

# Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

The Highland Lake Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 2, 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, Shani Ort, Tim Peek and Connie Vice  
Absent: Council member Donna Hanby

Town Attorney Alex Smith was also present.

**April 4, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes** – Vice made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Ort 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. Davis seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Vice reported the certificate of deposit (CD) at Compass Bank was renewed.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Lake** – Chairman Skip Davis reported the committee did not meet in April due to lack of attendance. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 9.

**Ordinances** – Chairman Shani Ort reported the committee did not meet because she was out of town.

**Roads** – Chairman Tim Peek stated he had no report.

Mayor Bailey stated next week Commissioner Dean Calvert will provide two to three ideas and prices for potential road work in the town. The council can then determine how to spend the \$16,000.00 grant funds.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Dredging** – the Mayor reported that John Storey attended a meeting with the Corp of Engineers and Tetra Tech regarding the permitting process. Tetra Tech is also working on the final plans.

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**Countywide 1-cent sales tax increase** – Mayor Bailey reported she was asked to participate on a committee regarding the 1 cent sales tax increase for the county. The first meeting was this afternoon. The money from the sales tax would benefit fire departments, roads and bridges, education, and municipalities. Bailey asked the council if there were any objections to the town hosting an informational meeting for the community regarding this issue. There were no objections. The meeting will be held in the August/September timeframe prior to the November elections, and provide information regarding the need for the tax increase, how the additional revenues will be used and how it will be apportioned among various agencies.

## OFFICER REPORT

Officer Joe Franklin reported the main concern is safety of the streets and waterways. It was suggested that the town host a boat safety course. Chief Kon will be asked to investigate this with the Alabama Marine Police.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

## NEW BUSINESS

**Resolution HL-16-02 – Tax Levy** – municipalities that impose ad valorem taxes are to levy such taxes by resolution or ordinance each year during the month of May and certify such levy to the tax assessor before June 1. Ort made a motion to approve. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**Sharon Duke – Variance Request for Home-based Party Rental Business.** Business is not a store front and there will be no in and out traffic. Rental equipment is delivered to the customer. Rentals include inflatable bounce houses, inflatable wet/dry slides, tables, chairs, chair covers, and concession equipment. Duke stated that all items would be stored in the basement. Peek made a motion to approve the variance request for a home-based party rental business. Vice seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

**2016 Election Custodian Services Agreement** – this agreement is with William Blythe, who will provide the Town of Highland Lake with Election Custodian services during the 2016 Municipal Election in August. Peek made a motion to approve. Ort seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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**Ed Underwood – Pier at 171 Martin Drive** – The Mayor reported the pier at 171 Martin Drive has two violations: (1) council approval was not obtained to replace the decking and (2) non encapsulated Styrofoam is prohibited for supporting the structure. The Mayor added this pier has not been inspected. A letter was sent to Mr. Underwood in January, 2016. The Town Clerk discussed this with Mr. Underwood last week and he was planning to attend this meeting unless there was a work emergency. Mr. Underwood was not present. The town attorney will send a certified letter to Mr. Underwood regarding this issue.

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


Steve Poer questioned the number of home businesses in the town. The response was three that the town is aware of.

Discussion then took place on the 1 cent sales tax increase.

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