

# TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE, ALABAMA

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

**February 4, 2020**

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

### REGULAR SESSION

The Town of Highland Lake Town Council met in Regular Session with Mayor Donna Hanby presiding. Mayor Hanby called the meeting to order at 7:22 PM. Mr. Ramzi Malek gave the invocation. The Council led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mayor Donna Hanby, Carl Randall, Sid Nelson, Ramzi Malek, Sharon Duke

Council Members Absent: Chase Moore

Others Present: Town Attorney Alex Smith, Police Chief Scott Kon, Building Inspector Tim Moore, Town Clerk, Joan Shirley

**January 7, 2020 Work Meeting Minutes** – Mr. Carl Randall made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Mr. Sid Nelson seconded. Motion passed with **majority vote**. Sharon Duke abstained, having not attended the meeting.

**January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes** - Mr. Carl Randall made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Mr. Sid Nelson seconded. Motion passed with **majority vote**. Sharon Duke abstained, having not attended the meeting.

**January 28, 2020 Town Meeting Minutes** – Mr. Carl Randall made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Ramzi Malek seconded. Motion passed with **unanimous vote**.

**Financial Report** – Ms. Sharon Duke gave the January 2020 monthly financial report. Mr. Sid Nelson made a motion to approve the Financial Report and Mr. Ramzi Malek seconded. Motion passed with **unanimous vote**.

### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Dredging:** Mr. Malek reported no changes.

**Building & Grounds:** Mr. Randall commented that the exterior renovation for the office was coming along and should be finished up within the next few weeks. He also mentioned that an additional drain may need to be added to prevent water damage to the front of the building.

He suggested having a community Day and asking volunteers to help paint to save on cost.

**Roads Committee:** Gail Bailey will present review in 30 days after additional letter is sent to community regarding proposed Sales, Use and other Tax Ordinances.

**Lake Committee:** No report

**Ordinance Committee:** No report

**Public Safety Committee:** No report.

### **OFFICER REPORT:**

Chief Kon reported 47 contacts for the month of January, of which 29 were traffic related. For the year 2019, there were a total of 423 calls of which approximately 50% were traffic related.

New security camera installation will begin shortly with the Launch Camera already installed.

2009 Dodge Charger Donation received. Vehicle is being upfitted at no cost to town. The Town will add radar and other hardware owned by the Town.

Tires for the Chevy Tahoe will cost \$527.52 and the vehicle will be aligned at that time. Motion was made by Mr. Nelson to approve cost, Ms. Duke seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Chief Kon submitted invoices for the 2020 Police conference in Montgomery on February 17-20 and invoices for 2020 Annual Dues totaling \$300. Mr. Nelson made motion to approve up to \$500.00 for Conference expense. Ms. Duke seconded; motion passed unanimously.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**The land being donated** to the town is still pending. Donor was finally contacted by phone as mail had not been being forwarded. Attorney will re-submit paperwork due to the length of time elapsed and will work toward finalizing.

**Zoning Board** is still looking for new members, though they now have several potential names.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Fallen tree on Lakeshore across from park.** Jay Tawbush will be looking at the situation.

**Sales, Use and other Tax Ordinances** will be held for a period of 30 days. During this time a letter will be sent to all residents informing them of another meeting. Tentative Sunday date will be decided by Mayor.

**Residents responsible for road damage done** by contractors they hire and the No Parking on right-of-way Ordinance will be enforced. Fines will be imposed for illegal parking. This information will also be included in the letter being mailed to all residents regarding Sales, Use and other Tax Ordinances.

The Mayor announced that a Friday Card Game will be starting again soon.

Mayor Hanby reported that \$25,000. will be moved to the Permanent Roads account which presently has a balance of \$3,490.

- The Mayor requested that 5 ½ hours per week be added to the Town Clerk budget and that Cheryl Storey be hired to assist that position to fill in as needed. Mr. Randall made the motion to approve, Mr. Nelson seconded. A vote was taken and approved with a majority vote. **However**, we were reminded that the Rules should be suspended to amend items not on the agenda, which required a vote. After a short discussion, Attorney Alex Smith told the Mayor that if the budget had funds to cover the requested payroll expense, there was no need for a vote at that time, thus eliminating the need to suspend the Rules. He suggested re-visiting the issue later in the year as the Clerk budget nears depletion.

**Appalachian High School request for 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in May** will be revisited at next meeting. May 2020 reservation will be added to Anchor calendar and school notified.

**Revise Business License Ordinance** Inspector Moore stated that he is in the process of revising the Ordinance.

**The Sales and Use Tax Ordinance, The Gasoline and Liquid Motor Fuel Tax and the Ordinance for Rooms, Lodging or Accommodations to Transients Tax** were submitted for the Council's review and will be available to the public for 30 days. The March meeting was changed to March 10<sup>th</sup> which is the second Tuesday in March at which time a vote will be taken.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the ramifications of not raising the funds for the roads. The negative impact would be detrimental to the Town and all seemed to agree that it was imperative to try and educate community to bring in the necessary funding.

**The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.**

There being no further business or discussion, Mr. Randall made the motion to adjourn, and Mr. Nelson seconded. Roll Call. All voted yes and meeting was adjourned at 8:24PM.

Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_ on file \_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Shirley, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ on file \_\_\_\_\_  
Donna Hanby, Mayor