

Town of Lake Santeetlah

Council Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2018

Mayor Jim Hager called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. Councilmembers Bob Wehr, Mary Williams and Keith Predmore were present for the meeting. Town Administrator Kim Matheson and Clerk Emily Hooper were also present. Councilmember Patrick O'Donovan was available by phone for the meeting. Town Technician Eric Hayes was not available.

The first order of business was the approval of the agenda. There were no changes or additions needed. Councilmember Wehr made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Williams seconded. All others approved.

After review of the November 16, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes, there were no additions or changes necessary within the minutes. Councilmember Predmore shared a comment concerning statements made in the November meeting during Public Comment that were not helpful, beneficial and would be considered an attempt to intimidate. Predmore stated that those comments would be pointed out as they were made moving forward. Councilmember O'Donovan also stated that a comment was made by Connie Gross in the November meeting that had been taken out of context and wasn't an accurate statement. Councilman Predmore made a motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Councilmember Wehr seconded. All others approved, the motion carried.

Financial Report/Tax Report: Town Administrator Matheson presented reports as of November 30, 2018. The general account balance is \$8,461.85; the water operating account balance is \$7,336.11. Tax collection for October was \$33,260.60. This check has been received and deposited in the general account. A water break on Sequoyah Trail was another unexpected expense to the water account. This fiscal year (as of July 1, 2018) the Town has spent almost \$17,000 in long term maintenance and a large portion of this expense is the repair of water breaks. This does not include \$10,000 paid for the road repair completed by the DOT. A budget amendment may be necessary in this line item if there are future water breaks. The next water billing will be sent out on December 27, 2018. Councilmember Wehr made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Councilmember O'Donovan seconded, all others approved. The motion carried.

Request for Public Comment:

There were no request at this time.

Old Business

#1 Update of Revised Zoning Regulations: Councilmember Williams has been working on updates suggested by Bill Brazil. Williams would like to further review before sending out a draft.

New Business

#1 Craig Keith, Town of Lake Santeetlah Land Sale, Parcel 5 on Santeetlah Trail: Councilmember Wehr made a motion to approve the land transfer of Parcel 5 on Santeetlah Trail from the Town of Lake Santeetlah to Craig Keith as presented. Councilmember Predmore seconded. All others approved. The motion passed.

#2 Bill Smith, Town of Lake Santeetlah Land Sale, Parcel 2 on Santeetlah Trail: Councilmember Wehr made a motion to approve the land transfer of Parcel 2 on Santeetlah Trail from the Town of Lake Santeetlah to Bill Smith as presented. Councilmember Predmore seconded. All others approved. The motion passed.

#3 Schedule Public Hearing/Water Rates: Mayor Hager suggested that the Public Hearing be scheduled during the January 14, 2019 Council Meeting. This will be advertised and posted as required for a Public Hearing.

#4 Budget Amendment for Attorney Fees: A budget amendment is necessary for \$15,000 in annual legal fees and \$5,747 in building applications. This increase will cover the Degarmo lawsuit. Councilmember Wehr made a motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. Councilmember Williams seconded. All others approved, the motion carried.

#5 Degarmo Lawsuit settlement: The impact fee and attorney fees were paid to the DeGarmo's and the case has been closed. The payment has been received by the Degarmo's. Councilmember Williams clarified that the payment was a satisfaction of judgment and not a settlement of a lawsuit.

#6 Security Officer Review: \$9,000 is the amount budgeted annually for security. Due to the tight financial situation of the Town it seems this may be a necessary cut. The new County Sheriff is patrolling the Town on a regular basis. The contract with Raymond Williams requires a thirty day written notice to terminate. Councilmember Predmore suggested the Town meet with the new Sherriff to see what his long term plans for patrolling the area will be. Councilmember Wehr met with the Joseph Jones (Sherriff) and he agreed to come visit the Town to address any questions or concerns. All agreed that it would be beneficial to schedule a visit with Jones. After discussion a meeting will be scheduled with the new Sherriff and further action will be taken at the January Council Meeting.

#7 Retainer Agreement: Attorney Kimberly Carpenter has been hired by the Town to defend Town property by quiet title action.

Discussion:

#1 Sewer Study Report/Keith Predmore: Councilmember Predmore is gathering information concerning sewer systems and sanitary systems and stressed the importance of knowing the difference between the two moving forward. As information is gathered it will be posted on the Town website under Sewer Study. This information will help the residents to understand problems in other small towns as well as possible solution and repair options. Predmore plans to work on this and will provide a report each month.

Announcements:

Councilman Bob Wehr announced that he plans to resign from the Council prior to the January meeting. Wehr hopes to remain involved with ongoing projects he has been working on. Wehr stated he would put the resignation in writing prior to the meeting. Mayor Hager and the other Councilmembers thanked Wehr for his service and dedication to the Town of Lake Santeetlah.

Mayor Hager announced that the next Council Meeting is January 14, 2019 at 10:00AM at Town Hall a Public Hearing will follow.

With no further business at this time Councilmember Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Wehr seconded, all others agreed. The motion carried. Mayor Hager adjourned the meeting at 10:36AM.

Meeting Adjourned

Jim Hager, Mayor

Emily Hooper, Town Clerk