

Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

The Highland Lake Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, July 11, 2016 at the Anchor. Due to the absence of two of the council members and the lateness of one other, Mayor Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. Marlin Vest gave the invocation. The Mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Gail Bailey
Council members Shani Ort, Tim Peek and Connie Vice
Absent: Council members Skip Davis and Donna Hanby

June 6, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes – Peek made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ordinances – Chairman Shani Ort reported the committee met and continued discussion on the zoning ordinance, the Planning Commission sections in particular. Other items discussed were the preservation of trees to prevent clear cutting, and a noise ordinance. Discussion took place regarding the existing resolution regarding the preservation of trees. Council input and fine tuning of the resolution will be obtained when an ordinance is developed.

Mayor Bailey reported the lake received significant runoff from the tomato field located on County Road 29, after the June 17th heavy rains. The Mayor met with the tomato field property owners, Dale and Amy Dickie, and they did not feel they were responsible for the runoff into the lake. The meeting was cordial, and the Dickie's stated they would do everything they could to prevent this from occurring again. The Mayor also met with ADEM, which agreed the owners were responsible for the runoff into the lake. At the time of the June 17th rains, the dam at the tomato field pond had an opening that funneled all of the water from the fields down the hill to the lake. There was nothing in place to keep this from happening, and we had a very large rainfall in a short time. After ADEM's visit, it was agreed that the Dickie's and their contractor, C & C Contracting will clean out the sediment deposited from the tomato field, into the boat launch area. This will be done when the water is lowered after Labor Day.

James Bryson commented that Dale Dickie does everything the right way and that the town shouldn't have any problems with them.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OFFICER REPORT

Chief Kon reported the town has been offered a donation of a 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe from the City of Mountain Brook Police Department, at no cost to the town. This vehicle has over 100,000 miles and is being retired by the City of Mountain Brook, as required of all vehicles over 3 years of age. This vehicle has been well maintained and serviced every 5,000 miles. Kon stated a second vehicle would enable the town to have the existing police truck serviced, which is currently in severe need for service/maintenance, however we cannot pull it from service as it is the only police vehicle we have. The cost to insure the Tahoe would be under \$700 a year. Kon stated the only equipment that would be needed is a radio, computer (could find a surplus one for around \$25), and the title swap. Vice made a motion to accept the donation of a 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe. Ort seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kon expressed concern with the Tri-party Inmate Housing Agreement that Blount County would like for the town to execute with them. Kon is concerned the town is not protected and is specifically concerned with Section 12 (Release) and Section 13 (Indemnity). Kon asked the council to review the agreement and it will also be shared with the town attorney for feedback.

Kon reported there were no major problems over the July 4th holiday.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Donated Generator & Alabama Power update – Greg Posey reported he met with Alabama Power. The town currently has three meters (Town Hall, Anchor & Garage). The Anchor is on a demand meter. Mr. Posey suggested that we leave the Anchor as is, and install two transfer switches and have one generator to serve all three buildings. There will be a cost to tie the Town Hall electrical to the garage. We would be changing from three to two meters, and should save approximately \$30 a month. All three buildings will be on the generator.

Posey added that the Gas Company will install a larger meter at no cost.

Peek made a motion to proceed with having two transfer switches versus one. Ort seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jon Doss – variance request to build barn/equipment shed on Sunset Circle – Mr. Doss was not present. There was concern as to why stalls were needed in this structure, as livestock is not permitted in the city. Peek made a motion to approve this variance. Motion died due to a lack of a second.

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NEW BUSINESS

Blount County 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatch Service Contract – Vice made a motion to approve the contract for October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. Ort seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

James Bryson – extend seawall to landline, approximately 37 feet. Peek made a motion to approve the plans. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Carl Randall – new 130' rock seawall - Peek made a motion to approve the plans. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Charles Gilbert – Property setback variance. Mr. Gilbert's neighbor's boardwalk is approximately six feet on his property. Mr. Gilbert does not have 10 feet between the two properties and requested permission to connect his boardwalk with his neighbor's, which would be approximately 3.5 to 4 feet. Peek made a motion to approve this setback variance and allow Mr. Gilbert to close in/attach his boardwalk to his neighbor's. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Charles Gilbert – 9' concrete ramp, boardwalk and two 8' x 16' piers. Vice made a motion to approve the plans. Ort seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Garry Vincent – 16 x 30 pier with no electrical. Peek made a motion to approve the plans. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Wayne Bowling – clean debris out of their boat landing, increase the depth of the water in the area just beyond their boat landing and at pier, and remove grass, lily pads and roots to left of their boat landing. Mr. Bowling stated he will haul off all debris removed from the lake. Peek made a motion to approve the plans. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Sam Linton – maintenance work to pier when lake is lowered. Mr. Linton will be asked to keep the town posted should it be determined that any structural support repair is needed. Peek made a motion to approve the plans. Ort seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Shani Ort – walkway and steps repair – Vice made a motion to approve plans. Peek seconded. Roll call. Vice, Peek and Bailey voted yes. Ort abstained. Motion carried.

John Hand – Variance request for road right-of-way setback – The lot at 232 Sunset is an extremely steep lot on all parts of road frontage. Mr. Hand requested permission to build stairs to the lake and that the top landing start 2' from road edge due to should dropping at 4'. Estimated 15' variance required. Peek made a motion to approve road setback variance. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

John Hand – Stairs to lake – Peek made a motion to approve the plan for stairs to the lake. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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Joel Drake – 6' x 105' boardwalk – Peek made a motion to approve plans. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Rick Fernambucq – rebuild existing floating pier – Peek made a motion to approve plans. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

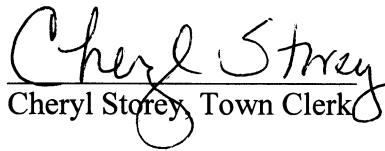
Bill Rush – rebuild rock wall – Peek made a motion to approve plans. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

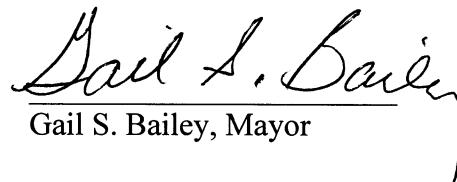
The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

With no other business to come before the council, Vice made a motion to adjourn. Ort seconded. All said I. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted:


Cheryl Storey, Town Clerk


Gail S. Bailey, Mayor