



Incorporated 1927

Town of Lake Lure

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MINUTES OF THE LAKE LURE TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 1996, 9:00 A.M. AT THE SPINDALE HOUSE, SPINDALE, NC

PRESENT: Mayor Max E. Lehner
Commissioner Bill Bush
Commissioner Carolyn Cobb
Commissioner Beth Rose
Commissioner Bud Schichtel

John R. Strutner, Town Manager
Sam A. Karr, Finance Director

Jim Edwards, Isothermal Planning and Development
Glenn Rhodes, Isothermal Planning and Development
Robbie Koone, Town Auditor

ABSENT: N/A

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lehner called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

INVOCATION

Town Manager John Strutner gave the invocation.

OVERVIEW OF MUNICIPAL BUDGET PROCESS

Finance Director Sam Karr reported on the summary of revenues answering questions submitted and reported to Council that the budget is in line.

Mr. Karr reported that another bid may be submitted to the Town for Fiscal year 1996-97 in regard to Sanitation. At the present time, Wade Nelon has the sanitation contract with the Town.

Page 2 - Minutes of the Tuesday, March 19, 1996 Council Retreat

Mr. Strutner stated that he would like to increase the supplies budget for the Governing Body for the next fiscal year. These funds are used for awards, plaques, etc., and the funds have been coming from the administration line item. At present, the Fire Coordinator's salary and benefits are under Administration. Mr. Karr intends to place this line item under the fire department.

Council discussed the outdoor lighting of the Government Center. For security purposes the lighting is a must. Chief of Police, Jake Gamble, recommended to the Town Manager that, from a safety standpoint, lighting should not be decreased. In regard to cost, the Town pays a flat rate per month, not by the kilowatt hour. Commissioner Cobb suggested that an article be placed in the newsletter giving an explanation as to why the lighting is necessary.

Since Fire Department contracts are due in July, budget requests for the Fire Departments and EMS are scheduled to be turned into the Finance Director no later than April 12th.

Town Auditor, Robbie Koone, reported on Capital Reserves explaining that they allow the Town to look ahead and plan approximately five years in advance, budgeting a certain amount each year to meet the goal, for an item which needs to be purchased.

Commissioner Rose suggested that it would be helpful if the date of the Audit Report could appear on the cover each year.

Mr. Koone recommended that the Town update their inventory of assets. Town Manager Strutner invited representatives of Isothermal Planning and Development Commission to submit a proposal for updating the Town's inventory of assets.

Commissioner Bush and Commissioner Rose suggested that the Town allocate monies necessary to any Town Boards and Commissions in regard to travel expense.

Mr. Strutner reported to Council that the vacant assistant operator position at the Hydro/Wastewater facility has been filled. This person will work under the direct supervision of William Grimes, Plant Supervisor. There are currently two vacant positions in Public Works.

<p style="text-align: center;">IDENTIFICATION OF OBJECTIVES/PROJECTS FOR FY '97 BUDGET PREPARATION - SHORT-TERM AND LONG TERM</p>
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Jim Edwards and Glenn Rhodes, representatives from Isothermal Planning and Development Commission, reported on budgeting and financial management.

State deadlines of the annual budget are as follows: Departmental requests are due April 30, the proposed budget is due June 1, and the Budget Ordinance is to be adopted no later than July 1. Before adoption of the Budget Ordinance, Council must advertise and hold a Public

Page 3 - Minutes of the Tuesday, March 19, 1996 Council Retreat

Hearing. After adoption and enactment, the budget may be amended by Council at a Town meeting and no Public Hearing would be required. However, there can be no amendments to the property tax levy after the budget is adopted unless it is court ordered.

Council was requested to list at least five projects or programs which they believe to be top priorities for the Town during the coming year. Among the top priorities listed were: Removal of silt, sewer line replacement, water system improvements, dam maintenance, employee compensation, purchasing of Police Boat, purchasing of Fire Boat, and Golf Course expansion. Isothermal Planning and Development Commission stated that they would be able to make a comparative study of other municipally-owned golf courses versus Lake Lure's, if the Town would so desire in the future.

Council submitted a work-sheet describing their vision of the Town five to ten years from now in regard to community life, the Town's role in the community change, and what actions the Town Council will need to take in order to support their vision for the community.

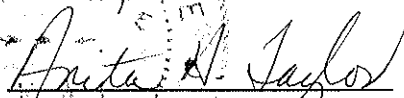
Council broke for lunch at approximately 12:00 p.m. and the meeting was called back to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

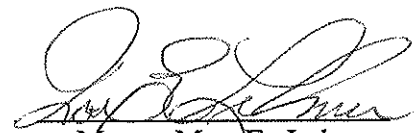
Mayor Lehner requested that the Town Manager and Glenn Rhodes set priorities and pursue a recreational grant in the summer.

Council unanimously agreed that the retreat was very informative and would like to consider the possibility of holding another retreat in the fall to consider long range plans. On behalf of the Council, Mayor Lehner thanked Jim Edwards and Glenn Rhodes for their information and time.

With no further items of discussion, Commissioner Bush moved, seconded by Commissioner Schichtel to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:30 p.m. The vote of approval was unanimous.

ATTEST:


Anita H. Taylor, CMC/AEE


Mayor Max E. Lehner