

## **Town of Lake Santeetlah**

### **Council Meeting Minutes**

**June 8, 2018**

Mayor Jim Hager called the meeting to order at 10:04AM. Council Members Bob Wehr and Patrick O'Donovan were present for the meeting. Councilman Keith Predmore was available by telephone conference. Town Administrator Kim Matheson, Clerk Emily Hooper were also present. Public Works Technician Eric Hayes was not available.

The first order of business was the approval of the agenda. Mayor Jim Hager requested three amendments to the agenda. Town Technician, Eric Hayes is not present today to provide a maintenance report. Hayes' sister is having open heart surgery at Mission Memorial Hospital. The Town has not received court orders for the pending litigations therefore the implementation of the zoning regulations and the appointment of a ZBA board will be postponed until official orders have been received lifting the TRO that is in place. The adoption of the fiscal year budget requires a public hearing. The hearing was not published in the newspaper therefore the Town will have a special public hearing on June 22, 2018 and a Special Called Meeting on June 25, 2018 in order to adopt the budget. Those three items should be removed from today's agenda. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved, the motion carried.

After review of the May 25, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes, there were no additions or changes necessary. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan made a motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved, the motion carried.

After review of the May 26, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes, there were no additions or changes necessary. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan made a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved, the motion carried.

**Financial Report/Tax Report:** Town Administrator Kim Matheson explained that the balance sheet presented displayed the balances as of May 31, 2018. The general operating balance is \$82,213.64 and water operating \$17,664.68. The tax report will be presented at the Special Called Meeting. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan explained that at the budget meeting resident Tina Emerson suggested certain changes for monthly financial presentation that would allow more transparency. O'Donovan explained that some of these suggestions are being made. Jack Gross asked if the accrued expense line item which displayed \$10,000 for each month meant that \$10,000 was being spent monthly. O'Donovan pointed out that this was a running total figure. The total in April was \$10,000 and the same for May meaning nothing was spent for the month of May from accrued expense. This will be one of the changes suggested by Tina Emerson that will hopefully make to make the report easier to understand. Gross asked the same question of Land Sale, and O'Donovan explained that in April \$19,591.74 was the total displayed and May \$21,101.30, subtracting those two numbers would show the amount spent in May (\$1509.56). Town Administrator Kim Matheson and Finance Officer Patrick O'Donovan plan to work together to create reports that display actual monthly totals for the upcoming fiscal year. Matheson reported that we received notice from Water Operator Lamar Williams that a pump is going out and will be an upcoming expense to expect within the next few months. The estimated replacement cost is \$4,500. This will be repaired in the next fiscal year.

Councilman Bob Wehr made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan seconded, all others approved. The motion carried.

#### **Request for Public Comment:**

**Betty LoBue:** Betty, President of the TPOA has announcements that she would like to make concerning the TPOA and would like to do so at the end of today's meeting.

**Jack Gross:** According to Gross, the Town of Lake Santeetlah does not have a policy for filling vacant council seats but typically does so as soon as possible. Gross stated that he has the statute available for those interested that includes the guidelines and requirements for replacing a vacant seat. Gross encouraged the Council to replace the seat in order to have a full board for discussion of important topics.

Gross acknowledged that The School of Government does not recommend remote participation of Council Members. The last few months at least one Council Member has been available by phone. According to Gross the member available by phone cannot be a deciding vote on any decision.

**Marti Campbell:** The Campbell's have recently returned for their seasonal stay at Lake Santeetlah. Campbell acknowledged her disagreement with the comments made at the meeting last month. A statement read by Mrs. Campbell explained that Town Staff is working hard for the Town of Lake Santeetlah and expressed her thanks for the efforts and professionalism.

### Old Business

**#1 Review of Front Entrance:** Mike Donnell, Landscape Architect and Lake Santeetlah Homeowner, completed a preliminary sketch for the front entrance for review. A copy of the drawing is available at Town Hall. The Council reviewed and plans to follow up with Mr. Donnell for more details. There is no action at this time.

**#3 Approval of Town Hall Use Policy:** The Town Hall Use Policy recommended by Attorney Ellen Davis has been reviewed by the Town Council. A copy of the policy was distributed to all those in attendance at the May Council Meeting. Mayor Jim Hager asked the approval be delayed until further review from the TPOA.

### New Business

**#1 Sue Ellen Bridgers, 182 Sequoyah Trail, Purchase of Town Property abutting the 1817 Contour Line of Lake Santeetlah:** Councilman Patrick O'Donovan made a motion to approve the land transfer from the Town of Lake Santeetlah to Sue Ellen Bridgers as presented. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved. The motion passed.

**#2 Mike & Ava Goodson, 119 Island Drive, Purchase of Town Property abutting the 1817 Contour Line of Lake Santeetlah:** Councilman Patrick O'Donovan made a motion to approve the land transfer from the Town of Lake Santeetlah to Mike & Ava Goodson as presented. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved. The motion passed.

**#3 Recommendations for New Council Member:** Councilwoman Karen Anderson sold her house at Lake Santeetlah and is no longer eligible to serve on the Council. Anderson submitted her letter of resignation leaving a vacant seat on the Council. At this time we have one letter of interest. A mass email was sent this morning to inform of the vacant seat and ask those interested in serving on the Council to complete Anderson's term to please notify Town Hall.

**#4 Occupancy Tax Update/Diana Simons:** TDA President Diana Simons reported a balance as of May 31, 2018 is \$277.75. The revenue should increase quickly at this point as rental season is underway. Additional funds received will be reported in July. The TDA Budget meeting is planned for tomorrow June 9, 2018 at 10:00AM at Town Hall

**#5 TOLS Sponsored Block Party:** Anne Hager shared the plans for a Block Party sponsored by the Town of Lake Santeetlah. The party is planned for Saturday July 8, 2018 at 5:00PM at Manierre Park. The Town will provide BBQ pork, chicken and drinks. A rain date is planned for July 15, 2018. The Town will send an email and post notice of the party. The Town held numerous parties like this one in the past and would like to do more things of this nature. Mayor Hager suggested \$1,000 be allotted for the party. The cutlery, plates and napkins have been donated by a resident and other items will likely be donated as well. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan made a

motion to approve the allocation for the Block Party. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved. The motion carried.

**#6 Budget Amendment for \$150.00/Public Buildings:** The locks were changed to Town Hall doors both interior and exterior and new keys made for all Town Officials. This caused an overage of \$150.00 from Public Buildings. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan approved the amendment. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved. The motion carried.

**#7 Budget Amendment for \$900.00/Chemicals/Water Operating:** Water Operator Lamar Williams is out of Sod-ash. \$900 is needed to order the chemicals. The amount budgeted for chemicals in the next fiscal year has been increased. A budget amendment was necessary last year therefore an increase is obviously needed. Councilman Patrick O'Donovan approved the amendment. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded. All others approved. The motion carried.

**Announcements:**

Mayor Jim Hager announced that a Public Hearing will be held Friday June 22, 2018 and Special Called Meeting June 25, 2018 and the next Council Meeting July 13, 2018 all at 10:00AM at Town Hall.

Betty LoBue announced that her son, a professional bagpiper, would be playing on the lake tomorrow June 9, 2018. He will be leaving from Joan Henry's dock at 6:30PM. The first TPOA meeting will be Monday June 11, 2018 at 7:00PM at Town Hall. The following day is liter pick up and LoBue stressed that the TPOA would love to have new faces at the pick-up. This begins at 9:00AM on Tuesday June 12, 2018. The TPOA Welcome party is June 16, 2018 at 5:00PM. There will be a catered buffet. Final plans for the party will be confirmed on Monday.

Councilman Bob Wehr announced the Graham County Azalea Festival would be held June 16, 2018 with several activities and a craft fair in Robbinsville.

Diana Simons noted that Kim Hainge will be guiding hikes to the Cherohala Skyway to see the mountain azaleas which are currently blooming on June 15, 2018. This weekend is the Cherohala Challenge, a bicycle rally, hosted by Tellico Plains.

With no further business at this time Councilman Patrick O'Donovan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Bob Wehr seconded, all others agreed. The motion carried. Mayor Jim Hager adjourned the meeting at 10:35AM.

**Meeting Adjourned**

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Jim Hager, Mayor

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Emily Hooper, Town Clerk

