

Jeff Wenzel
Mayor

Pamala Hall
Mayor Pro-Tem

Greg Hines
Councilmember

Rena Bragg
Councilmember

Dexter Sholar
Councilmember

Tom Hedrick
Councilmember

Town of Holly Ridge

*Post Office Box 145
Holly Ridge, North Carolina 28445*

*Telephone (910) 329-7081
Fax (910) 329-1593*



Heather Reynolds, CMC
Town Manager

Tracy Martin
Deputy Town Clerk

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MAY 20th, 2020

There has been a lot of attention on the Holly Ridge Police Department warning and shutting down a local 24-hour gym, Snap Fitness. The police department was enforcing Governor Cooper's Executive order after receiving advice from the Onslow County District Attorney, Ernie Lee. The Executive Order states that gyms are not to be open during Phase 1. The officers are employed by the Town of Holly Ridge, and routinely reach out to the DA for guidance. Police officers are officers of the state and the DA represents the state at the local level.

The police department has been accused of using a police officer's personal old key card to access the building. This accusation is not true. Snap Fitness had previously given the Holly Ridge Police a key card. Since the Police Department had been given a key by the gym and was using it for police purposes, the DA states this is not trespassing. It should be noted that neither the owner of the gym or any patron received a citation.

The Town Council has and will continue to support the Holly Ridge Police Department in their discretion in following the advice of the district attorney.

The Town of Holly Ridge has not imposed any additional restrictions to the Governor's order. The Town Council of Holly Ridge adopted a resolution on 5.20.2020 asking the Governor to allow businesses to decide if they want to reopen with the Town's encouragement to follow CDC regulations and to encourage citizens to use their discretion on frequenting local businesses.

We pray that everyone remains safe and does what is right for themselves and their families. God bless.