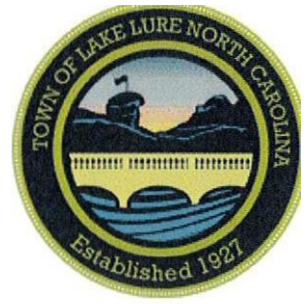


MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF LAKE LURE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 11, 2024@ 5:00pm
Legends at Rumbling bald



Agenda

I. Call to Order

Mayor Pritchett called the meeting to order at 5:04pm

II. Agenda Adoption

Commissioner Scott Doster made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded the motion and all were in favor.

III. Mayor's Communication

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett spoke advising that Town Manager Olivia Stewman and Finance Director Steve Ford have been working hard to process FEMA paperwork and moving forward. We are working on the budget and looking to be about 30% lower than normal. The Town is working hard, but at this time we are just at a point where we just don't have a timeline. We have no control of the timeline and currently at the mercy of FEMA, but we continue moving forward.

IV. Town Mangers Communication

Town Hall is officially located at the Arcade Building and open for business. We are currently preparing for the budget coming up and department heads are working well with minimizing spending and cutting costs. We will have an initial presentation for the budget in March.

The Reservoir drain project will be done in March. At this time, there are no other updates to report.

V. Council Liaison Reports and Comments

Commissioner Scott Doster liaison for the ABC Board advised that the ABC store is staying busy. The abundance of contractors has helped business. Managing budget the store changed the hours to 12:00pm-7:00pm Monday thru Saturday. No other updates to report.

Zoning and planning board meeting was canceled. No updates to report.

Commissioner Dave DiOrio Liaison for the Lake Advisory Board advised that the health of the lake has been a concern. 80% of the surface debris has been removed and the quality of the water is better than expected. Sediment needs to be removed as there could be potentially harmful items that could leak into the lake or cause safety issues. We are concerned with potential injuries or damages that could be caused. On the positive, things are getting better.

Commissioner Jim Proctor liaison for the Parks and Recreation Board has not met. There is about 64 volunteer hours recorded and possibly 100 plus hours unrecorded. Reiterated that the subsurface of the lake is dangerous and safety is a concern.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Amended November 4, 2024 Town Council Emergency Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Jim Proctor made a motion to approve the amended November 4, 2024 Town Council emergency Meeting minutes. Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded the motion and all were in favor.

VII. Unfinished Business

There is no unfinished business.

VIII. New Business

A. Storm Recovery Updates

ICF is working with FEMA to expedite projects. Hopes to have 50% of the funds expedited and other half to come in the later months.

National Guard is being deployed to help with trails and down river clean up. Also to help fill the gaps that FEMA has not done.

Town has begun to beautify Morse Park. Will begin to clean up around marina and park areas. Kaboom has made an offer to replace the playground for free.

Community Development continues to assess the damaged Lake structures.

Lift Station will test on March 3rd and come off temporary pump.

Communications Laura Krejei has done an amazing job keeping the public updated.

The Town continues to focus on the positive.

B. Cell Tower Update and Presentation

Community Development Director Mike Williams presented information for the cell tower. Stated that the tower is still coming. A new survey has been completed. We had to move the site back 100ft to accommodate the change in the topography due to the storm. It will still be 125 feet from property lines and be fenced in. Tower will be 195 feet tall and will be a sleek design. Engineer statement is included with fall safety. Currently in permit process. Has to go through several process but it should go through fairly quickly. We're looking at a 3 month timeframe for construction to begin.

C. Advisory Board Appointments

ABC Board has 1 re-appointment for Esther Lusk.

Commissioner Scott Doster made a motion to approve Esther Lusk for re-appointment. Commissioner Jim Proctor seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Zoning and planning Board thanked Dave Keenan for his time on the board. They have 1 appointment to approve Debbie Warren and 1 re-appointment for Charlie Ellis.

Commissioner Scott Doster made a motion to approve the appointment of Debbie Warren and re-appoint Charlie Ellis to the zoning and planning board. Commissioner Jim Proctor seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Board of Adjustments has 3 openings. Commissioner Dave DiOrio made a motion to approve Mark Windfield as new board member and to appoint Kathie Hatfield and Tony Steffel as alternates to the board. Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded the motion and all were in favor. Greg Garner was thanked for service on the board.

Lake Advisory Board has one opening for new member to appoint Charlie Nance and re-appointment for Jim Lemmons. Commissioner Dave DiOrio made a motion to approve the appointment of Charlie Nance and the re-appointment of Jim Lemmons. Commissioner Jim Proctor seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Parks and Recreation board has one re-appointment for Daniel Bragdon to continue on the board. Commissioner Jim Proctor made a motion to re-appoint Daniel Bragdon to the Parks and Recreation board. Commissioner Dave DiOrio seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Vacation Rental Advisory Board has appointed 5 members that have already been notified. This board is intended to improve the process and other aspects of the vacation rentals in Lake Lure. Will update once an alternate date to meet has been established.

D. Consider Approval of LaBella Task order 24 for Wastewater Treatment Plant Design

Discussion ensued in regards to the design of the wastewater treatment plant. Town is currently working with FEMA to address this project. Commissioner Dave DiOrio made a motion to defer this to a later date until we have followed up with FEMA. Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded the motion and all were in favor.

E. Consider Approval of LaBella Task order 6 Amendment 3

Dean Lindsey advised that this is to support press for the wastewater plant. A shed to go over belt press and will be placed on concrete pad. Commissioner Scott Doster made a motion to approve the LaBella Task order 6 Amendment 3 for the wastewater treatment plant. Commissioner Dave DiOrio seconded the motion and all were in favor.

F. Consider Approval of Foothills Regional Commission Scope of Work for the Lake Lure Comprehensive Plan

Benjamin Bordo with Foothills Regional Commission spoke that they assist local governments and here to update the scope of work for the comprehensive plan. They plan to have public engagement and focus groups. Will have a data review. Want to see where Lake Lure can go. Plans to have completed by July 2026. Commissioner Jim Proctor believes this will be fantastic for the future of Lake Lure. Commissioner Scott Doster made a motion to approve Foothills Regional Commission scope of work for the Lake Lure comprehensive plan.

____ Dave DiOrio seconded the motion and all were in favor.

IX. Public Comments

A. Mark Hanlon (625 US 64 Hwy)

Has a home down river. Wants his concern heard with river clean up. Has spent around \$15,000 of own money and would like to know if the river is on the list for FEMA to help with clean up? "The national guard is coming in to help with clean up where FEMA falls short. Should get with county to address clean up."

Is work force housing still happening? "Yes, but with a new location and design."

B. Stephen Milito (1412 Proctor Rd)

Neighborhood has concerns with the discussion of the Lago Vista and Chimney Rock State Park. There was a lot of damage from the storm including mudslides and damage to the road. There has been temporary fix but road is narrow. Park wants to open and use the road. That's 440,000 visitors a year and the concern is that with the already damaged road and issues with the land around it how will this affect the area and the neighborhood be impacted by this change. "Town continues to work on getting assistance from FEMA for the majority of the repairs. We are also working with DOT and State Park officials to gather all the information before making any decisions. This includes a design and traffic studies."

C. Shelly Gref (113 Frady Inlet Rd.)

Just wanted to advise people that that there are grants available for small business owners and even homeowners for slope stabilization. Mountain Biz is who you would go through for businesses and NC mitigation for homeowners to stabilize land.

D. Laura Doster (274 Thomas A Eddison)

Chamber is still open and operating remotely. Working with local business and homeowners to know what the needs are for the community. Hope to be able to help all those in Western North Carolina. Have begun Foundation for Lake Lure/ Chimney Rock business to help now and in the future. We have several investors and continue to look ahead.

E. Unknown (stood up and began asking questions-Lives on Hwy 64/74)

Questions regarding the 64174 road being open. "Town advises that DOT has stated that it would like to open at the end of March. That may not be the case. Dustin advised that there is a meeting scheduled for February 26, 2025 @ 5pm at Lake Lure Classical Academy.

F. Tony Steffel (320 Holmstead Dr.)

Lake Levels. Where will they be? "Dean Lindsey Director of Public Works advised will be kept at 988.3 during the dive operations. Once completed the lake may be drawn down to 986.5 to preform sewer repairs, but will be brought back up after fixed."

Asked if there would be a tax adjustment? "Commissioner Dave DiOrio advised to contact the county for that information."

G. Camp Lurecrest (207 Charlotte Dr.)

Just looking for Board to start back soon (Parks and Rec). We have been sharing a lot of property with contactors and just making sure that communication is key. We are looking to have 1500 campers coming this summer and appreciate the support from the Town.

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett thanked everyone for their concerns and comments!

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Patrick Bryant made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Jim Proctor seconded and the motion carried 4-0, the meeting ended at 7:02pm.

ATTEST:

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Kimberly Martin, Town Clerk

Carol C. Pritchett, Mayor

