

TOWN OF LAKE LURE

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION AND ACTION MEETING

Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

Lake Lure Fire Department



Attendees:

Mayor, Carol C, Pritchett
Commissioner, Scott Doster
Commissioner, Jim Proctor
Commissioner, Patrick Bryant
Mayor Pro Tem, Dave DiOrio
William, Attorney

Town Staff:

Town Manager, Olivia Stewman
Finance Director, Steve Ford
Fire Chief, Dustin Waycaster
Police Chief, Sean Humphries
P&R Director, Dana Bradley
Public Works Director, Dean Lindsey
Communications Director, Laura Krejci
Community Development Director, Michael Williams

Labella, Brian Houston
FEMA, Evan Smith

Absent:

I. Call to Order

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett called the meeting to order at 8:36 am

II. Agenda Adoption

Commissioner Dave DiOrio made a motion to approve the agenda as presented,
Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded and all were in favor

III. Approval of January Minutes

Commission Jim Proctor made a motion to approve the January minutes as presented.
Commissioner Dave DiOrio seconded the motion and all were in favor.

IV. Advisory Board Discussion

Currently we keep applications on file for up to 2 years. Recently a person was appointed to the board who is no longer living in Lake Lure. We should continue to keep the applications for the time allowed but change the process for the clerk to contact recipients before they go before council. No policy change at this time.

Commissioner Scott Doster stated that every board is different. Most boards require 5 members and others do have more. Most the boards are fairly low on members, however questions arise when another board wanted to add additional members. Too many members could cause issues to arise. Discussion ensued. No vote as there were no changes to policy at this time.

V. Review LaBella Task 24- Waste Water Treatment plant design

Brian Houston for LaBella went over the Task 24. This is in regards to the full design and permits included. This would make it ready to begin bids.

This project is linked to a FEMA project line item. Discussion ensued. Council is holding off on approving as they want to wait for FEMA eligibility.

The DEQ bridge loan, should have by the end of the fiscal year and is there if we need to move forward with design build.

VI. Amendment 5 Design Build on track

Brian Houston for LaBella stated that the Amend 5 Design Build is through Ruby Collins. Advising we are 5% to them for help with the project and we should continue forward. This includes 4 coves: Sunset Cove, Tryon Bay, Snug Harbor, and Grey logs. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Dave DiOrio made a motion to approve the Amendment to include Snug harbor, Tryon Bay, and Sunset Cove. Commissioner Jim Proctor seconded the motion and all were in favor.

VII. Mike Hager

Mike Hager understands that we have not received any funds at this time. Advised to reach out and let him know if that is not received soon to let him know.

Took Mayor Carol C. Pritchett and Commissioner Dave DiOrio to the general assembly this week. They met with many representatives and had a good experience.

House Bill 382 is presented. Does not affect the Town at this time, but could. Just want to make the Council aware of these upcoming issues.

Issues with the Southside temporary bridge and road access to Chimney Rock Rd. Still addressing and working on solutions. Also have some building code issues (international codes).

ATT line was burnt and destroyed and interrupted communication during the storm. Looking to replace and have a backup line for future use. Commissioner Jim Proctor

recommended to run the line through Lago Vista road and make entrance for Chimney Rock State Park. State will run that idea up the chain and see what we can do.

Sediment (house bill 47) could bring 20 million dollars to the area. Be aware of this bill once passed.

Right now we have the focus of congressional leaders and we need to take advantage.

VIII. Storm Updates

A. Public Works: Dean Lindsey advised lift station is ongoing. Working with local permitting to move forward. Once that is resolved, testing will be scheduled.

Currently have about 10-15 sewer pipes broken or leaking. Working with Ashbritt and Army Corp to help navigate.

Friday (2/28/25) plan to drop the lake to 988.5. Still safe for divers, and once completed will drop lake lower to begin repairs on sewer pipes.

March 28, 2025 is the scheduled testing on the access valve. No other updates at this time.

B. Fire Chief: Dustin Waycaster discussed National Guard briefly and advised Dana Bradley could go into further detail.

Town Hall power should be restored and working to restore the power to the siren.

Attended the DOT meeting on Wednesday with Commissioner Scott Doster and Commissioner Jim Proctor. WE worked the room pushing for the Lago Vista Road to access Chimney Rock State Park.

Fairfield project is still on track and moving forward. Will work on a lease agreement with Rumbling Bald.

We have 2 agility test scheduled for February 28, 2025.

There was continued discussion on the State Rock and Park.

C. Rumbling Bald: Jeff Giesler stated that there reservations are down 70% including weddings. Rumbling Bald can't weather to long. Employment and property values will suffer. State park and trails are critical.

D. Dana Bradley: National Guard, Army Corp and FEMA will be working on Weed patch trail to Buffalo Creek park. We have all the items needed aside from a Battle stone which current estimated cost is \$18,500 for 120 Cubic yards. Will look at grants as well to cover cost of the stone.

March 10th, 2025 there is a meeting scheduled for the Rutherford County Coalition. This is for volunteers.

Playground grant has to be decided soon. We have a location marked off near the Parks and Recreation office. Council began discussion. A suggestion was to have it placed at Pool Creek Park.

Commissioner Scott Doster made a motion to place donated playground at Pool Creek Park. Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded the motion and all were in favor.

E. Police Chief: Sean Humphries had no updates at this time.

F. FEMA: No updates at this time.

G. Communications: Laura Krejci advised working on the advisory board lunch. Looking at March 20, 2025 at Legends. Will follow up with more information at a later date.

H. Community Development: Mike Williams had no updates for the department at this time.

IX. Budget Review

Steve Ford present to the council the potential approved revenues for FY24-FY25 and the projected FY25-FY26. (document attached) There is defiantly a decrease but will wait to see where we stand at a later date.

A projected budget was presented and documents showing decreases that were made across all departments. Council discussed the information. Will schedule a meeting for extended budget review.

Audit Findings were presented and reviewed. Most things can be clarified. Will discuss the findings in more detail on March 4, 2025.

Council discussed the documents and advised to take time to review.

X. Public Comments

A. Dan Bragdon (Camp Lurecrest) 207 Charlotte Dr.

Advised board to take 60 seconds to look at the debris pile located at the entrance to the camp. Just want the awareness and hopes that it will be cleared soon.

Camp has 1500-1700 kids expected to attend this year. Would like to be able to utilize the lake. We have sonar and do our own water and soil testing. Hope that the council will consider allowing swimming in our roped off area. Council advised it was under consideration.

Parks and recreation board meeting, would like those to resume soon. Mayor Carol C. Pritchett will speak with Commissioner Jim Proctor to give update.

B. Jennifer Dittmer Vivolo

Re-iterated that she would like to see the Parks and recreation board meet soon. Rentals are slowing, people are booking and then canceling because of lake not being usable. Board advised recreational traffic is not allowed.

C. Bob Washburn (email submission)

Resident feels creating a kayaking venue could draw in some travelers for a struggling economy. Would also be a celebration of the NEW Hickory Nut Gorge. (Email included)

XI. Adjournment

Commissioner Scott Doster made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Dave DiOrio seconded and all were in favor. The meeting ended at 12 :31 p.m.

ATTEST :

Kimberly Martin, Town Clerk

Carol C. Pritchett, Mayor