

Town of Lake Lure

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE LAKE LURE TOWN COUNCIL AND THE CHIMNEY ROCK VILLAGE COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2000, 7:30 P.M. AT THE LAKE LURE MUNICIPAL CENTER

PRESENT:

Mayor Jim Proctor

Commissioner Blaine Cox

Commissioner Dick McCallum Commissioner George Pressley Commissioner Jack Stanier

H. M. Place, III, Town Manager

Anita H. Taylor, Deputy Town Clerk

ABSENT:

N/A

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Proctor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Dick McCallum gave the invocation. Mayor Proctor called a 15 minute recess in order to allow time for Chimney Rock Village Council to arrive from their regular meeting site at Chimney Rock Fire Department.

DISCUSSION REGARDING WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS

Mayor Proctor reconvened the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and welcomed

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Chimney Rock Village Council. Members present were:

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter O'Leary

Commissioner Bob Burns Commissioner Joe Carter

Commissioner Barbara Meleski Commissioner Linda Thompson

Steve Duncan, Village Clerk Peter Lane, Village Attorney

Mayor Proctor turned the meeting over to Chimney Rock Village Mayor Peter O'Leary. Mayor O'Leary welcomed and introduced Sally Lesher, Mayor of Rutherfordton. Mayor Lesher was invited to speak on her experience as being part of the Broad River Water Authority which consists of the Towns of Rutherfordton, Spindale, Ruth and a portion of Rutherford County.

Mayor Lesher explained that approximately two years ago the Towns of Rutherfordton and Spindale formed a water authority. The authority then contacted Duke power to inform them of their interest in purchasing their water system. Duke Power then proceeded to place their water system on the open market. Rutherford County decided they would like to be included as part of the water authority as well as the Town of Ruth. Each municipality is allowed two representatives to participate in the water authority. These representatives are appointed by the governing body. At this time the Broad River Water Authority is in the process of purchasing Duke's water system under a 20 year bond payback. Lewis Nanney, an attorney in Rutherfordton, assisted with the legal work and part of the process consisted of two governing bodies making application to the State.

Town Manager Chuck Place introduced Keith Webb, an engineer with McGill Associates, which works with Chimney Rock and Lake Lure. Town Manager Place recommended that Lake Lure and Chimney Rock consider hiring a consulting firm and suggested that both towns compare the benefits against liabilities of an authority. Currently, both towns need new reservoirs and probably a new well. It is suspected that water rates will more than likely have

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to be raised if a water authority is formed.

If a water authority is formed, there are pros and cons which must be addressed. It will have to be determined if both towns are willing to give ownership of their water systems to the authority and it will then have to be decided if the employees currently working in the water department for the towns will continue to be employed by the town itself or the water authority.

Town Manager Chuck Place suggested that Lake Lure and Chimney Rock Council jointly request McGill and Associates, which is the engineering firm for both towns, to draft a proposal on the cost of preparing a feasibility study explaining the pros and cons of using a water authority. It was also suggested that the sewer system be included in the study.

Commissioner McCallum moved, seconded by Commissioner Cox, to authorize McGill and Associates to prepare a proposal on the cost of a study to be prepared on the water and sewer system. The vote of approval was unanimous.

Town Manager Chuck Place suggested that Carolina Water System be contacted in order to see if they would be interested in participating with the water authority.

Town Council requested that Keith Webb, McGill Associates, submit the proposal by May 3rd so this item could be included in the budget discussion. A water authority cannot levy a tax.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Pressley made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Cox, that the meeting be adjourned. The vote of approval was unanimous.

ATTEST:

Anita H. Taylor, CMC

Deputy Town Clerk

Mayor Jim Proctor