

**Summary of Special Called Village Council Meeting  
November 4, 2024**

**The primary purpose of the meeting was to review and consider contracts for the immediate construction of and replacement of Water and Sewer system assets that will provide these services to the downtown business district and residences on the north side of the Rocky Broad River (Terrace Drive area).**

**Here also is a summary of reports from Council:**

- **PROCUREMENT PROCESS:** The Chimney Rock Village Council was brought up to date on the Standard Procurement Policies of the Village. The Village follows the NC Statutes when requesting bids and making significant purchases. It was noted that these were the policies that the Village had always followed but wanted to give notice that these were also followed during the State of Emergency where applicable.
- **WATER/SEWER SYSTEM:** J. Meliski, Village Engineer, presented two contracts for the Village Council to consider. These were to recognize changes in the prior project for updates and replacement of the sewer line with the restoration of both the Water and Sewer systems in the immediate downtown area. Currently, the Village has an allocation from the NC General Assembly for \$ 8,000,000 for the prior project and these documents will change this to allocate approximately \$ 1,300,000 for Water restoration, including new water meters, and \$ 6,700,000 for sewer construction. The Village has also requested some additional funds from various sources to complete this project and make emergency repairs. Village Council did consider and approved these two contracts so these projects can begin. No clear timeframe was announced but as soon as a construction timeline is determined, it will be posted.
- **NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATES:** Representatives from NC DoT were present to answer questions from the Council and the public. Here is the information and announcements:
  - **TRAFFIC:** There is too much traffic using the temporary road, especially west of the downtown area. This has become dangerous and is impeding the work of NC DoT. They have very large equipment and an accident has occurred, fortunately, with no injury. Therefore, there will be very limited to no traffic during construction hours.
  - **BEST TIMES FOR PROPERTY OWNERS:** The best time for access is when NC DoT is not working. They have agreed that they will not work Saturday's after 2 pm and Sunday. This will allow safest passage. There may be other times during the day, and these will be around lunchtime. Please be mindful and understand the danger and the effort made to allow private property owner access to their property.
  - **ROCKY BROAD RIVER/ US HIGHWAY 74A/64/9 (Main Street) :** The US Corp of Engineers, NC DoT and other agencies continue to study rivers pathways and as of this date, there is no final determination for the final location of the river or the permanent road/highway.
  - **SOUTHSIDE BRIDGE:** The work is continuing on the temporary bridge to Southside Drive. Once completed, The Village has arranged for Shields to clear as much debris as possible and Duke Energy will be restoring electrical power. The temporary bridge is scheduled to be completed later this week and the work in and around the community there will begin immediately. Property owners are requested to wait until it is announced that it is safe for entry. Please be patient and wait until

the bridge is completed, debris removal is cleared, and power is restored before going to your property.

- **Note: Before you can have Duke Energy activate your power, you will need to schedule with an electrician and make sure your property is not a danger when turning on the power. Rutherford County Building Inspection Department will have to come and approve your property before Duke Energy can activate individual properties.**
  - **Suggestion: You may consider beginning planning for this but wait to set a final date. When bridge and area is safe and open, the Village will be announced so you can proceed.**
- **TEMPORARY ROAD vs Permanent Road:** The representatives did share information about these two different roads. Currently, the temporary road is being constructed and will remain in place for Emergency Management purposes, private property owners and NC DoT. **This temporary road will NOT be open for public traffic.** There may be a later time when it could be used for additional limited traffic but that has not been determined. Planning and design are underway for the new road and there will be public input, including public hearings, so please stay alert for these meetings. The project for a permanent highway/road is on an accelerated schedule but will still take 2 or more years to complete. The temporary road will remain in use until such time as the new highway is completed and open.
- **RESIDENT AND PROPERTY OWNER VILLAGE GRANT RELIEF ASSISTANCE:** There was an announcement sharing that this program is available for any resident, employee who lost their job from one of the businesses in the Village, property owners who sustained losses. Grants will be provided in amounts of \$ 500, \$ 1,000, \$ 2,500 or \$ 5,000 based on their personal or business losses and immediate needs. Chimney Rock Village Council did approve grants in the amount of \$ 28,500 being paid to 7 applicants. These have agreed to share their stories, which are emotional and impactful. These will be posted on FACEBOOK, Chimney Rock Village NC.
  - **REQUEST FOR GRANTS:** Grant guidelines and procedures can be found online at [chimneyrockvillage.com](http://chimneyrockvillage.com). Applications are online or can be available at the Chimney Rock Volunteer Fire Department. Residents and property owners that incurred losses are encouraged to apply.