

LAKETOWN COUNCIL

WORK MEETING

APRIL 14, 2022

Mayor Weston called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Those in attendance: Mayor Burdette Weston; council members: Brandon Willis, Eldon Robinson, Delora Wight, Dallas Clark, and Alice Jackson, a community member. Cody Reed joined the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Appeal authority explanation was added to the agenda by the mayor.

Dallas conducted the opening ceremony, and Burdette Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Weston called for a motion to approve the agenda. Dallas made the motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Brandon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mayor Burdette Weston introduced the council to Alice Jackson. She is interested in the clerk's job, so she is attending the meeting. She will let the mayor know by Monday her decision. Her request would be some flexibility during the winter months. March through October there is a bigger need for the clerk to be in the office for the public and because of things like reports, rodeo preparation, and water bills.

Items of business:

1. Workshop mailout questionnaire for public input on lots sizes in Laketown
2. Wording for agribusiness in order to prepare the ordinance for public hearing
3. Explanation of Appeal Authority

Brandon and Eldon presented a sample questionnaire to be sent to homeowners/landowners in Laketown. This would gather the opinions and feelings of the community whether to allow or not allow ½ acre lots outside of the currently permitted area. This is an important decision that will set a precedence going forward.

Eldon read an excerpt from the existing Laketown Master Plan. The goal of the plan when it was completed in 2007 was "To preserve the Laketown rural agriculture quality of life."

Discussion was held on how to make sure the community has enough information to make an informed decision on 1 acre or ½ acre lots, and if in fact there needs to be changes. Many thoughts were expressed with the pros and cons on 1 acre or ½ acre outside of the currently permitted area. In addition to a questionnaire, holding a public meeting is a way to get the feel and opinions of the community. Laketown's Master Plan is in the process of being updated, so input from the community for the plan should be heard. Mike Hansen is in charge of the platform the county is using for the plan update. Dallas will get in touch with Mr. Hansen to arrange a meeting with us.

Mayor read the verbiage for the agri-tourism ordinance 2022-01. The special use permit section will be deleted. The definition of agri-tourism has already been passed in a former meeting. A public hearing will be held prior to our May 4 meeting in order to adopt the ordinance which will then be put in our policy.

Mayor Weston and our attorney discussed Appeal Authority. This is used when a person/group comes to the town council with a request but does not like the decision made by the council and/or has a complaint with the way they were dealt with. They would then go to the Appeal Authority before going to court. If they are not satisfied with the result from the Appeal Authority, the next step would be to go to court. The Appeal Authority is usually an attorney, but cannot be in our attorney's office. The council gets the attorney and sets the billing rate, but the person wanting to use the Appeal Authority pays the bill. The use of an Appeal Authority is a way to get an impartial opinion. Laketown has a Board of Adjustment in our code. Mayor will ask the attorney if this needs to be removed from our code.

Eldon made a motion to adjourn. Delora seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.