



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LAKE LURE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2017, 9:00 P.M. AT THE LAKE LURE MUNICIPAL
CENTER**

PRESENT: Mayor Bob Keith
Commissioner Mary Ann Silvey
Commissioner Bob Cameron
Commissioner John W. Moore
Commissioner Stephen M. Webber
Commissioner Bob Cameron
Ron Nalley, Town Manager
Sam Karr, Finance Director
David Arrowood, Public Works Director
Donnie McGraw, Hydroelectric Dam Operator
Sean Humphries, Police Chief
Shannon Baldwin, Community Development Director
Anita Taylor, Personnel Director
Ron Morgan, Fire Chief
Gary Wilson, Fairfield Mountains Fire Department's Fire Chief
Dean Givens, Lake Operations Director
Dale Minick, Golf Course Operator
Melody Potter, Parks and Recreation Supervisor
Valerie Hoffman, Brand Manager

ABSENT: N/A

CALL TO ORDER

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

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE 2017-2018 PROPOSED BUDGET

Town Manager Ron Nalley reviewed items in the proposed budget for fiscal year 2017-2018. In response to a request from Board members at their last workshop, Mr. Nalley presented a short list of unfunded projects and areas in the proposed budget where further cuts could be made to help fund them.

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Council reviewed the list of projects and agreed to reduce the amount budgeted for dredging to \$325,000. Council also agreed to add \$25,000 to the budget for a Morse Park Small Area Recreation Plan and to transfer the restrooms from a Capital Project to Loan Proceeds. Council also asked that funding for the tennis court resurfacing be removed from the Budget to allow for completion of the Morse Park Small Area Recreation Plan. Council then agreed to decrease funding for the beach house renovations by \$5,900.

Town Manager Ron Nalley reviewed the results of the payroll study and it was the consensus of the Board to budget for the implementation of phase 1 and phase 2 of the study beginning July 1, 2017 and phase 3 of the study for implementation on January 1, 2018 contingent on potential staff reorganization. Commissioner Stephen Webber made a motion to include longevity pay for staff in the budget, including a 2.5% increase for the Town Manager at his one year of employment mark. Commissioner Mary Ann Silvey seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

Gary Wilson, Fire Chief of Fairfield Mountains Volunteer Fire Department, reviewed the proposed 2017-2018 budget for Fairfield Mountains Volunteer Fire Department and explained that if federal assistance is received that it would help cover the difference between the cost of operations for fiscal year 2016-2017 and the proposed cost of operation for fiscal year 2017-2018. However, the Department is unsure if the federal reimbursement funding will occur. Mr. Wilson further explained that if the Town does not fund the full amount requested by Fairfield Mountains Fire Department for fiscal year 2017-2018 the Department's truck fund and emergency fund would be reduced. It was consensus of the Board to increase funding in the budget for Fairfield Mountains Volunteer Fire Department by \$5,400 bringing the total funding for the Department to \$84,000.

The Board discussed the amount budgeted for infrastructure and capital improvements and explained that the 2012 tax increase was presented as a way to generate additional funding for capital improvements on top of what was in the budget prior to creation of the capital improvements tax. Council asked that staff review the flyer that was sent to citizens explaining the previous tax increase for infrastructure and provide an update outlining what the funds have been used for.

Commissioner Stephen Webber questioned the amount charged for civil penalties for zoning violations stating that the current fee schedule is based only on the number of offenses, not the severity of the offense. Commissioner Webber made a motion to task the Zoning and Planning Board to study civil penalties charged for zoning violations and consider recommending revisions to the fee schedule. Commissioner Bob Cameron seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

Department Heads then answered questions relating to the budget for their prospective departments. Council discussed the benefits of providing funding for the new County-wide Economic Development Association. Mayor Bob Keith agreed to provide Council additional

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information relating to the proposed Town representation on the Economic Development Association. Council agreed to leave the item in the budget and to delay approval of spending the funds until at a later date. Council also discussed creating a new part time position in the Economic Development Department to replace contractual services. Commissioner Stephen Webber questioned why the position is in the Economic Development Department instead of in the Administration Department as a public information position. Commissioner Webber also asked if the Town has a salary range for the position of Public Information Officer. Town Manager Ron Nalley explained that staff will bring Council information on creating the position, once funding is approved and the employee will remain a contract employee until the position, including salary, is established by Town Council. Council agreed to leave funding in the budget for the part time position and asked that staff move forward with gathering information to create the position. Council also agreed to add a part time seasonal employee to the Parks and Recreation Department Budget.

Council asked that Lake Operations Dean Givens solicit bids for adding 40 additional slips at Washburn Marina. Mr. Givens explained that there are only two companies that create the type of docks used at the Marina and that it may be necessary to have the company that created the original docks create the additional docks to insure proper fit when connecting new docks and to avoid the possibility of voiding warranties on the docks that are currently in place. Mr. Givens stated that he received an estimate of \$149,000 to \$160,000 to add the additional slips. Council agreed to make Marina expansion a priority and add funding for loan proceeds for the project to the Budget. Finance Director Sam Karr agreed to work with Mr. Givens concerning bid requirements and secure financing for the project.

ADJOURN THE MEETING

Commissioner Bob Cameron made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 p.m. Commissioner Mary Ann Silvey seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

ATTEST:

Andrea H. Calvert,
Town Clerk

Mayor Bob Keith