

TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE, ALABAMA

MINUTES of the MEETING of the Town of Highland Lake Town Council

February 4, 2020

Meeting Location:
The Anchor – 612 Lakeshore Dr. Highland Lake, AL 35121

Work Session

The Highland Lake Town Council held its work session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020.

Mayor Donna Hanby called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

The Public Safety Committee announced that the Police Department had received a donation of \$4,000. to purchase a 2009 Dodge Charger from the City of Gainesville. The vehicle is currently being readied and will be titled, tag purchased, and insurance added within the next week. Chief Kon stated that he would write a letter of thanks.

Chief Kon mentioned that the Tahoe needs tires and was told to submit the cost. He also brought up the 2020 Winter Police Conference he hopes to attend in February and the 2020 membership dues. These items will be addressed in the regular meeting.

The Land donor has been contacted; Attorney may need to redo paperwork due to length of time elapsed since mailing original documents to an address that was not current.

Zoning Board Committee has a few possibilities for new members.

The dead tree problem on Lakeshore Dr. across from the park was discussed. Resident unable to be contacted, mail is being returned and phone is disconnected. Also discussed, were trees overhanging road and trees that have fallen on right of way. Liability issues were discussed regarding who would be responsible for clean-up cost.

The poles removed from Brasher Creek were rotted and cannot be re-used. They will have to be replaced with metal post to meet present code. Tim Moore mentioned that the Town had some 8-foot metal post under the porch area and in the garage that were left over from prior signage projects. Safety issue discussed on road curve at lake needing reflectors on the post.

The Town will be mailing out a letter in April to all residents regarding parking on right of way and implementing tickets for failure to comply. Also, road damage that is being caused by new construction, such as concrete trucks and other heavy delivery vehicles was discussed. Suggestions were made for adding verbiage to Ordinance making homeowner responsible or possibly adding a one-time fee for new construction jobs. Also discussed was overgrown shrubs on right of way which obscure sight, needing to be trimmed or moved back.

The Appalachian High School Band Boosters sent a letter thanking the Town for allowing them to use the Anchor and surrounding area for the Straight Mountain Music Festival last year and

requested reserving the second Saturday in May each year for this event. It was mentioned that since May is a popular wedding month, in event a wedding party requested that date, the Town would lose revenue. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the council would need to vote during the Regular Meeting.

Revisions to Business License Ordinances are still being worked on by Tim Moore.

Three new Ordinances – Sales & Use Tax, Gasoline and Liquid Motor Fuel Tax and Rooms, Lodging or Accommodations to Transients Tax, which were to be presented tonight for consideration will be presented in 30 days, as there was not a unanimous consensus.

Councilwoman Duke voiced opposition citing concern that some of her neighbors had voiced concern they had not been given ample time to discuss alternative ideas and options. Denise Adams suggested a mailout instead of the emails that were sent last month and another meeting, perhaps more advertising and a sign at the Highland Super Stop to show that the Town had performed its due diligence on the matter.

Wayne Bailey brought up the Roads Committee's due diligence and Gail Bailey spoke of the considerable time that had been put into this decision by the Roads Committee. Mrs. Bailey stated; the roads must be maintained, potholes filled, grass mowed, debris and fallen trees removed. The Committee's five-year plan showed cost would not be feasible without substantial additional funds.

After much discussion, it was decided to schedule another meeting, perhaps on a Sunday afternoon so that more people could attend and a more positive and supportive attitude might be achieved.

The Mayor called for a five-minute break before the Regular Meeting and adjourned the Work Session.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan Shirley, Town Clerk

Donna Hanby, Mayor