



Incorporated 1927

Town of Lake Lure

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF LAKE LURE TOWN COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2002, 10:00 A.M. AT THE LAKE LURE MUNICIPAL CENTER

PRESENT: Mayor Jim Proctor
Commissioner Lea Hullender
Commissioner Dick McCallum
Commissioner George Pressley

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Blaine Cox

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Proctor called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Lea Hullender gave the invocation.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner McCallum to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Pressley seconded the motion and the vote of approval was unanimous.

DISCUSS PRELIMINARY BUDGET ITEMS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003

Town Manager H. M. Place III and Finance Director Sam Karr reviewed and answered questions pertaining to budget items for fiscal year 2002-2003. Also, staff members including Public Works Director Tony Hennessee, Utilities Director William Grimes, Golf Course Manager Chris Shute, Fire and Emergency Coordinator Ron Morgan, and Police Chief Mike Bustle were present to answer questions about proposed items in the budget for their departments.

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Town Manager Place said he was waiting for final figures from Rutherford County Tax Collector Bill Doolittle on the new tax valuations.

Council members agreed that the current ad valorem tax rate should be lowered for fiscal year 2002-2003 based on the fact that property valuations increased significantly in Lake Lure.

Town Manager Place recommended that Council consider budgeting a 2% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for all town employees and a 5% 401(k) contribution by the town for all non-law enforcement personnel. The town already contributes 5% for 401 (k) retirement for Lake Lure law enforcement officers which is required by state law. Mr. Place also recommended that the line item in administration for computers be reduced from \$14,000 to \$6,000.

Commissioner McCallum suggested that Personnel Director Betty Hinson research the possibility of a medical savings account for town employees because of significant increases in health insurance premiums.

After reviewing requests from the public works department, Council members agreed to remove the line item to purchase property adjacent to the town maintenance building at this time and increase the line item for repairs.

Council members talked about increasing the rental fees for the town gazebo and the town municipal hall. Town Manager Place requested that Deputy Town Clerk Anita Taylor provide rental information with recommendations for Town Council's consideration at the next regular town council meeting, Tuesday, June 11, 2002.

Mr. Place informed Council members that it costs the town approximately \$6,000 per year to provide service for the recycling center located at the town maintenance building. He said the town could use this space for other use, if the town was not required to provide this service.

Council members discussed the need for marina slips. Mr. Place said he had talked with Rick Miller with Lake Norman Dredging and Mr. Miller is willing to construct 20 open slips at the town marina in exchange for the town dredge. Commissioner Pressley said the town needs to review the lake density study before deciding to construct additional slips at the town marina.

Town Manager Place requested that Deputy Town Clerk Anita Taylor provide information regarding the current rental fee schedule for town marina slips to Town Council to be reviewed at the next regular town council meeting, Tuesday, June 11, 2002.

Finance Director Sam Karr was asked by Town Council to contact BB&T Bank and the Local Government Commission about refinancing the town's loan for the Municipal Center building at a lower interest rate.

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Council members agreed to remove the line item for resurfacing the tennis court adjacent to the town community center from the budget.

The meeting was recessed at 12:00 noon for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

The figure in the budget for hydro revenue was compiled from Duke Power statements based on six months of revenue. No changes were made to this line item for hydro.

Council members agreed to remove the line item for patrol rifles from the budget.

Golf Course Manager Chris Shute said membership at the golf course was good. He also mentioned that some of the golf course equipment had been breaking down recently.

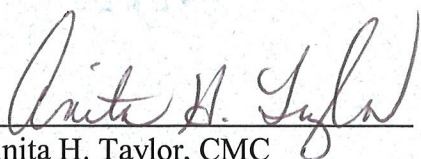
Town Council discussed the possibility of holding a 75th anniversary golf tournament. Mr. Shute was asked by Council members to contact the golf course membership committee about planning this tournament.

Council members agreed to clarify the cap recently set for golf course memberships at 200. This would mean that family memberships would count as one rather than each family member being counted separately.

Fire Coordinator Ron Morgan discussed the need for a fire training building and a fire boat. After discussion, Town Council requested that both Mr. Morgan and Finance Director Sam Karr put together a financial proposal for these projects and report back to them.

With no further discussion, the meeting recessed until Wednesday, May 29, 2002, 10:00 a.m., at the Municipal Center.

ATTEST:


Anita H. Taylor, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk


Mayor Jim Proctor