**Town of Lake Santeetlah**

**Council Meeting Minutes (Zoom)**

**June 9, 2022**

Mayor Connie Gross called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. Councilmembers Tina Emerson, Diana Simon, Jim Hager and Ralph Mitchell were present for the meeting. Town Administrator Kim Matheson and Attorney Bo Carpenter were also present. Town Technician Scott Kamps and Town Clerk Emily Hooper were not available.

Emerson made a motion to open the Council Meeting. Mitchell seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Ralph Mitchell presented the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Mayor Gross asked for an addition to the agenda under New Business #3, TOPA Report. Councilmember Emerson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Simon seconded. All approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of the May 12, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes:** Councilmember Emerson made a motion to approve the May 12, 2022 Council Meeting minutes as presented. Hager seconded. All approved. The motion unanimously.

**Approval of the May 26, 2022 Public Hearing Minutes:** Councilmember Emerson made a motion to approve the May 26, 2022 Public Hearing minutes as presented. Hager seconded. All approved. The motion unanimously.

**Approval of the May 28, 2022 Public Hearing Minutes:** Councilmember Emerson made a motion to approve the May 28, 2022 Public Hearing minutes as presented. Hager seconded. All approved. The motion unanimously.

**Financial/Tax Report:** Matheson reported the tax collection for May was $186.48. Matheson explained that line item: Advertising and Promotion went over in the budget. $505 would be moved from Equipment Maintenance. Emerson reported that the paving on Black Bear was completed and paid for in May.

**Request for Public Comment:**

**Jack Gross:** Gross pointed out that Simon had mentioned at the TDA meeting that homes that participated in home exchange would not pay Occupancy Tax. Gross asked that the Council and Attorney review the Resolution passed by the Council for Collection of Occupancy Tax and confirm his understanding that Mrs. Simon should be paying the tax. Gross feels that Simon has a conflict of interest participating in home exchange and serving as the chair of the TDA. Gross asked that she resign or the Attorney review and the Council remove her from the position due to the conflict.

Scott Kamps joined the meeting.

**Old Business:**

1. **Open and Award Bid for Polaris (needs action):** One bid was received for the Polaris. Scott Kamps and Ralph Mitchell opened the bid. Jack Gross submitted a bid for $9000.00. The advertisement was in the Graham Star and posted on Facebook. Mitchell made a motion to sell the Polaris to the bidder. Emerson seconded. All others approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

1. **Approval of the FY 2022-23 Town of Lake Santeetlah Budget & Budget Ordinance:** Emerson presented the budget. The changes made from the last hearing include, splitting the $40,000 settlement between water and general, zoning expense was included for $6,000 and the software for tax collection was removed. $8,700 for Continuing Education in the budget could include the Planning Board as well as Town Staff and Council. The Capital fund was increased to $35,835. Hager asked if the roof for Town Hall would be split between the general and water fund. Emerson explained the water fund is tight and the Capital improvements for the roof would come from the general fund. The latest quotes received were approximately $7,000 (from Cox roofing). Mitchell made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Gross seconded. Hager and Simon opposed. The budget passed three to two.
2. **Report from Tourism Development Authority:** Simon stated the balance as of May 31, 2022 is $28,797.07. May revenue is $928.04. July 1, 2021 – May 2022 revenue is $20,621.60. TDA has been working at the front entrance to complete the landscaping. Simon thanked those who have helped on this project. The pavers should be installed shortly. Simon reviewed the proposed TDA budget for the 2022-23 year.
3. **TPOA Report:** Betty LoBue reported that the welcome party would be June 11th from 4-7:00PM at Memorial Park. Bring a chair and enjoy the fellowship. The first meeting of this season is Monday June 13th at 7:00PM at Town Hall and also by Zoom.

**Discussion:**

1. **Santeetlah Fire Department Appreciation Day:** The event will be July 7th 5:00-6:30PM at Memorial Park. Bring a dessert and come meet the firefighters and first responders.

**Final Public Comment:**

There was no comment at this time.

**Announcements:**

* The next regular scheduled Council Meeting will be held July 14, 2022 at 5:30PM.
* A representative from Graham County Building Inspectors office will be joining the August meeting to speak about the reevaluation being completed in Graham County.

**Motion to Adjourn.**

Councilmember Hager made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Simon seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:22PM.

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Connie Gross, Mayor Kim Matheson, Town Administrator