



## MINUTES OF THE LAKE LURE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL BRIEFING

Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

### LAKE LURE INN

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carol C. Pritchett  
Mayor Pro Tem David DiOrio  
Commissioner Patrick Bryant  
Commissioner Scott Doster  
Commissioner Jim Proctor  
Olivia Stewman, Town Manager

Dean Lindsey, Public Services Director  
Michael Williams, Community Development  
Director Laura Krejci, Communications Director  
Dustin Waycaster, Fire Chief  
Sean Humphries, Police Chief  
Jeff Geisler, Rumbling Bald  
Jennifer Duncan, HR Director  
Dana Bradley, P&R Director  
Brian Houston, LaBella

**ABSENT:** N/A

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carol C. Pritchett called the meeting to order at 10:11 am.

**Fire Chief Updates:** NC State rep. call us and say that Rutherford County did not want the Army Corp Engineer assisting them. Chief Waycaster had a face to face discussion with the County and all issues were resolved. The Town will be accepting help from USACE.

Paula Roach is the contact from the county contract because she is charge of financing. It was discussed that the Town will authorize NCDOT to remove silt from the lake to use as fill for their replacement 64/74 project. Chief Waycaster went to visit the LLCA yesterday to check in on them and they have been spending a lot of money on their sewer pump system. They had to make the decision to come back to school otherwise most of the students were going to leave the school.

Commissioner Jim Proctor made a motion to give permission to NCDOT and subcontractors to remove the lake sedimentation. Commissioner Patrick Bryant Seconded, and they all voted in favor.

**Mayor Updates:** We been in contact with the Army Corp of Engineer, they are able to pick whichever contractors they want to assist us with lake debris removal. The donation we have received should be specifically designated. Mayor Pritchett is going to ask Natalia from FEMA to join us on Friday at the meeting to give us updates.

**Commissioners Updates:** FEMA will be moving to a more centralized location in Rutherfordton to have more security. They are no longer going door to door since the recent threats. FEMA is seeking residential property for lodging for impacted families. It was noted that the TDA needs to get any belongings that they want from the Welcome Center. It may be a year and a half for FEMA to finish all the project funding and possibly longer. Duke power needs a sub-station. Mark Robinson will be here on Friday at 3:30pm at the Lake Lure Inn.

**Town Manager Updates:** The National Guard is not going to be able to do trash pick up for us and if it's too much for our staff to undertake we will reach out to the EOC for help. Ms. Stewman is trying to set up a meeting to the Hunt property owners hopefully today. Jonathan Pittman was not able to come today but he sent an email with dam updates. ABC news has reached out and they want a story about the dam in the near future.

**Public Works Updates:** Morgan Corporation's priority was the lift station - they are working multiple projects at once, but this is the priority. Schnabel and Morgan also continue to work on dam repairs.

**Finance and Budget Updates:** Apart from FEMA the Town also has Insurance funding which Mr. Ford is working on.

**New Town Hall/Old Chamber:** There is a chamber meeting today and they will move their stuff out of their current space in the next few days. They can keep their items in the back storage room until they figure out where to store them.

**HR Updates:** There is about 3 feet of mud in the Welcome Center and mold everywhere.

**Police Chief Updates:** Several reserve cars were donated to the police department.

**Community Development Updates:** Michelle Morton spoke with the engineers (Thrasher Group) for the temporary Boys Camp bridge. They explained to her why the bridge needs to go on her side of the road. Mr. Williams spoke with Tillman regarding the cell tower and they are waiting for the FCC approval projected on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Williams advised that Tillman visit the site first because it has been impacted by the storm.

**Communications Director Updates:** Christian Aid Ministry wants to stop serving at Ingles and wants to know if they can come to a separate location to feed the employees. There is a special group coming to Bill's Creek fire dept tomorrow starting around 11:00am to serve Louisiana Cajun Style food. The news is going to continue to do Media updates and stories, and they have been encouraged to do a story on the Christian Ministries because they have done a lot for the town. Ms. Krejci would like to be present at all news interviews to take notes. She has been providing daily updates on the Facebook page to avoid misinformation being spread.

**Parks & Rec Updates:** Ms. Bradley received an email from the Army Corp of Engineer informing her that they received FEMA approval for their task force.

**Rumbling Bald: No updates.**

**Labella Engineer Updates:** October 31<sup>st</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup> the PRV Vault will be installed. The pumping station will be worked on next, but there is not a current ETA on delivery of pump components. Mr. Brian Houston provided attendees with a map of the manholes including proposed new manholes. Mr. Houston provided an overview of the map. I have asked Dean to look at the map and mark off areas that we will not work on.

The Town needs battery powered Generators in case of future power outages.

Mr. Houston explained that a couple of weeks were lost on design work for the ER/EID, but he is working on it to send to DEQ now. It was noted that the town would like to complete the sewer project at the same time that the water level is down for other projects. It was noted that the Town needs about 5 acres on the eastern side of the Hunt Property for the WWTP replacement project. ARPA does not cover land acquisition.

**Chimney Rock Updates:** No New Updates.

**II. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Patrick Bryant made a motion to recess the meeting until Friday morning at 10:00 am  
Commissioner David Diorio seconded, and they all voted in favor. Meeting ended at  
12:11pm.

Attest:

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Elba A. Willette, Town Clerk

  

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Carol C. Pritchett, Mayor