



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 13, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Mayor Bill Feather, Mayor-elect Brittany Barnhardt, Mayor Pro Tem John Linker, Alderman Jim Costantino, Alderman Kim Cress, Alderman Doug Shelton

Staff: Town Manager Larry Smith, Town Clerk Aubrey Smith, Town Attorney Chip Short, Finance Officer Shelly Shockley, Fire Chief / Public Works Director Jason Hord, Police Chief Mark Cook, Town Planner Steve Blount

Call to Order: Mayor Feather called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence: Mayor Feather led a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Feather.

1. Approval of the Agenda

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to approve and follow the agenda as presented. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the Minutes

1) Regular Meeting Minutes November 8, 2021

B. Departmental Reports (*Reports in Board packet*)

C. Financial Reports (*Reports in Board packet*)

D. Certification of Fire Roster

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Alderman Cress seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

3. Citizen Comments

- Graham Young, 1207 Edgewater Court- spoke on behalf of the Timber Run Homeowners' Association on traffic flow in and out of the Timber Run subdivision. He handed out a prepared presentation that summarized their concerns. The HOA requested speed bumps or speed tables and included examples of options in the handout. The total cost was estimated to be around \$6,500.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Linker suggested addressing the issue in Board Comments.

4. Town Manager's Update

Manager Smith reviewed highlights from his report in the agenda packet including the proposed budget and planning calendar for the upcoming year. He requested feedback from the Board be sent to him.

Old Business

5. Ordinance 2021-18 Driveway Standards Text Amendment

Additional feedback from the engineer was received and is in the process of being reviewed. Staff requested that the item be continued until the January meeting.

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to continue this item until the January 2022 Board Meeting. Alderman Cress seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Organizational Business

6. Swearing in of Newly Elected Officials Rowan County Clerk of Court Jeffrey R. Barger

The oaths of office were administered by Jeffrey Barger, Rowan County Clerk of Court.

A. Brittany Barnhardt, Mayor

Mayor Feather stepped down and Mayor Barnhardt took over as presiding officer for the meeting.

B. Kim Cress, Alderman

C. John Linker, Alderman

Mayor Barnhardt recognized Alderman John Linker to present a plaque to Mayor Feather on behalf of the Board, staff, and citizens for his committed service.

7. Election of Mayor Pro-Tempore

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to elect John Linker as Mayor Pro-Tempore. Alderman Cress seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

8. Swearing in of Mayor Pro-Tempore Rowan County Clerk of Court Jeffrey R. Barger

The oath of office for Mayor Pro-Tempore John Linker was administered by Jeffrey Barger, Rowan County Clerk of Court.

By consensus the Board recessed the meeting for a brief reception at 7:17 p.m.

Mayor Barnhardt called the meeting back into order at 7:37 p.m.

9. Resolution 2021-18 Check Signatures

A resolution updating the signatures from the former Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem to the newly elected Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem was presented.

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-18 enacting updated town check signatures. Mayor Pro Tem Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

10. Appointment of Committee Representatives and Alternates

A. Transportation Advisory Committee, Cabarrus-Rowan MPO

B. Centralina (formerly CCOG) Board of Delegate Representatives

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to appoint Mayor Barnhardt as the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC representative and Alderman Costantino as the alternate representative. Alderman Cress seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to appoint Mayor Barnhardt to the Centralina Board of Delegates and Alderman Costantino as the alternate. Alderman Shelton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

New Business

11. Audit Presentation

Tony Brewer, CPA

Mr. Brewer addressed the Board regarding the FY20/21 Audit Report and reviewed an audit summary sheet that he handed out. Mr. Brewer shared highlights from the report including the following:

- The Town received an unqualified, or clean, opinion
- General Fund highlights:
 - Ad valorem tax collections were up ~ \$44,000
 - Unrestricted intergovernmental revenues were up ~ \$70,000
 - Overall total revenues were up ~ \$165,000, mainly due to receiving \$91,000 of COVID relief funds as well as increases in local option sales tax
 - Expenditures up \$200,000 mainly due to expenditures in PD, expenditures in the recreation department, and new debt payment for prior street improvements
 - For the year revenues were greater than expenditures by \$96,000 vs. a decrease of \$118,000 in 2020
 - \$336,000 operating transfer to capital projects that happened in 2020 compared to an \$86,000 transfer in 2021
- Capital Projects as of June 30, 2021
 - Town Hall and street projects were completed
 - Granite Lake Project stood at 12% complete
 - industrial development project was 87%
- Other noteworthy items:
 - Available or unassigned fund balance remains steady at 66%
 - Debt decreased \$100,000 due to principal payments
 - Collection rate above state average (average 96%, Town 98.2%)
- New requirements from the Local Government Commission:
 - Will no longer issue unit, or white, letters
 - Auditors are now required to report financial indicators of concern require notification
 - New requirement for governing body to submit response to indicators. Must be signed by majority of members and submitted within 60 days with plan to address areas of concern. The Town does not have to answer anything for FY20/21.

Alderman Shelton asked for clarification on responses to the audit findings. Mr. Brewer stated that LGC's website provided templates for the responses.

Mr. Brewer thanked Manager Smith and staff for making everything available and transparent for the audit.

12. Public Hearing

SB300 UDO Updates

Planner Blount referenced his memo in the agenda packet regarding updating language regarding criminal enforcement in the UDO.

Opened: Mayor Barnhardt opened the public hearing at 8:01 p.m.

Comments: None

Closed: Mayor Barnhardt closed the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Linker asked Attorney Short what choice the Board had. Attorney Short responded that the Board needed to do what Planner Blount was asking whether now or in the future if the Board wanted an ordinance to be criminally enforced. He restated that this was replacing the blanket statement that all ordinances could be charged as a misdemeanor with individualized statements for the criminal enforceability of specific applicable ordinances.

Statement of Consistency and Reasonableness:

In voting to adopt the proposed text amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance, the Granite Quarry Board of Aldermen does find this decision to be in the best interest of the public and to be consistent in general with policies stated in the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

ACTION: Alderman Costantino a motion to approve (*Ordinance 2021-19 to amend the text of the Unified Development Ordinance by updating language regarding criminal enforcement and approving the statement of consistency and reasonableness as written*). Mayor Pro Tem Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Linker thanked Planner Blount on behalf of the Board for his service and helping get the town ahead of the curve.

13. Ordinance 2021-20

SB300 Code of Ordinance Updates

Statement of Consistency and Reasonableness:

In voting to adopt the proposed text amendment to the Code of Ordinances, the Granite Quarry Board of Aldermen does find this decision to be in the best interest of the public and to be consistent in general with policies stated in the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

ACTION: Alderman Shelton made a motion to approve (*Ordinance 2021-20 to amend the text of the Code of Ordinances by updating language regarding criminal enforcement and approving the statement of consistency and reasonableness as written*). Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

14. Budget Amendment #5

Board Training

ACTION: Alderman Shelton made a motion to approve (*Budget Amendment #5 to decrease Governing Body – Board Contingency (01-4110-97) and increase Governing Body - Training (01-4110-31) by \$175.00 for additional training for Board members*). Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

15. Board Comments

- Mayor Pro Tem Linker asked Mr. Young, who represented Timber Run's Homeowners' Association, for more information regarding the issue raised during public comments.
 - Mr. Young provided background information on the issue.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Linker asked Attorney Short whether the Town assisting in the manner requested for a specific neighborhood would set a precedent. Attorney Short responded that the Board would not be legally bound, but it could become a political issue. He also cited a liability for the town with maintenance of the speed bumps.
 - Alderman Costantino asked whether traffic enforcement would help the issue.

- Alderman Shelton asked if there was any data on who was speeding and why. He stated a desire for more information on the source before work began on a solution.
- Mr. Young stated the Timber Run HOA would be willing to share the cost.
- Mayor Pro Tem Linker suggested beginning with a more visible police presence enforcing traffic laws.
- Manager Smith and Chief Cook will meet with Mr. Young tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.
- Alderman Costantino suggested changing the regular meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to change the regular meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Alderman Cress seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

16. Announcements and Date Reminders

A. Weekdays	December		Food Drive – Drop Off in Town Hall Lobby
B. Thursday	December 16	7:30 a.m.	Rowan Chamber Power in Partnership
C. Monday	December 20	5:00 p.m.	Parks, Events, and Recreation Committee
D. Monday	December 20	5:30 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment
E. Tuesday	December 21	3:30 p.m.	Revitalization Team
F. Thursday	December 23		Office Closed
G. Friday	December 24		Office Closed, Christmas Eve
H. Saturday	December 25		Christmas
I. Monday	December 27		Office Closed
J. Friday	December 31		Office Closed
K. Saturday	January 1		New Year’s Day
L. Monday	January 3	6:00 p.m.	Planning Board
M. Saturday	March 5		<i>Save the Date</i> – Volunteer & Staff Banquet

Adjournment

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Cress seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aubrey Smith

Town Clerk