

TOWN OF HIGHLAND LAKE, ALABAMA
Regular Session

MINUTES of the MEETING

Town of Highland Lake Town Council

September 14, 2021

6:30 pm

Meeting Location:

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

The Highland Lake Town Council held its Regular Session. Mayor Donna Hanby called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Marlon Vest gave the invocation. The Council led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Council Members Attending: Mayor Donna Hanby, Greg Posey, Carl Randall, Sid Nelson, Ramzi Malek, Chase Moore

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

Sid Nelson made the motion to amend the May 04, 2021 minutes to correct an error made in naming Steve Hammet to the Zoning Board. It should have read Steve Smith. At the same time Sid nominated Steve Hammet to replace Steve Smith on the Zoning Board. Greg Posey seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Carl Randall made the motion to accept the August Work Session Minutes, Sid Nelson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Sid Nelson made the motion to accept the August Regular Session Minutes, Carl Randall seconded, motion carried unanimously

Chase Moore made the motion to accept the August 24, 2021 Special Session Minutes. Ramzi Malek seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Building & Grounds: Carl Randall – No report

Lake Preservation: Sid Nelson presented the report in Bill Rush's absence. Sid reported that C&C will be starting work on the berm area as soon as the water in the lake recedes. The price of the project was lowered significantly from \$49,700 to \$32,000 due to receiving rip rap

material directly from the County. He also noted that prices were being obtained from C & C and several other smaller companies for silt removal in Sand Creek .

Lake: Sid Nelson - No report

Dredging: Ramzi Malek – no report

Ordinance: Sid Nelson reported that his committee met earlier in the month to discuss Ordinance 16-01 regarding possible amendments. He noted that the Town’s attorney will be involved in writing agreed upon amendments.

Public Safety – Greg Posey stated that the recently acquired generator will need a 4x7 frame and will be constructed soon. He suggested concrete could be poured at a time when there is a job in the town requiring concrete, as this will require such a small amount.

Roads Committee: Chase Moore and Gail Bailey - Gail Bailey discussed several items, including the immediate repairs to replace culvert on Lakeshore Drive, due to the Utilities Board removing the water pipe under the road. This work will begin September 20th at a cost of \$2,667. A new culvert needed to catch run off water at Bear Creek and Lakeshore Drive, particularly alongside the Anchor, is scheduled for November 2021 at a cost of \$25,000. As prices are expected to increase substantially on October 1, all known supplies for the culverts have been ordered.

Re-paving on Lakeshore Dr. will be delayed until the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Mrs. Bailey presented two options for the reclamation and repaving of Lakeshore Drive. One option was to complete one mile of the worst section at an approximate cost of \$96,607 and the other will replace from Brasher Creek to River Road at approximately \$200,000. Both will require a long period after the road bed has been excavated and crushed run applied, to sit and settle before repaving. Mrs. Bailey also noted that the project has been placed on the County’s calendar to begin in the late summer of 2022. Before that time, the Council will decide how much of the road to reclaim and how it will be paid. Full report is attached.

Officer Report: Chief Scott Kon announced that the lake lowering process began Monday afternoon, September, 13 and will take approximately 7-10 days to drain depending upon rain. He discussed continuing his search using the LESO program to locate items that could be beneficial to the Town. One item needed is a mower with a long enough arm to reach the Brasher Creek area for continued maintenance. Chief Kon also asked that \$1,000 from police salaries in this year’s budget be reallocated to police related items to allow for new tires. Chase Moore made the motion to approve and Sid Nelson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Reading of Communications, etc. Karen Murphy, a long-time resident and former Town Clerk addressed the Council and numerous residents attending the meeting. Over the past four weeks, Mrs. Murphy has been circulating a petition regarding the Town’s Ordinance HL 16-01. This Ordinance requires a minimum of 1,800 sq. ft to rebuild a home that has been destroyed by fire or an act of God. This is regardless of the size of existing home, at the time of loss. She, and concerned residents would like to see an amendment to the current ordinance to allow all homes built prior to the 1999 requirement, to be grandfathered in; to do away with the minimum and allow them to build back what they had. Mrs. Hawkins stated that she will continue to collect

signatures although she has enough already with 25% of the Town, to ask for a referendum; if the amendment was not allowed. Mrs. Murphy asked that her speech become part of the minutes and a copy is attached.

She also presented selected quotes from several residents sharing their concerns regarding items ranging from lack of communication from the Town, regarding receiving notifications to not feeling represented by it's elected officials. These items will be addressed by the Mayor, Council and appropriate Committees. Mrs. Murphy received a resounding show of appreciation by the attending residents, in the form of generous applause. Mayor Hanby thanked Mrs. Murphy for her efforts.

Unfinished Business:

1. It was agreed upon that a written proposal from Lakeside Boathouse be accepted by the Town to exchange barge for services rendered. Sid Nelson made the motion to accept offer and Ramzi Malek seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. There was further discussion on Tim Weston's request to access property belonging to the Town of Highland Lake to build a 4-foot-wide pier. Property is located beside Scott & Lee Matthews pier at 1290 Lakeshore Dr. His property address is 109 Sunset Strip. Due to the absence of Town attorney at the meeting, this issue will be addressed at a later date, prior to next council meeting.

New Business:

1. Greg Posey made the motion to accept the 2021-2022 Town of Highland Lake Budget. Carl Randall seconded. A vote was taken and all voted yes, with the exception of Chase Moore who abstained.
2. Chase Moore made the motion to amend the agenda to add Jennifer Retzke for a building permit to install a new retaining wall. Ramzi Malek seconded, motion carried unanimously.
3. A consent agenda vote was taken to approve the following building permits. Chase Moore made the motion and Ramzi Malek seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Dwight and Kristin Julbert at 73 Williams Dr are requesting a permit for a double slip boathouse and an adjoining open sundeck measuring 32'x 49' with side walkway. Tim has approved.
 - David and Ashley Condon of 1020 Kennedy Dr request permit for adding additional 96 sq. ft. decking to existing boathouse. Tim has approved.
 - Eddie Lowe at West Lakeshore Dr. request removing old seawall belonging to Hellums and rebuilding, using large stacked stone. Tim has approved.

- Lavon Drake – 75 Shuff Lane request building a boat house and pier now and will be building home in winter. Tim has approved plans.
- Ricky Price – 2377 Lakeshore Dr. will be having a 24x28 prefab building delivered, setup and anchored. Structure will be on gravel pad. Tim has approved.
- Eddie Dunn – 345 Lakeshore Loop request to add 6 x 11 dock extension. Tim has approved.
- Eunie McDavid – 260 Lakeshore Dr. would like to add steps to existing pier. Tim has approved.
- David Peek – 2020 Lakeshore Dr would like to build a 32 x 48 covered boathouse. (12x16 offset)
- Jennifer Retzke – 19 Sunset Point would like to build a stone retaining wall.

Mayor Hanby announced that the Town would be showing the movie **Jumanji**.in the park on Saturday, September 18th.

Mayor Hanby opened the floor to public comments. Several residents addressed the Council with their concerns regarding the Ordinance. All residents who chose to speak were allowed the opportunity. The mayor asked for any additional comments, and there being none, Carl Randall made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Greg Posey seconded. The Motion was approved unanimously and Mayor Hanby adjourned meeting at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan Shirley, Town Clerk

Donna Hanby, Mayor