

Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

The Highland Lake Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, April 4, 2016 at the Anchor. Mayor Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Skip Davis gave the invocation. The Mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Gail Bailey
Council members Skip Davis, Donna Hanby, Shani Ort, and Connie Vice
Council member Tim Peek arrived at 7:03 PM.

Absent:

Town Attorney Alex Smith was also present.

March 7, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes – Ort made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Davis seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

March 21, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes – the Town Clerk read the minutes. Vice made a motion to accept the minutes, as read. Hanby seconded. Roll call. Ort, Peek, Hanby, Vice and Bailey voted yes. Davis abstained. Motion carried. Council member Davis stated that for the record he fully agreed with the decision the council made at the March 21 Special Meeting.

Financial Report –Council member Vice gave the monthly financial report. Davis made a motion to accept the report, as presented. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Vice stated the certificate of deposit (CD) at Compass Bank is maturing next week. Vice asked if there were any objections to renew this CD wherever she can find the best rate, even if it's at another bank. There were no objections.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Lake – Chairman Skip Davis reported the committee did not meet in March due to lack of attendance. The committee will meet Monday, April 11. Davis thanked everyone that helped with the lake cleanup in March. Mayor Bailey also expressed her appreciation for those that helped with the cleanup day and those folks that cleaned up on their own.

Ordinances – Chairman Shani Ort reported the committee did not meet due to the council meeting on March 21 to review the draft zoning ordinance. Attorney Alex Smith provided the following feedback regarding the draft zoning ordinance: (1) suggested that home occupation be treated as a special exception use and apply for a variance. This process would give the public notice to provide comments and (2) the Ordinance Committee cannot serve as the Planning Commission; however, the members of the Ordinance Committee can also be on the Planning Commission.

Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

Buildings & Grounds – Chairman Donna Hanby reported the committee did not meet in March and will not meet in April. The awning was installed at the Library/Town Hall entrance. Hanby will schedule a time to work on the entrance sign at Lakeshore Drive/River Road. It was recommended that pressure treated poles be used.

Roads –Chairman Tim Peek stated he had no report.

Mayor Bailey stated she and Commissioner Calvert will ride the town roads to determine the areas that need the most work. The town budgeted \$16,000 for road work that the county will match. The Mayor mentioned two areas that need repair: (1) Lakeshore Drive (in front of Mrs. Nelms) to Sunset. The road would be scraped and then paved in the fall, and (2) coming into Town Hall. The Mayor asked the council to let her know of other areas that need repair.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dredging – the Mayor reported that the contract had been signed with Tetra Tech to proceed with the permitting and final design and specifications. There is a meeting on Thursday, April 7 with Tetra Tech and the Corps of Engineers regarding permitting. John Storey has agreed to be the on-site project manager for the Town. Task 1 (Permitting) and Task 2 (Final Design & Specifications) will be done at the same time. In the next 14 months, the town will owe \$19,000.00 for Task 1 and 2, which the council has agreed can be funded out of the Special Projects fund. Task 3 (Support with Bidding Process) will not be done within the next six months. Council member Vice is working on the financing. The town should have no trouble borrowing money.

OFFICER REPORT

Chief Kon reported progress has been made on a problem just outside the town with a mechanical shop. Kon added it had been a busy week with seven felony cases. Kon reminded everyone to pay attention to people that don't belong in the community. New tires were purchased for the police truck for \$450.00. The town pontoon boat runs, but does not steer. Kon suggested the council start thinking about a replacement boat.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

NEW BUSINESS

Doug McBee – repair of deck/platform leading to lake – the legs to the structure have washed out and are falling in. Only the supports will be new. Peek made a motion to approve the plans. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

John Smart – add 14 x 28 covered boat slip – Peek made a motion to approve plans. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Fish Camp – Blount County Education Foundation – Vice made a motion to approve having the fish camp for the kids on either June 15 or 16. Peek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried. A waiver is signed by the group.

John Daily – variance request to add 16 x 20 dog house – Building Inspector Tim Moore stated this is a variance request because the structure will be built on property that does not have a house. The structure will be built on a tract of land that is behind James Moore's residence on Lakeshore Drive. The structure is 120' from the property line. James Moore stated the structure is to house four German shepherd dogs, and when asked if this was going to be a business, replied no. Hanby made a motion to approve the variance request. Peek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

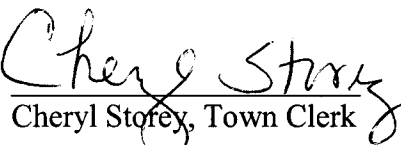
The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

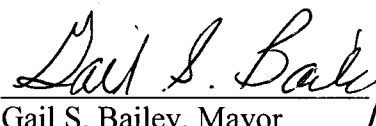
John Santamour questioned if the town had checked with the tomato farmer on CR29 regarding runoff from his property into Highland Lake. The Mayor responded runoff from his property would possibly go behind where Garland Allman owns 40 acres and would come by the side of the Anchor into the lake. It would not flow into Brasher Creek. It was also mentioned that the tomato farmer is starting a pond, and is doing what he can to protect this water. The Mayor stated she is aware of someone where a pond may be able to be placed.

John Smart announced there was a water main break by the bridge on CR29.

With no other business to come before the council, Vice made a motion to adjourn. Davis seconded. All said I. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted:


Cheryl Storey, Town Clerk


Gail S. Bailey, Mayor