

Town of Lake Santeetlah

Public Hearing Minutes – Budget (Zoom Meeting)

May 22, 2020

Mayor Jim Hager called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. Council Members Roger Carlton, Diana Simon, Craig Keith and Keith Predmore were present for the meeting. Town Administrator Kim Matheson and Clerk Emily Hooper were also present.

Councilmember Carlton made a motion to open the hearing. Councilmember Simon seconded. All other members were polled. All approved. The motion carried.

Review and Discussion of FY 2020-21 TOLS Budget: Mayor Hager reviewed specific items of the proposed budget: The first tax increase since 2015 from .00225 to .0026 would increase revenue approximately \$29,500. This increase would help replenish the funds from reserves that were used to complete well house repairs.

Due to Covid-19 the State Treasurers Office is expecting a 20% decrease in Sales and Use Tax revenue for the upcoming year.

The cost of living payroll increase is 2.8 for the upcoming year.

The \$40,000 upgrade to the front entrance will be a co-op project with TPOA and will be off-set with private donations.

Councilmember Simon pointed out the concerns received over the past week regarding the front entrance and car charging station. Traffic overflow will be addressed and could be moved to the entrance to Thunderbird Trail on Town owned property, there will be parking for four cars and one handicap spot.

Town Administrator Matheson contacted the Town insurance company and confirmed that if someone was injured at the front entrance it would be covered by the Town's policy.

Councilmember Predmore explained the rise in electric car sales. The car charging station will be fully funded by the TDA.

Councilmember Carlton would like to further discuss overflow parking at the June Council meeting.

Carlton asked for clarification of how the revenue being paid back to the water fund for well house repairs would show in budget. Matheson will ask the auditor how this should be shown.

Public Comment:

Jack Gross made several points concerning the budget (I have attached his email to these minutes).

Connie Gross expressed concern using \$40,000 to upgrade the front entrance. Gross feels as though the funds should be spent to train Town Staff.

All comments regarding the front entrance will be attached to these minutes.

With no further business at this time Councilman Carlton made a motion to adjourn, Councilman Simon seconded. The motion carried. Mayor Hager adjourned the meeting at 10:41AM.

Jim Hager, Mayor

Emily Hooper, Town Clerk