

## **Town of Lake Santeetlah**

### **Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 20, 2026**

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

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

**Approval of the Council Meeting Agenda:** Hager requested to amend the agenda with three items: 1) Moving Mr. Matheson up from NB#1 to after the agenda approval, 2) Add Tri-Party Agreement to OB #2, and 3) Special assignment for Councilmember Simon as NB#3. Hager made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Strunk seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

David Matheson, Graham County Schools Assistant Superintendent, was in attendance to give an update on the scholarship which currently has a balance of \$6,927.50. Matheson said the school awarded five students that were going to attend Trade schools \$1,000 each from the Town scholarship fund. Prior to receiving the funds, the student must complete one semester and maintain a certain GPA. Currently, only one of the five students has requested the money and met the requirements to receive it. Since there was still a balance in the scholarship fund, Matheson suggested redirecting this year's scholarship donations to other needs, such as the RHS Caregivers Fund which supports students with clothing, school fees, and food. He also proposed adjusting the scholarship criteria to prioritize students pursuing four-year degrees or teaching careers, rather than solely vocational education. The board agreed to consider these suggestions at the next Council meeting.

#### **Approval of Consent Agenda:**

**1. November 18, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes**

**2. December 16, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes**

Hager made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Haag seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**Financial/Tax Report as of December 31, 2025:** Matheson reported the tax collection for December was \$93,169.06.

Mayor Predmore went over the Ethics Statement Reminder

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

**Old Business:**

- 1. Update on Duke Energy Easement:** Attorney Justus had previously reviewed the revised Easement and gave approval saying it would be ok for the Council to sign. Hager made a motion to approve the Duke Power Easement. Predmore seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Revised Tri-Party agreement for Lakeside:** The Tri-Party Agreement had to be revised since there was a change made to the original engineered plans. The change was an addition that states “6. In the event that it is necessary that the sewer lines cross above the existing water main, the sewer lines shall maintain 18” min. vertical clearance above the water main and shall be encased 10 ft on either side of the water main with D.I. pipe and encased in concrete 3” above to 3” below the encasement pipe.” Hager made a motion to approve the revised License Agreement. Haag seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

- 1. Budget Amendments:** Matheson reported that \$800 was moved from Roads and Grounds to Governing Body in the General Fund for insurance. In the Water Fund \$6,900 was moved from Reserves to Well Field Lease. The Well Field Lease bills finally came in for 2021-2026 for \$8,456.70. \$1,500 was budgeted for the year for Well Field Lease but the money is not carried forward each year if it is not used, so a budget amendment was needed to cover that bill. Hager made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments. Strunk Seconded. All Approved. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Security Contract Renewal:** Mayor Predmore previously met with the Graham County Sheriff Brad Hoxit and discussed lowering the number of contract hours to 24 hours at the same rate of \$25 an hour. Hager made a motion to authorize Mayor Predmore to sign the final agreement with the Sheriff’s Department. Haag seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Diana Simon as TOLS representative for Southwestern Commission:**  
Predmore asked if Simon would be representative of the Town for the Southwestern Commission. Simon confirmed she was still on the Board and would be the representative for the Town.

**4. Council Statements:**

**Ralph Strunk:** Strunk asked for an update on painting of the Guard House. Simon said she would check to see if the TDA had the money to cover the cost but did not have a contractor to do the work. Matheson said she would work on getting an estimate from a contractor.

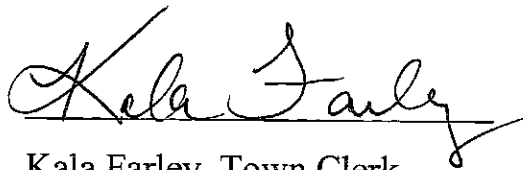
**Announcements**

- The next regularly scheduled Council Meeting will be held February 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:** Hager made a motion to adjourn. Haag seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 PM.



Keith Predmore, Mayor



Kala Farley, Town Clerk