

# **TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE, ALABAMA**

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

**March 10, 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 7:00 PM. Mr. Skip Davis 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, Chase Moore

Others Present: Town Attorney Alex Smith, Police Chief Scott Kon, Building Inspector Tim Moore, Town Clerk Joan Shirley, Cameron Clark, State of Alabama – Revenue Examiner, Local Tax Liaison, and Dean Calvert, County Commissioner

Ramzi Malek made a motion to approve the February work session minutes as written, Sid Nelson seconded. Chase Moore abstained having not been present and the motion passed with majority vote.

Sid Nelson made the motion to approve the February regular session minutes as written, Ramzi Malek seconded. Chase Moore abstained having not been present and the motion passed with majority vote.

Sid Nelson made the motion to approve the March 01, 2020 Town Meeting as written, Carl Randall seconded. Chase Moore abstained having not been present and the motion passed with majority vote.

Chase Moore made the motion to approve the February Financial Report and Carl Randall seconded. Motion passed with unanimous vote.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A vote was taken to approve the quarterly Zoning Ordinance Minutes. Chase Moore made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Sid Nelson seconded. Motion passed with a majority vote. Sharon Duke abstained, stating that she had not attended.

Mayor Hanby presented three bids for fallen tree removal on Lakeshore Dr/ across from park. They were as follows: Jay Tawbush – \$5,400, Alan Startley - \$3,800, and Blountsville Nursery, \$4,860. Chase Moore moved to go with the lowest bid and Sharon Duke seconded. There was a unanimous vote to approve.

A vote was taken to approve Game Day at the Anchor each Friday from 1:00 p.m. until finished. Sid Nelson made the motion to accept and Chase Moore seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A vote was taken to approve the second Saturday in May for 2020 and 2021 for the Appalachian Band Boosters concert in the park. Chase Moore made the motion and Sid Nelson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Hanby presented plans for a new boat house for Joe and Kaley Whited to be built at 371 Lakeshore Loop by Lakeside Boathouse. Sid Nelson made the motion, Chase Moore seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

A donation of a park bench and dogwood tree, by Neysa and Bobby Rhodes, was presented for a vote. This donation will be in honor of Mickey Hawkins. Carl Randall made the motion and Chase Moore seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

A vote was taken to approve the Lady Lakers 2020 calendar of events. Chase Moore made the motion to accept and Ramzi Malek seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

A vote was taken to increase the hours of the Town Clerk position by 5 ½ hours and hire Cheryl Storey for the increased hours as backup to the position. Carl Randall made the motion to accept and Sid Nelson seconded. Sharon Duke voted no, Ramzi Malek abstained. All others voted yes and motion passed with a majority vote.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Roads Committee:** Chairman Gail Bailey presented information regarding the Sales and Use Tax, and the numerous rumors which have circulated on Facebook. Some of the rumors alleged the town was annexing property, and extending the jurisdiction up to five miles, neither of these rumors are true. The law establishes a jurisdiction of 1 ½ miles for a city of our size. The town has no intention of annexing any additional areas, and this would have to come to a vote of the people, if anyone ever wished to be annexed. It was also pointed out that the school would not be subject to any taxes, and that most of the supplies for the farmers are tax exempt. There were many statements on the town Facebook page, alleging the town does not care about, or do anything for the people outside of the town. Mrs. Bailey listed numerous circumstances, where the town donates, or sponsors events, for the surrounding area. Some of these include an annual \$1,000 scholarship for the school, sponsorship of the Annual Band Concert, and the annual Wag Walk for the Blount County Animal Shelter, which raised over \$5700.00 last year. The town

also hosts the Fall Festival, Easter Egg Hunt, and other events, in which everyone is invited, not just town residents.

**OFFICER REPORT:**

Chief Kon reported that in the past year 1,126 calls had come from the Straight Mountain fire jurisdiction and 420 were answered by Highland Lake officers. There were 75 calls answered inside the town. He discussed his need for patrolling outside the town's limits, keep down possible drugs, and other crimes, in the area. Chief Kon addressed Face book rumors also and discussed various items pertaining to the Town's safety and security.

Cameron Clark from the State of Alabama was called on by Mrs. Bailey to clarify some of the farming questions regarding supply and equipment purchases. He was very helpful in clarifying their non tax status and suggested that the farmers bring this issue to the Co-op's attention as they apparently had been paying sales tax on exempt items.

Town attorney Alex Smith addressed sales and use tax ordinances.

Mayor Hanby opened the floor for questions.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted:

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Joan Shirley, Town Clerk

Signature on file

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Donna Hanby, Mayor

Signature on file