

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF LAKE LURE
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 @ 5:00 pm
Lakeview Terrace at Rumbling Bald



Agenda

Roll Call:

Mayor, Carol C, Pritchett
Commissioner Dave DiOrio
Commissioner Patrick Bryant
Commissioner Scott Doster
Commissioner Jim Proctor
Town Manager, Olivia Stewman
William Morgan, Attorney
Laura Krejci, Communications Director
Kimberly Martin, Town Clerk

I. Call to Order

Mayor Pritchett called the meeting to order at 5:11 pm

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett opened the meeting thanking Rumbling Bald for use of the beautiful location and the continued support.

II. Agenda Adoption

Commissioner Jim Proctor made motion to approve agenda with added item Resolution No. 25-04-08 to approve plans to build a future Public Safety Facility on Highway 9, Lake Lure, NC 28746 and to seek Funding for this facility through the 2026 Congressional Community Project funding. Commissioner Dave DiOrio seconded the motion and all were in favor.

III. Mayor's Communication

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett began by thanking everyone for coming out. So much has been achieved already and we continue to move forward with plans to flourish. Sub surface debris removal has begun which is a huge step in the right direction. With all the work going on throughout the town, we ask for patients as this is the beginning of our recovery. A huge thank you to our Public Works department that has been working so hard to beautify out town. We are well on our way.

IV. Town Managers Communication

Town Manager Olivia Stewman gave an update on the projects the Town is currently working on.

On March 27th, 2025 we completed the Drain Valve project and we are officially closed.

The Fairfield fire department moved in April 1, 2025. We now have paid staff and so far have ran 2 medical calls. The response time was dramatically quicker and was able to stabilize and to keep other response measures for more serious calls. The new heart monitor will be a huge benefit.

Our 2024 Budget is underway and so far going well.

We will have the 2025-2026 Budget draft at the April Work Session.

A soft opening for Morse Park will be on April 25, 2025 at 11:00am. We will also be celebrating Arbor Day!

V. Council Liaison Reports and Comments

Commissioner Scott Doster began with the ABC Board met March 17, 2025. The store continues to do well. Zoning and planning board met on March 18, 2025 and approved Masterdocks permit for moving the building to road front. Also working on signage.

Commissioner Dave DiOrio stated that BOA also approved the plans for Masterdocks, and no other business was discussed. The Lake Advisory Board met. 9 out of 10 boats were totaled in the hurricane. People will be buying new boats and the Lake Advisory Board looking at updating regulations.

Commissioner Jim Proctor stated that Parks and Rec board met last Thursday. There was a lot of discussion about recovery and the comprehensive plan. Last month we had well over 1000 hours of volunteers.

Commissioner Patrick Bryant advised that the Short Term Rental will hopefully start meeting at the end of the month.

VI. Consent Agenda

The approval of the March 2025 Minutes will be postponed until the work session meeting schedule for April 23, 2025 to make a few minor changes.

VII. Unfinished Business

There is no unfinished business to discuss.

VIII. New Business

A. Lake Lure Classical Academy Presentation

Lake Lure Classical Academy came to speak about the wonderful school that is available to those in and around Lake Lure. Students with the school each took turns speaking about what they love. Senior Adler Knight, Junior Judson Brogdon, Sophomore Marcy Kunes, Freshmen Riley Laurita and 8th grader Anna Sias all spoke about the flexible schedule, diversity, choice of classes, and the opportunities that the school offers including early college, clubs, and sports. The school offers club days, dances, and community of people that supports all students.

B. Comprehensive Plan Agreement

Town Manager Olivia Stewman spoke on behalf of the scope of work of Comprehensive plan. The draft cost is \$50,000. This plan will be very beneficially and will guide us a good direction for the future.

Commissioner Jim Proctor made a motion to approve the comprehensive plan agreement. Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded the motion and all were in favor.

C. Storm Recovery

Town Manager, Olivia Stewman gave storm updates

*The subsurface debris removal has officially been approved and work has begun.

*FEMA has obligated 2 projects estimated 1.5 million.

*The west end sewer project is moving forward quicker than expected.

*May 19, 2025 work should begin on the Proctor Rd. landslide. This is expected to take 1-2 months.

*FEMA site visits continue and more will be scheduled.

*Buffalo Creek and weed patch working to mitigated and open soon.

* Water Samples came back in and things continue to look good.

*The PPDR program (Army Corp) still going. Will be wrapping up soon, so be sure to apply if assistance is needed.

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett made a statement advising that with the sub surface debris removal beginning we will see an influx in traffic and heavy trucks. Advised patience will be key as they continue to clear the lake of the debris and silt.

D. Resolution No. 25-04-08 Approval of plans to build a future Public Safety Facility on Highway 9, Lake Lure, NC 28746 and to seek funding for this facility immediately through the 2026 Congressional Community Project Funding Application.

Town Manager, Olivia Stewman spoke that this is eligible for project funding for Public Safety Facility (Police/Fire). The project is expected to cost 21 million dollars. With the location being more centralized allowing for better response times and visibility to the community.

Commissioner Jim Proctor made a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-04-08 as presented noting that this will be located on Town Property. Commissioner Scott Doster seconded the motion and all were in favor.

IX. Public Comments

***Personal Property Debris Removal Program:**

Riley and Sam contractors for the program through Army Corp spoke advising that the program will run through the end of April. Anyone who wishes to apply should do so as soon as possible. Their hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am- 6:00pm and Saturday 9:00am- 2:00pm.

***Annie Dance (1936 Coopers Gap Rd.)**

Advised she is an independent Journalist. Asked how often council briefings are held. Currently they are held once a week on Monday's at 10:00 am. The damaged lake structures show 2 numbers which one is accurate? Mike Williams advised that 85 total substantially damaged lake structures and 31 of those have agreed to demolition.

***Steven Brown (929 Proctor Rd.)**

Asked more specific questions in regards to the Public Safety building.

***Beth Heer (Seton Rd.)**

Asked about opening of Morse Park, online had said it was on April 17th?

This has been moved to April 25, 2025 and we will incorporate Arbor Day as well.

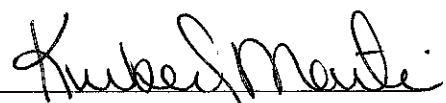
No other public comments were made.

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett thanked everyone for coming out and supporting the Town during the recovery process.

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Jim Proctor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Dave DiOrio seconded the motion and all were in favor. Meeting closed at 5:58 pm.

ATTEST:


Kimberly Martin, Town Clerk


Carol C. Pritchett, Mayor

