



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LAKE LURE MARINE COMMISSION HELD TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021, 4:00 P.M. AT THE LAKE LURE MUNICIPAL CENTER**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carol C. Pritchett  
Commissioner Patrick Bryant  
Commissioner David DiOrio  
Commissioner John Kilby  
Commissioner John W. Moore

William Morgan, Jr., Town Attorney  
Shannon Baldwin, Town Manager

**ABSENT:** N/A

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pritchett called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner John Moore made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner David DiOrio seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

**III. PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 21-07-13 AMENDING THE LAKE USE REGULATIONS**

Mayor Pritchett opened the public hearing and Parks, Recreation, and Lake Director Dean Givens provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Lake Use Regulations. The following public comments were made:

Chris Jackson, 194 Thomas Drive, expressed his support of the proposed resolution but suggested education be required for boaters on the Lake.

Commissioner John Moore made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Patrick Bryant seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 21-06-17 AMENDING THE LAKE USE REGULATIONS**

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Coordinator Dana Bradley provided an overview of the proposed resolution. Ms. Bradley noted that the Parks, Recreation, and Lake Department and the LAB recommended adopting the resolution excluding the 200' buffer restriction for wake surfing and recommended that staff recommends creating an education program for motorists on the Lake to ensure that the public understands the rules and regulations. Mr. Givens explained that the recommendation regarding ballast systems being used on the Lake would only be allowed for Lake Lure tax payers and not allowed for non-residents in order to reduce the amount of boats coming from outside areas to try and help the prevention of invasive species into the Lake. Town Manager Shannon Baldwin read proposed section 4.03 into the record regarding ballast systems. Attorney William Morgan stated that a penalty was also included for Section 3 of the proposed resolution that should be removed before adoption as well since Section 1 would not be considered for adoption today. The proposed resolution would be adopted excluding Sections 1 and 3.

Commissioner DiOrio noted that the NC Regulations recommends the 200' buffer for safety reasons and felt that those guidelines should remain in the resolution. He was in support of an education program for motorists.

Commissioner David DiOrio made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 21-07-13 excluding Sections 1 and 3. Commissioner John Kilby seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. REQUEST FROM WADE OPPLIGER FOR A BOAT PERMIT FOR A ROWING SHELL OVER THE 28' MAXIMUM LENGTH RESTRICTION**

Wade Oppliger, stated that he met with the LAB yesterday to discuss his request and they gave their approval for his request. He added that he would like to have the Commission's action in the record and available for future reference so he doesn't have to come back each year for approval. Mr. Oppliger requested that the Commission allow permission to permit his vessels for multiple years so he doesn't have to come before the Board every year to request approval. He noted that these are the same boats he's had permitted in the past. He explained that he is working to put together a concession agreement with the Town to present in the future.

Parks, Recreation, and Lake Director Dean Givens clarified that Mr. Oppliger will have four vessels that Mr. Oppliger is requesting approval for that are all over the 28' maximum limit. He's requesting multiple year permits so that he doesn't have to keep

**Page 3 - Minutes of the July 13, 2021 Special Marine Commission Meeting**

coming back each year. Commissioner Kilby explained that the LAB discussed the request at their meeting yesterday but did not discuss permitting for multiple years. The LAB discussed and unanimously agreed to recommend approval of Mr. Oppliger's request. Mr. Baldwin pointed out that this would be an exception to the existing regulations. If we don't place a limit we have approved an exception in perpetuity and Baldwin felt that a time frame should be set to be revisited in the future and Attorney Morgan agreed. Attorney Morgan suggested the Commission consider increasing the maximum length restriction on the Lake in the future. Mr. Givens suggested Mr. Oppliger make his requests annually during approval of the Lake Commercial Model each year in December and Mr. Oppliger agreed he was willing to do that. Mr. Givens did not feel there was a problem with the length of the rowing shells. He stated that there is no impact or issues from the length of his boats. Commissioner DiOrio suggested possibly considering a change to the Regulations to exempt rowing shells from the maximum length requirements. He asked that this be considered and presented to the Commission at a later time.

Commissioner Patrick Bryant made a motion to approve the request from Wade Oppliger for a boat permit for rowing shells over the 28' maximum length restriction for one year and a Concession Agreement to be created and presented to the Commission at a later time. Commissioner David DiOrio seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Commissioner John Kilby made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Commissioner David DiOrio seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Olivia Stewman,  
Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Carol C. Pritchett