

Town of Lake Santeetlah

Special Called Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2025

Mayor Simon called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM. Councilmembers Ralph Strunk, Keith Predmore, Jim Hager, and Kevin Haag were present at the meeting. Town Administrator Kim Matheson and Town Clerk Kala Farley were also present.

Approval of the Agenda: Hager made a motion to approve the agenda. Predmore seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

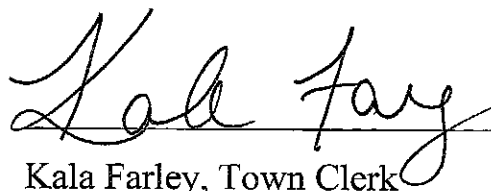
New Business:

- 1. Discussion of Public Comment Policy:** Hager said a draft of the new public comment policy (see attached) was reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney. Predmore stated that the public comment session is intended for comments rather than a question-and-answer exchange. He explained that questions should be submitted in writing to the Council for a collective response, unless it is administrative and can be handled with office staff. Predmore also expressed concern with the three-minute time limit for public comments, noting that the number of commenters is generally low due to the Town's smaller population. After discussion, Hager made a motion to approve the draft policy with changing sentence #2 to "adequate time" instead of "three minutes". Predmore seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously. The Council discussed when to have the public comment session in the next Council Meeting, either before or after any business is discussed. Mayor Simon noted that both options have been tried before. Strunk was for both, having comments before and after business discussions, with a suggestion of only allowing comments on agenda items in the session before any business. Mayor Simon said she wasn't in favor of having both before and after public comment sessions. Predmore suggested trying the public comment session before any business discussion for the rest of the term.

Motion to Adjourn: Predmore made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Hager seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 PM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Diana Simon", written over a horizontal line.

Diana Simon, Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kala Farley", written over a horizontal line.

Kala Farley, Town Clerk

Draft Public Comment Policy

Adopted on August – 2025.

The following public comment policy is adopted pursuant to N.C.

General Statute § 160A-81.1. and is intended to be fully compliant with that statute. This policy governs public comment at a regular meeting of the Town Board.

1. There shall be one period allowed for public comment per month at a regular meeting of the Town Board.
2. Each speaker shall have ~~Three (3) minutes~~ *adequate time* to provide public comment.
3. All public comments should be directed to the entire board and not to any individual board member and be in the order and decorum of the meeting.
4. Public comments period is **Not** a chance for dialogue. Any public comment asking a question should be referred to the Town Board in writing for an appropriate response.

Diana Simon(Mayor)

Kala Farley (Clerk)

_____(date)

Public Comment Policy

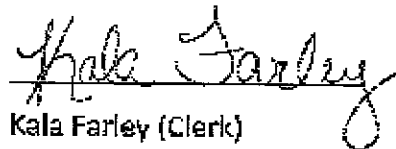
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Diana Simon (Mayor)



Kala Farley (Clerk)

8-7-2025 (date)