

# Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

The Highland Lake Town Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at the Anchor. Mayor Vice called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Carl Randall gave the invocation. The Mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

## ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Connie Vice  
Council members Chase Moore, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek  
Absent: Council members Donna Hanby and Greg Posey

Town Attorney Alex Smith was also in attendance.

**March 7, 2017 Work Session Minutes** – Moore made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Nelson seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**March 7, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes** – Moore made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**Financial Report** –Town Clerk Cheryl Storey gave the monthly financial report. Nelson made a motion to accept the report, as presented. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Lake** – Chairman Nelson reported a lake clean-up day was held April 1. Volunteer turnout was marginal. Nelson stated the lake looked pretty good and clean, the best he has seen in years. Another cleanup day will be scheduled for some time in the summer. The next committee meeting will be held April 11. The committee is discussing/considering having another Fish Study done. Committee member Steve Smith is working with a Conservation Biologist to repeat the study. Nelson also reported the committee began discussions on non-resident lake use permits and the cost.

**Dredging** – Chairman Malek reported the committee met March 30 and reviewed what work has been completed to date and the scope of work. The committee determined we need to go back to the engineer, Tetra Tech, and discuss re-studying Brasher Creek and the cost. Sand Creek is not as urgent. Other options need to be considered/investigated for Sand Creek, such as dredging mechanically or building a berm. Additional information is needed on how Sand Creek could be handled differently.

**Roads** – Chairman Moore reported a Road Form was submitted by Jacob Hembree on Vista Drive regarding a drainage issue. Commissioner Calvert & Moore explained that if the county installs a drain pipe at the location on Vista that water would then flow onto someone else. Commissioner Calvert explained that the county may be able to do some ditching back work to help with this issue. Calvert and Moore will investigate next week.

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## SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

## OFFICER REPORT

Chief Kon was absent due to a family issue. Mayor Vice explained that the annual police chief's conference is in August (continuing education hours) and the council needs to approve this trip. This expense, approximately \$1,000.00, is already included in the police related expense category (category 7350). Moore made a motion to approve the expenses for the annual chief's conference. Nelson seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Revised Hold Harmless Agreement for Lake Use Permit** – Nelson made a motion to approve the revised hold harmless agreement. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

## NEW BUSINESS

**9-1-1 Drone for Safety of the County** - Commissioner Dean Calvert addressed the council and requested the town contribute towards the purchase of a drone with enhanced photographic capabilities to aid in search and rescue, disaster event, and other appropriate operations in the county. The cost of the drone is approximately \$30,000.00. The 9-1-1 center has received commitments for \$21,500.00. Moore made a motion for the town to donate \$500.00 to the 9-1-1 center to help with the purchase of a drone for the county. Nelson seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**One Cent Sales Tax (Moving Blount County Forward Initiative)** – Commissioner Dean Calvert presented the first one cent sales tax proceeds check to the town for \$952.56. Commissioner Calvert read the following law regarding proceeds from the one cent sales tax: “Of the remaining proceeds, sixteen and two-thirds percent (16 2/3%) to county municipalities which lie in whole or in part within Blount County, divided pro rata, based on the most recent decennial census of those citizens who live within the boundaries of Blount County. These distributions may be used only for municipal road and bridge improvements and support of public education within the limits of municipalities within Blount County.”

Former Mayor Gail Bailey stated the town is fortunate to have Dean Calvert as our commissioner. Dean fought hard for the one cent sales tax. Bailey and others expressed their appreciation of Commissioner Calvert.

**Fred Harvey – revised pier replacement plans** – pier will be 16' x 30' instead of 15' x 30'. Moore made a motion to approve plans. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**Wayne Owens – replace boathouse roof – from shingles to metal** – Malek made a motion to approve plans. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried. Nelson stated if removing shingles to ensure no debris is placed into the lake.

**Chamber of Commerce – Contract of Services for Town Membership** – Nelson made a motion to approve contract. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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**Landscape Project for Anchor** – An estimate was received by Distinctive Landscaping. A second estimate will be obtained for the Buildings & Grounds Committee to review. Moore made a motion to table. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**Establish Highland Lake Planning Commission** – the Mayor announced the following will serve on the Highland Lake Planning Commission: Tim Moore, Building Inspector, Cheryl Storey, Town Clerk, Skip Davis, Tim Peek, Susan Barnes, Tony Coop, Allie Pearson and Bruce Brasseale. Moore nominated Sid Nelson to be the council member that serves on the commission. Malek seconded. Roll call. Moore, Malek and Vice voted yes. Nelson abstained. Motion carried.

**Non-resident employee discount for lake use** – this discount would be a benefit for non-resident employees. The discount would be 50% off of the cost of a non-resident permit. It applies only while employed. Nelson made a motion to approve the non-resident employee discount for lake use. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**Jacksonville State University Day** – JSU has the Anchor rented April 29, 2017 to hold a rally for current, new and alumni. Moore made a motion to approve the proclamation to declare April 29, 2017 Jacksonville State University Day. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Nelson made a motion to suspend the rules to amend the agenda to add request from resident Tony Coop. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**Tony Coop – add Jet Ski lift** – Nelson made a motion to approve plans. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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

Steve Poer questioned if there were plans to remove leaves from ditches. He stated his neighbor is placing leaves in the ditch on Lakeshore Loop and stopping up the culverts. Response – the town has sent out several reminders regarding no leaves should be raked into ditches.

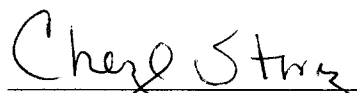
Steve Poer questioned if the town kept a log on the fish that's coming out of the lake. Mayor Vice responded no log is kept.


Commissioner Dean Calvert expressed his appreciation for Chief Scott Kon and the work he does.

Carl Randall questioned when the fountain in the park would be put back up. Mayor Vice responded soon. It's being discussed on whether to run a water line to the fountain.

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

Respectfully submitted:

  
Cheryl Storey, Town Clerk

  
Connie B. Vice, Mayor