



Incorporated 1927

Town of Lake Lure

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MINUTES OF THE RECESSED SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE LAKE LURE TOWN COUNCIL HELD MONDAY, MAY 10, 1999, 9:00 A.M. AT THE LAKE LURE MUNICIPAL CENTER

PRESENT: Mayor Jack Powell
Commissioner Carolyn Cobb
Commissioner Beth Rose
Commissioner Gene Sheffield
Commissioner Jack Stanier

Town Manager H. M. Place, III
Finance Director Sam Karr

ABSENT: N/A

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION

Commissioner Cobb gave the invocation.

DISCUSS PRELIMINARY BUDGET ITEMS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

The purpose of this meeting was to continue a discussion regarding preliminary budget items for fiscal year 1999-2000. Finance Director Karr presented Councilmembers with copies of a revised town budget for fiscal year 1999-2000 for their review. Councilmembers took a 30 minute break in order to review the revised budget.

Mayor Powell recommended that department heads be present at the next Town Council budget workshop meeting in order to answer questions and clarify some of the budget requests. The Mayor said he would like to ask Ron Morgan why a secretary is needed in his department.

Council agreed to table discussion regarding the Golf Course until a business plan is received from the Golf Course Advisory Committee.

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Discussed the problems reported by the garbage/refuse removal contractor about improper containers being used for disposal of garbage. Another problem involved individuals removing items from the recycling bins in town. Town Manager Place agreed to post signs at the town recycling bins area informing citizens that it is a violation to remove items. In addition, Mr. Place also agreed to put an article in the town newsletter about using proper containers for garbage disposal and asking individuals not to remove items from the town recycling bins.

Briefly discussed the request submitted by Ron Morgan, Fire Coordinator, for a fulltime secretary. In a budget justification report of March 11, 1999, Mr. Morgan explained the reasons why he and three Fire Departments were requesting a fulltime secretary be budgeted for fiscal year 1999-2000. (Copy of report attached). Mayor Powell stated that perhaps Mr. Morgan's secretary needs could be handled by existing personnel. Council agreed to talk to Mr. Morgan about his budget requests at the next budget workshop meeting.

The meeting was recessed for a five minute break.

Commissioner Cobb suggested that Police Chief Mike Bustle put an article in the town newsletter about lake patrol.

Ad valorem taxes for current year (account #9700) were increased from \$765,700 to \$774,000. Commissioner Rose questioned how many liens were on property for unpaid taxes. Commissioner Sheffield informed Councilmembers that he had previously asked Tax Collector Betty Hinson to provide a list of liens on property for unpaid taxes.

Commissioner Cobb requested the wording of a line item be changed from "ABC contributions to town" to read "ABC distributions of funds" (account #300).

Commissioner Rose cautioned Councilmembers about waiving community center rental fees. She said the town was losing needed revenue. Commissioner Cobb agreed.

Council agreed tentatively to budget \$10,000 for the lake study until a better estimate is determined.

The budget estimate for the upcoming year on boat permits (account #500) was increased from \$70,000 to \$75,000.

Commissioner Cobb recommended that the town subscribe to the Forest City Daily Courier for their newspaper. She said dropping the subscription last year was a mistake. Council agreed by consensus to approve the expenditure to subscribe to the Forest City Daily Courier for their newspaper.

The meeting was recessed at 12:15 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 1:37 p.m.

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Ron Morgan, Fire Coordinator, was present to answer questions about his budget requests. He was asked to explain why he needed a fulltime secretary, a new vehicle, and a new training facility, etc. Mr. Morgan informed Council about the state now requiring incident reporting.

The Mayor asked Mr. Morgan to look into the options of leasing a vehicle vs purchasing a new vehicle. Mr. Morgan was also asked about types of incentives for firefighters which the town could offer, such as complimentary boat permits, golf course passes, cookout, etc.

The budget estimates for the upcoming year on "M & R equipment" (account #1500) was reduced from \$1,500 to \$500; "capital outlay-vehicle" was increased from \$25,000 to \$27,000; deleted \$30,000 out of "capital outlay-EOC"; and deleted \$60,000 out of "capital outlay-Bldg."

Mayor Powell suggested that Council go ahead with a 10% increase of water rates in accordance with the study recommendations in the early nineties.


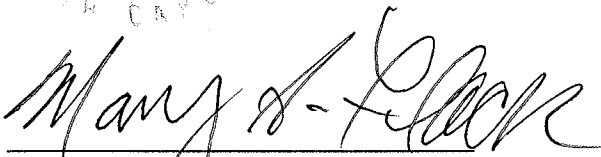
Council talked about a timber proposal previously submitted by Mr. Melvin Owensby. The Mayor asked Town Manager Place to follow up on this proposal from Mr. Owensby.

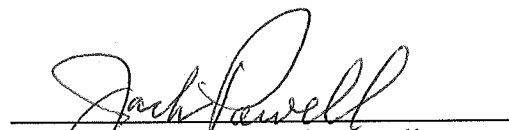
Council agreed that a hydro-electric manual outlining procedures on daily operations of the hydro-electric plant was needed.

RECESSED THE MEETING

Commissioner Stanier moved, seconded by Commissioner Sheffield, to recess this meeting until Tuesday, May 18, 1999, 9:00 a.m., at Lake Lure Municipal Center. The vote of approval was unanimous.

ATTEST:



Mary A. Flack, CMC/AEE
Town Clerk


Mayor Jack Powell