

Town of Lake Santeetlah

Council Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2025

Mayor Simon called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. Councilmembers Jim Hager, Ralph Strunk, Kevin Haag and Keith Predmore were present for the meeting. Town Administrator Kim Matheson and Town Clerk Kala Farley were also present. Attorney Brian Gulden was available on Zoom.

Scott Kamps led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered an Invocation.

Approval of the Council Meeting Agenda: Hager made a motion to approve the agenda with the change of moving Public Comment prior to Old Business. Predmore seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the July 15, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes: Hager made a motion to approve the July 15, 2025 Council Meeting minutes. Strunk seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial/Tax Report as of July 31, 2025: Matheson reported the tax collection for July 2025 was \$23,708.03.

Mayor Simon read the Ethics Statement Reminder.

Request for Public Comment:

Alan Davidson: Davidson said he would like to remind everyone that regulations and ordinances adopted by the Town are laws and have to be followed uniformly. Davidson expressed that the language and wording in those documents are important, especially if it must be defended in court.

Jim Pittinger: Pittinger said the information sent out about the Thunder Island Causeway construction could have been more accurate and timelier. Pittinger gave kudos to Scott Kamps and Jim Barletta for being so helpful with Thunder Island residents and informing them about what was going on with the construction. Pittinger said safety is important, and he appreciates all the Council does to enforce that but wished there was better and more accurate information to make for a smoother transition.

Jim Barletta: Barletta said he would like to keep the residents on Thunder Island up to date on the progress of the work on the causeway. Barletta said he thinks there could have been better communication from the Town so the people that aren't in Town or planning on coming to Town can get some information on the progress of the work.

Old Business:

- 1. Update on Directory:** Matheson said the directories have been printed and are ready to pick up.
- 2. Painting is complete at Town Hall:** Mayor Simon said the painting is complete and looks very nice and fresh.
- 3. Update on Island Causeway:** Scott Kamps said the contractor had gotten the foundation laid last week and started laying rock at the end of last week. Kamps relayed that the contractor had said he feels like he was on track to be finished next week.

New Business:

- 1. Duke Power Easement:** Duke Energy sent a request for a utility easement for upgrades to the power system that will improve service quality in Town. This upgrade will change the location and layout of some of the utility equipment, including poles and lines, in Town. Attorney Brian Gulden reviewed the easement document and suggested some revisions be made prior to signing. Attorney Gulden sent a revised version to the Town for review and submission to Duke Energy. This item will be added to the September Council meeting agenda for further discussion.
- 2. Council Statements:**

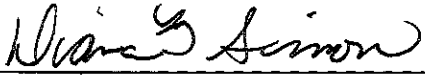
Ralph Strunk: Strunk inquired whether the Town Hall parking lot striping could be updated since the building had recently been so beautifully painted. Strunk suggested it could be done after the winter, since there was potential for damage from winter salting. Strunk asked if Duke Energy followed up on the additional streetlights that were requested. Matheson said yes, an engineer had come out to view the area and was supposed to send a plan and drawing of new light placements.

Mayor Simon: Mayor Simon said she would like to recognize the Planning Board for all the hard work they had done in preparation and completion of the August 5, 2025 workshop.

Announcements:

- The next regularly scheduled Council Meeting will be held September 9, 2025, at 12:00 PM. This meeting will be held at Town Hall and via Zoom. The link to join by Zoom will be sent out by mass email.

Motion to Adjourn: Hager made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Strunk seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.



Diana Simon, Mayor



Kala Farley, Town Clerk