Town of Lake Santeetlah

Budget Hearing Minutes

May 26, 2026

Mayor Predmore called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. Councilmembers Ralph Strunk, Diana Simon, Kevin Haag, and Jim Hager were present for the meeting. Town Administrator Kim Matheson, Town Technician Scott Kamps, and Town Clerk Kala Farley were also present.

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

New Business:

1. **Proposed Budget for 2026/27 fiscal year:** Hager said he proposed a change to the employee payroll and raise Matheson's rate of pay from $24.40/hr to $27/hr, Kamps from $21.83/hr to $25/hr and Farley's from $18.20/hr to $20/hr.
   Kamps reported ongoing issues with the water system, including problems with well yields and having to manually monitor and run the wells. Matheson proposed to pull money forward to ensure funds were available for any repairs, parts, or upgrades needed to get the system back on track. Hager recommended that $20,000 be pulled forward. All council members agreed that Matheson should pull $20,000 forward in the Water Fund to ensure funds were available for water system needs.
   The Council discussed road paving after a state representative assessed the road around the main loop and found it to be in good condition. Of the 2,500 feet of the main loop proposed for paving next year, only about half would need maintenance for crack repairs rather than full repaving. Matheson said an area on Santeetlah Point needs repaving after a recent water break, along with two areas on Lakeside Trail. Mayor Predmore said after speaking with the state representative he feels like the proposed 2,500 feet of paving was not necessary this year and felt that only the places that required maintenance should be done. Simon asked if the money that is in the budget for paving should be moved to Reserves if the proposed paving is not done.
   Mayor Predmore suggested keeping the budget as is and, if no major paving work is needed, the Town can put the funds in a CD.

Public Comment:

Jack Gross: Gross said the backbone of the Town is paving and water, that is where the value is and leaving the roads the way they currently are may have an effect on the upcoming reevaluation. Gross also asked if the percentage of the hourly wage adjustments could be identified.

Announcements:

- Council Meeting June 16, 2026, at 12:00 PM

Hager made a motion to adjourn the hearing. Simon seconded. All Approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Keith Predmore, Mayor

Kala Farley, Town Clerk