**Town of Lake Santeetlah**

**Council Meeting Minutes (Zoom)**

**July 8, 2021**

Mayor Hager called the meeting at order at 10:00AM. Councilmembers Predmore, Simon, and Carlton were present for the meeting. Town Administrator Matheson, Town Clerk Emily Hooper and Attorney Justus were also present for the meeting. Councilmember Haag joined the meeting at 10:05am.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Councilmember Simon made a motion to approve the agenda. Predmore seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of the June 10,2021 Council Meeting Minutes**: Councilmember Simon made a motion to approve. Councilmember Simon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Financial/Tax Report**: Town Administrator Matheson gave an update as of June 30, 2021. The tax collection was $97.67. The General Operating balance is $44,511.48, Water Operating $18,669.75. Mayor Hager explained the end of year figures will change when the Town Auditor completes the audit. Hager also asked Matheson to speak with Joseph Turchetti, Town auditor, for recommendations of more efficient municipal software that the town could use that would present better reports than QuickBooks can provide.

**Request for Public Comment**:

**Property Owner Gross:** Gross asked if the numbers on the financial report presented would change in a negative way after the auditor completes his review.

**Old business:**

1. **Request from Richard Nash to Cut Road for Internet Service:** Mayor Hager explained that Richard Nash had searched various options for internet at his home on Thunder Island Drive and no solution had been determined therefore Nash came back to the Town to request going under the roadway for connection to the Zito box. According to Town Attorney Justus a licensing agreement is needed to confirm all legalities are being met. Justus explained that a formal request should be provided with more details prior to the agreement. Mayor Hager will reach out to Nash and request specifics of who is doing work. Councilmember Haag asked if this line (under the roadway) would be private or could benefit other homeowners on Thunder Island. Hager explained this would be a private line for Nash. The details will be further discussed at the August meeting.

**New Business:**

1. **Authorize Kim Matheson to schedule Public Hearing for Council to provide input on the proposed Zoning Ordinance:** The Planning Board should finalize the Zoning Ordinance, map, and forms at today’s Public Hearing. The Ordinance will then be prepared for presentation to the Council. Councilmember Carlton made a motion for Administrator Matheson to schedule the Public Hearing for Council review of the Ordinance. Attorney Justus suggested the Council have a workshop prior to the Public Hearing. The Special Called workshop will be held on July 20, 2021at 1:00PM. The Public Hearing will be held August 10, 2021, at 10:00AM. The notice will be posted in the Graham Star.

**Discussion:**

**1. Crime in Air-BNB Rentals:** Councilmember Carlton submitted an article for review concerning crime in Air-BNB rentals. Matheson explained that Carlton would like the article to be presented to the TDA for further review.

**Motion for Closed Session:**

1. **Discuss Existing Santeetlah Trail Lawsuit:** Councilmember Predmore read motion for Town of Lake Santeetlah Town Council to move into Closed Session to discuss lawsuit. Simon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Action from Closed Session:** Attorney Justus stated, The Town had received an offer from the Plaintiff’s law firm to settle the Santeetlah Trail lawsuit. If the terms of this offer are acceptable a motion is needed to authorize Mayor Hager to formalize a settlement agreement. Predmore made the motion to authorize Hager to proceed. Haag seconded. All others approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**Announcements:**

We will continue to meet by Zoom due to the current outbreak in our county. We will post notice of all meetings on the website, Town Hall, and Front Entrance.

A special called workshop will be held to discuss the Zoning Ordinance July 20, 2021 at 1:00PM and a potential Public Hearing on August 10, 2021 at 10:00AM.

The next Council Meeting will be held August 12, 2021, at 10:00AM. This meeting will be held via Zoom unless otherwise notified. Information will be sent out later.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Councilmember Simon made the motion to adjourn the meeting Councilmember Carlton seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15AM

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Jim Hager, Mayor Emily Hooper, Town Clerk