000
Donation: Animal Adoption Center of Blount County \$1,000
Donation: Blount County Economic Development Council \$1,000
Donation: Community Arts Council of Blount County \$1,000
Donation: Straight Mountain Fire Department \$1,000

It was stated that these are all approved in the budget, but need to be voted on to actually spend.

3. Discussion of the Finance Committee's recommendation to move the COVID-19 funds from the General Fund Bank Account to the Special Projects Bank Account

The COVID funds are in the General Account at this time and the Finance Committee would like approval for them to be moved to the Special Projects Account.

4. Discussion of the Finance Committee's recommendation pertaining to hiring a grant writer for the Town

The Finance Committee recommends to move forward with hiring Lisa Baker.

5. Purchase of a gas-powered pole driver

The pole driver that the Town has no longer works. One was shown that cost \$550 at Home Depot. It was recommended to shop around some more for a less expensive one.

6. \$750 Expenditure to the Lady Lakers for Christmas decorations

This amount is already in the budget for Christmas decorations.

7. Other business items as determined by the Council

The Straight Mountain Fire Department sent a letter requesting that the Town of Highland Lake set a Burn Ban.

Bill Rush, Chairman of the Lake Preservation Committee, explained that John Hand had sent the Dam/Spillway Inspection report. Bill said that he would contact C & C Contracting to get their opinion on what needs to be done to address the main concerns that need attention.

With no other items to be discussed at this time the meeting adjourned
At 6:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Allen – Town Clerk

Chase Moore – Mayor