

Organizational and Regular Meeting of the Town of Highland Lake, Alabama

The Highland Lake Town Council held its organizational and regular meeting on Monday, November 7, 2016 at the Anchor. Town Clerk Cheryl Storey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ramzi Malek gave the invocation. The Town Clerk led the pledge of allegiance.

Town Clerk and Notary, Cheryl Storey, administered the oath of office for Mayor to Connie Vice. She then administered the oath of office to council members Chase Moore, Donna Hanby, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek. Each council member then signed the oath office.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Connie Vice
Council members Chase Moore, Donna Hanby, Sid Nelson and Ramzi Malek
Absent: None

Town Attorney Alex Smith was also in attendance.

Election of Mayor Pro-Tem – Moore made a motion to appoint Donna Hanby as Mayor Pro Tem. Nelson seconded. Roll call. Malek, Nelson, Moore and Vice voted yes. Hanby abstained. Motion carried.

Establish Time & Place of Regular Council Meetings each month – Malek made a motion for the regular meetings to occur on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Nelson seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Adopt Rules of Procedures (Ordinance HL-00-11) – Nelson made a motion to adopt Ordinance HL-00-11 to establish rules of procedures. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried. Ordinance HL-00-11 will be amended to reflect meeting date of the first Tuesday of each month.

Committee Appointments – Mayor Vice made the following committee appointments:

Lake – Sid Nelson, Chairman / Ramzi Malek, Secondary
Dredging – Ramzi Malek, Chairman / Sid Nelson, Secondary
Buildings & Grounds – Vacant, Chairman / Chase Moore, Secondary
Roads – Chase Moore, Chairman / Vacant, Secondary
Ordinance & Finance – Donna Hanby, Chairman / Mayor Vice will serve on Committee

Appointment of Town Clerk – Resolution HL-16-09 – Nelson made a motion to appoint Cheryl Storey as Town Clerk. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Appointment of Chief of Police – Resolution HL-16-10 – Moore made a motion to appoint Scott Kon as Chief of Police. Nelson seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ratify Hometown Bank as Depository for the Town – Resolution HL-16-11 – Hanby made a motion to approve Hometown Bank of Oneonta as the depository for the Town. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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Identify council members authorized to sign checks – The Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and Finance Chairman are by ordinance authorized to sign checks. Two signatures are required on checks, and we have four people authorized to make sure this can always happen. Mayor Vice and Council member Hanby are already on the authorized list. Hanby made a motion for Chase Moore to be authorized to sign checks. Nelson seconded. Roll call. Malek, Hanby, Nelson and Vice voted yes. Moore abstained. Motion carried. Hanby made a motion for Sid Nelson to be authorized to sign checks. Moore seconded. Roll call. Hanby, Moore, Malek and Vice voted yes. Nelson abstained. Motion carried.

REGULAR MEETING

November 1 Special Meeting Minutes – Hanby made a motion to approve the minutes, as written. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bill Rush reported the town has received the permit from the Corp of Engineers for dredging Brasher and Sand Creek areas. The next step is to submit a modification/amendment to the permit for the Brasher Creek berm project. The modification will be submitted this week. It is anticipated that the modification request will be processed within 30 days. A second estimate is being obtained for the Brasher Creek berm project.

OFFICER REPORT

Chief Kon reported a no burn order is still in effect.

Mayor Vice thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Vice thanked Mayor Bailey and the outgoing council for their service. Vice also thanked the incoming council for volunteering and making a commitment to serve the community for the next four years.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Clarification on requests below the 900' contour line - The Town Clerk reported clarification was obtained from the town attorney regarding variance requests below the 900' contour line. The council approves all requests below the 900' contour line because it is town property. Above the 900' contour line is private property and where the zoning ordinance applies.

Roger Hunter – extend retaining wall 46 feet – Approval was obtained from John Coffey for the retaining wall to extend onto his property. Nelson made a motion to approve the retaining wall extension. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Congressman Gary Palmer introduced his staff and addressed the attendees. Congressman Palmer stated it was an honor to serve Blount County.

Declare council vacancy – Mayor Vice stated we have a council vacancy and the position will be filled within 60 days.

Resolution HL-16-12 – Surplus Office Desk – Moore made a motion to approve surplus the office desk and donating it to the Straight Mountain Volunteer Fire Department. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Blount County Commission and the Town of Highland Lake regarding Debris Removal and Monitoring Services – Hanby made a motion to approve the MOU. Nelson seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Fred Harvey – pier renovations – Hanby made a motion to approve plans. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Rick Coggin – new 31 x 30 boathouse – discussion took place regarding the requested 52-53' distance out into the lake. Tim Moore, building inspector, stated the existing dock is 52' from the seawall and the placement of the boathouse should not interfere with boat traffic. The depth of the water at this location is 4'. Hanby made a motion to approve the boathouse plans. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Frank Horton – repair plans for boardwalk, boat ramp, and clean out by right side of seawall – Nelson made a motion to approve repair plans as submitted. Hanby seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Williams – new 12 x 14 pier at lot on Lakeshore Lane – Nelson made a motion to approve plans. Moore seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

John David Currier – concrete ramp – Hanby made a motion to approve plans. Nelson seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

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Moore made a motion to suspend the rules for normal proceedings and amend the agenda to address Stanley Knight's repair request and the Oneonta Christmas parade in December. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Stanley Knight – existing lake wall repair of concrete block construction – Hanby made a motion to approve repair plans. Malek seconded. Roll call. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Oneonta Christmas parade – Moore asked the council if they would like to participate in the Oneonta Christmas parade, which he believed was on the first Tuesday of December. Since the council meeting date has been changed to the first Tuesday of each month, we will not be able to participate in the parade.

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

Wayne Bailey asked the council to consider an ordinance to establish a guideline for a limit boathouses can be built out into the lake. Bailey stated there used to be an unofficial distance of 30 feet from shoreline. Discussion took place.

John Hanby and John Coffey both commented that boathouses need to be reviewed by the council on a case by case basis.

Gail Bailey expressed her appreciation of the new council. She also stated it's been a pleasure working with Congressman Gary Palmer and she appreciates the time he takes to work with the county.

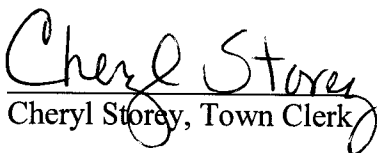
Announcements:

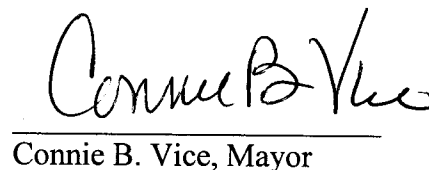
Mayor Vice made the following announcements:

- 1 – Reminder of the importance to vote tomorrow.
- 2 – Lakeside Christmas on Sunday, November 13 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM at the Anchor. There will be a live nativity scene and photos with Santa.

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

Respectfully submitted:


Cheryl Storey, Town Clerk


Connie B. Vice, Mayor