

Town of Lake Santeetlah

Council Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2025

Vice Mayor Kevin Haag called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. Councilmembers Jim Hager, Ralph Strunk, and Keith Predmore were present for the meeting. Town Administrator Kim Matheson and Town Clerk Kala Farley were also present. Mayor Simon was not present.

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

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

Approval of the June 10, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes: Hager made a motion to approve the June 10, 2025 Council Meeting minutes. Predmore seconded. Hager voted yes. Predmore voted Yes. Haag voted Yes. Strunk voted No. The vote was 3-1. The motion passed.

Approval of the June 30, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes: Strunk made a motion to approve the June 30, 2025 Council Meeting minutes. Hager seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial/Tax Report as of June 30, 2025: Matheson reported the tax collection for June was \$8.44.

Vice Mayor Kevin Haag read the Ethics Statement Reminder.

Old Business:

- 1. Update on water tank inspection:** Matheson said two of the small water tanks out at the well house have been cleaned, refilled, and are operational. There were a couple places that needed to be repaired in one of the tanks, but the other one was in good shape.
- 2. Update on new Directory:** Matheson said everything has been sent to Samuel Blanton, the directory designer, to put the directory together. Once he gets a proof to review and the proof is approved, it will be sent to the WCU Printshop. Matheson said hopefully it will be completed and printed by the end of the month.

3. **Update on Guard House repairs:** Matheson said all the repairs have been completed. A bid for painting the Guard House has come in but no date has been set to do the painting. All the repairs were paid for from the front entrance brick fundraiser.
4. **Town Hall building painting:** Matheson reported that the building has been pressure washed, and everything has been caulked and is ready for paint. The painting should hopefully start this week depending on the weather.

New Business:

1. **Annual Drinking Water Quality Report notice went out with water bills:** Matheson said the report was sent out with water bills and anyone that would like a copy of the report could request one with the Town Hall staff. The report was good and there were no issues or concerns.
2. **Council Statements:**

Strunk: Strunk asked if there was any news on the Town of Lake Santeetlah trade school scholarship recipients. Matheson said a Thank You letter was sent from Graham County High School, and we received a Thank You Card from one of the recipients. Matheson said it was divided among six recipients that were all going to a trade school.

Strunk mentioned a pile of tree debris that still needed to be removed and asked if it would be possible to use some of the funds allocated for part time help for Scott to get it removed. Predmore said the State should come pick it up and Matheson said she would check with the State to see if they would come get the debris pile.

Haag: Haag said he is happy to hear that additional help for Scott is going to be utilized in clearing of overgrowth along the roads.

Request for Public Comment:

Anne Hager: Hager said she would like to stress the importance of the Planning Board workshop coming up on August 5th at 12:00 PM at Town Hall. The Planning Board members, Town Administrator, Town Attorney, and Zoning Administrator will be present at the workshop to address primary issues of ordinance. A zoom link will also be provided prior to the workshop.

Jack Gross: Gross asked if there has been any progress looking at the upper pump house for possible solutions to the water issue on top of the mountain.

Predmore said No, he has not started that project yet, but he feels like an engineering survey needs to be done first to present options for a viable solution. Once that is done, then the Council can determine which option to go with. After an option is chosen, the plan can be engineered.

Gross said regarding the trimming, he believes there is a 7.5 foot utility Right Of Way on either side of the road, so the Town has the right to cut back up to 7.5 ft.

Alan Davidson: Davidson said blind corners are definitely a safety issue in terms overgrowth in the road right of way.

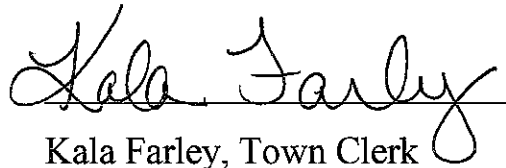
Announcements:

- Water Bills are due on Tuesday, July 22, 2025.
- The Planning Board Workshop will be held on August 5, 2025 at 12:00 PM at Town Hall and via Zoom. The link to join by Zoom will be sent out by mass e-mail.
- The next regularly scheduled Council Meeting will be held August 12, 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.
- Last day to register a Notice of Candidacy with the Board Of Election is Friday, July 18, 2025. There is a \$5 filing fee.

Motion to Adjourn: Hager made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Strunk seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 PM.



Diana Simon, Mayor



Kala Farley, Town Clerk