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Town of Lake Lure

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LAKE LURE TOWN COUNCIL HELD FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1998, 3:00 P.M. AT THE LAKE LURE MUNICIPAL CENTER

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

Chuck Place, Zoning Administrator
Sam Karr, Acting Town Manager/Finance Director

ABSENT: N/A

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Powell called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Cobb gave the invocation.

AGENDA ITEM

Mayor Powell requested that an item be added on the agenda to discuss reopening of the Town's beach area for public use. Council agreed to add this item to the agenda for discussion.

DISCUSSION REGARDING REOPENING THE TOWN BEACH FOR PUBLIC USE

Mayor Powell stated that he had received numerous complaints about the Town's beach being closed. He suggested leaving the beach gates open during the day-time hours, in order to allow Lake Lure residents and visitors to use the beach area.

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After discussion, Council agreed to ask Sam Karr, Acting Town Manager, to post appropriate notices prohibiting swimming and fishing in the Town's beach area and open the beach gates during day-time hours for public use.

<p style="text-align: center;">WORKSHOP MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT REGARDING PLANNING MATTERS</p>
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Mayor Powell introduced Kurt Jenne, an Institute of Government faculty member, who specializes in local government management. Powell said that Mr. Jenne has agreed to assist the Town in a search for a Town Manager.

Mr. Jenne had previously provided the Mayor with a copy of an article he had authored titled "Hiring a City or County Manager" and an outline of suggested steps in the hiring process. (Copies of article/outline attached). These documents had been distributed to Council in preparation for this meeting. He briefly discussed some of the procedures that needed to be implemented before the hiring of a Town Manager.

Council members were asked to identify community issues/needs in Lake Lure for the next five years. Mr. Jenne compiled the following list:

1. Dam/Power Plant improvements;
2. Renegotiate contract on sale of electric power;
3. Possibly rebuild sewer treatment plant in five years;
4. Upgrade water district system;
5. Remain attractive tourist destination;
6. Privatize Town Marina/Beach;
7. Town owns the lake;
8. Community relations very important;
9. Keep good relations between Fairfield Mountains/Downtown;
10. Maintain good environmental conditions in the area;
11. Need to find new revenue sources;
12. Maintain cost-effective operations in all Town functions;
13. Manage Golf Course effectively;
14. Lake Lure will operate a lot of enterprises;
15. Maintain good relations with Rutherford County Board of Commissioners;
16. Need to stay current and make best use of current technology;
17. Maintain good relations with Chimney Rock and other Communities around Lake Lure; and
18. Play a role in implementation of strategic plan.

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Mr. Jenne asked Council members to identify Town Manager characteristics (skills/abilities) and compile a list. Then, Council members were asked by Mr. Jenne to perform a "pairwise comparison" of all the items on the following list.

Characteristics to Be Sought in the Lake Lure City Manager

Score Characteristic

- 15 Ability to maintain good workable relationship with Council and Mayor;
- 14 Promote and achieve operating efficiency in Town operations;
- 13 Ability to motivate and lead a capable Town Staff;
- 10 Negotiating skills;
- 9 Have conscientious work habits;
- 8 Experience with enterprise funds;
- 8 Sensitivity to the Community's views on tax burden;
- 8 Knowledge/background in planning/development regulation;
- 8 Creative-ability to come up with new ideas;
- 6 Communicates and gets along well with people (relates well to a diverse population);
- 6 Know how to get FEMA money and other grants/aid;
- 6 Some technical/engineering skills/knowledge (to deal with utilities);
- 5 Strong financial skills;
- 3 Willingness to participate pretty fully in Community activities;
- 1 Basic legal knowledge; and
- 0 Knowledge of North Carolina State Statutes.

Mr. Jenne explained that this list of criteria could be used in drafting an advertisement for the Town Manager position and during the review of applicants' qualifications. The Town Clerk was asked by Mr. Jenne to transcribe the above list for Town Council and send a copy of the same to him.

Mayor Powell volunteered to draft an ad by next week for the Town Manager's position and distribute it to Council for review.

Mr. Jenne recommended that Council map a schedule indicating what steps needed to be followed in regards to the interviewing/hiring process for a Town Manager. In addition, he suggested that the application deadline be no less than three weeks after the first publication of the ad. Mr. Jenne stated that Council needed to decide the mechanics of how these applications are to be handled. He said that Council also needs to designate one person to be the custodian of these applications and responsible for distributing them to Town Council. He explained that the law required that these applications be kept confidential.

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After discussion, Council agreed to designate the Town Clerk as the custodian of the Town Manager applications.

Mayor Powell asked Sam Karr, Acting Town Manager, to inquire about what needed to be done in order to get an ad for the Town Manager's position on the internet.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items of discussion, Commissioner Sheffield moved, seconded by Commissioner Rose, to adjourn the Town meeting at 5:30 p.m. The vote of approval was unanimous.



ATTEST:

Mary A. Black, CMC/AAE
Town Clerk

Mayor Jack Powell