



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN
OF LAKE LURE ABC BOARD**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2022
3:30 P.M.

THIS MEETING WAS HELD AT LAKE LURE TOWN HALL.

Present: Linda Samarotto, Chair
Bob Cassano, Board Member
Esther Lusk, Board Member
Richard Sayles, Board Member

Russ Dunst, ABC Store Manager
Rhonda Cook, Accountant

Absent: Peter O'Leary, Board Member
Jim Proctor, Town Council Liaison

Others Present: Hank Perkins, Town Manager
Mayor Carol Pritchett
Scott Doster, Fill-in Town Council Liaison
William Morgan, Jr., Town Attorney (via phone)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Samarotto called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. AGENDA ADOPTION

Mr. Richard Sayles made a motion to adopt the agenda, as presented. Ms. Esther Lusk seconded. All present board member voted in favor.

III. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

There were no conflict of interests.

IV. CLOSED SESSION

Prior to entering closed session, Rhonda Cook explained that there are issues regarding the Store Manager providing inaccurate information. Ms. Cook provided additional background information regarding the issues. Ms. Cook suggested training for various employees. Mr. Cassano asked Ms. Cook to provide the board with an outline of her expectations for the Store Manager. Mr. Sayles asked if there are specifics that that Store Manager can be asked in order to improve. Mr. Cassano recommended that Ms. Cook's format should be conformed to and guide the Store. Ms. Cook recommended having Carolina Data provide training to Store employees. Mr. Sayles noted that the Store had been short on staff recently. Ms. Cook noted that her and representatives from Carolina Data should meet at the Store and create a plan to move forward.

Ms. Lusk made a motion to enter closed session in accordance with G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3) for attorney client privilege. Mr. Sayles seconded and all voted in favor.

The ABC Board entered closed session and discussed past discrepancies occurring through a former services agreement.

Ms. Lusk made a motion to return to open session. Mr. Sayles seconded and all voted in favor.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the August 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Sayles made a motion to approve the August 15, 2022 regular meeting minutes, as presented. Ms. Lusk seconded and all voted in favor.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of ABC Store Operations

Store Manager Russ Dunst and the Board reviewed monthly manger's report. Mr. Dunst reported that a new employee on boarded with the Store last week. Mr. Dunst reviewed comparisons in financials between this year and last year, credit card sales, and other financial information for the month. Mr. Dunst reported a sales representative had recently visited the Store and complimented the Store's sales. Mr. Dunst explained that there are still issues with distribution and allocations and that he had sent a letter to the state regarding this matter. Mr. Dunst noted that Ms. Cook working on closing books and moving forward with the audit process. It was noted that the goal of the Store is to get three truck deliveries and that decreased orders continue to be an issue. Mr. Dunst noted that ALE had visited the Store regarding a local business not purchasing from the Lake Lure ABC Store like they are supposed to. Mr. Dunst reported an issue with an intoxicated individual at the Store, which was addressed by the Lake Lure police and ALE.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Sayles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Lusk seconded and all voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

ATTEST

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Olivia Stewman", written over a horizontal line.

Olivia Stewman, Town Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Samarotto", written over a horizontal line.

Linda Samarotto, Board Chair