

## **Town of Lake Santeetlah**

### **Council Meeting Minutes**

**February 10, 2026**

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

Councilmember Haag led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered an Invocation.

**Approval of the Council Meeting Agenda:** Simon asked to amend the agenda by adding Tourism Development Authority Report. Mayor Predmore asked to amend the agenda by adding Town Street Lights Discussion. Strunk made a motion to approve the changes to the agenda. Hager seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Approval of January 20, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes**

Hager made a motion to approve the January 20, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes. Simon seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Predmore reminded everyone of the ethical requirements as a member of the Town Council.

**Financial/Tax Report as of January 31, 2025:** Matheson reported the tax collection for January was \$34,193.02.

**Request for Public Comment: There was no Public Comment**

#### **Old Business:**

- 1. Discussion of Scholarship Funds Continues:** At the last council meeting, David Matheson talked about the scholarship funds and suggested widening the pool of eligible recipients, since none of last year's recipients claimed their awards. Because of this, the fund still has its full balance from last year. He also proposed considering other areas that could benefit from contributions, like the Caregivers Fund. Strunk mentioned that the school currently has \$7,000 in the bank for the scholarship, and if the Town adds another \$3,000 this year, they'll have \$10,000, so he doesn't think more funds should be given. Hager suggested updating the scholarship's criteria

and letting the school choose the recipient. Predmore suggested letting the school manage the funds, as long as they submit a status report to keep the Council informed on how the money is spent. Hager made a motion to amend the old donation to let the school use it for scholarships, however they deem necessary. Haag seconded. All Approved. The motion passed unanimously.


### **New Business:**


- 1. Tourism Development Authority Report:** Simon reported that as of February 6, 2026 the TDA has \$14,725.45 in Checking and \$1,558.50 in Savings. Simon said recent expenses included \$875 for Insurance and \$600 for audit expenses. Recent deposits included \$1,000 to \$1,200 a month. Simon said the TDA has \$1,000 for the Guard Shack to be painted and \$1,000 to go towards the Fourth of July Fireworks.
- 2. Town Street Lights Discussion:** Duke Energy representatives were at Town Hall earlier today to discuss the street lights and do an audit to determine the type of lights in Town and number of each type. Currently most of the lights are high-pressure sodium type lights, which are more expensive in terms of power usage when compared to LEDs. There was discussion about changing all street lights to 30W LEDs to save money on power. Mayor Predmore made a motion to move ahead with replacing all the high-pressure sodium lights with LEDs at 3000 Kelvin and 30Watts and sign the contract with Duke to get this done. Hager Seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. IT Services Contract:** Hager made a motion to approve the IT contract. Simon seconded. All Approved. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4. Council Statements:**
  - Strunk:** Strunk said “Hats Off” to Mayor Predmore for the introductory email that was sent out that included the important information regarding the ice and snowstorm, along with the fact that Mayor Predmore will continue to send out emails as the need arises.
  - Simon:** Simon said she has been talking to various people that have asked her about stepping down as Mayor, and she has told them wonderful things about Mayor Predmore.
  - Haag:** Haag wanted to mention the recent winter storm and the inability to get salt due to a shortage and asked if that was all Western North Carolina or just the Town of Lake Santeetlah. Matheson said the shortage was across the entire state of North Carolina.

**Announcements**

- The next regularly scheduled Council Meeting will be held March 10, 2026 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:** Haag made a motion to adjourn. Strunk seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 PM.

  
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Keith Predmore, Mayor

  
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Kala Farley, Town Clerk