



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 14, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

Present: Mayor Brittany Barnhardt, Mayor Pro Tem John Linker, Alderman Jim Costantino, Alderman Doug Shelton, Alderman Jeff Cannon

Staff: Town Manager Larry Smith, Town Clerk Aubrey Smith, Town Attorney Chip Short, Fire Chief / Public Works Director Jason Hord, Police Chief Mark Cook

Call to Order: Mayor Barnhardt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

1. Approval of the Agenda

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

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the Minutes

- 1) Special Meeting October 6, 2022
- 2) Regular Meeting October 10, 2022

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

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

D. Committee Appointment – Zoning Board of Adjustment

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

3. Citizen Comments – There were no citizen comments.

4. Town Manager's Update

Manager Smith shared updates from his report in the agenda packet including the change to the Waste Management route. Currently, the route for the full town is one day; Waste Management proposed moving to two days due to growth. All those affected will be contacted by Waste Management directly. Manager Smith shared that the newest contracted planner from N-Focus began the transition today.

Board members were advised that any questions regarding the audit report could be sent in before the next meeting. The audit presentation will be made at the December meeting. The statement that has appeared each year regarding a deficiency in the process due to the size of the town and the number of town staff was removed this year due to internal controls and measures put into place. The removal of the statement represents a huge accomplishment for the town.

Old Business

5. Adoption

Core Values

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to approve (*the final Strategic Goal-Setting document*). Mayor Pro Tem Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

6. Budget Amendment

Flail Mower

Manager Smith shared that last month the Board approved a budget amendment to purchase a flail mower. New information came to light indicating the purchase would not be eligible for Powell Bill funds. Staff requested a reversal of Budget Amendment #2 (approved at last meeting) by the adoption of Budget Amendment #2B.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to adopt Budget Amendment #2B as presented. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion failed 2-3 with Mayor Pro Tem Linker and Alderman Costantino in favor; Alderman Shelton and Alderman Cannon opposed; and Mayor Barnhardt voting in opposition to break the tie.

There was discussion regarding reversing BA #2 and making the purchase without moving funds.

ACTION: Alderman Shelton made a motion to reverse Budget Amendment #2 with the appropriation from the Powell Bill funds. Alderman Cannon seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

New Business

7. Approval

Longevity Pay

ACTION: Alderman Shelton made a motion to approve Longevity Pay as budgeted (*for FY22-23*). Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

8. Adoption

Fund Balance Policy

Manager Smith stated the proposed policy would give the manager and finance officer direction when preparing the budget each year. Board members stated they would like Finance Officer Shockley to provide input.

ACTION: Alderman Shelton made a motion to table until the December meeting when Finance Officer Shockley could be present. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

9. Budget Amendment

Goose Masters

Chief Hord addressed the Board and shared the various methods that had been tried in-house for goose deterrents. The proposed program was tried on a trial basis and found to be effective. Chief Hord shared that residents are split on their opinion of having geese at the park. Board members discussed their desire to find an alternative to the proposed program and all expressed a desire to have ducks at the park. Alderman Cannon shared that he had spoken with representatives from Carolina Waterfowl Rescue regarding goose deterrents and the necessity for an enclosure for the ducks for winter. By Board consensus, he will work with Chief Hord to determine options.

Introduction of New Officer (from Town Manager’s Update)

Mayor Barnhardt invited Chief Cook to introduce the newest police officer, Anastasiia Shumeiko. Officer Shumeiko began in October and is currently in the field training program.

10. Approval TAP Funding Request Application

Mayor Barnhardt introduced the opportunity for funding through the MPO and stated there would be a 20% match required of the town. The funding for this project is separate from the MPO’s discretionary funds.

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to approve (*Resolution 2022-10 in support of the application for Transportation Alternatives Program Funds*). Mayor Pro Tem Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

11. Approval Transformational Projects - Scope of Services

Manager Smith shared the updated summary handed out at the meeting with clarifications from Stewart regarding the scope of services.

There was Board discussion regarding using funds freed up by ARPA to pay for this. Board members also stated a desire to see a report showing how funds freed up by ARPA were being used on an ongoing basis. Manager Smith shared that would be shown on the Capital Project Ordinance.

ACTION: Alderman Shelton made a motion to approve the Scope of Services and funding sources for the Town’s Transformational Projects with Stewart as presented. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. Alderman Shelton amended his motion to stipulate the approval for the full amount of \$39,100 (*Tasks 1 & 2*). Alderman Costantino seconded the amendment. The amended motion passed 4-0.

12. Board Comments

- Mayor Barnhardt gave kudos to Manager Smith and staff for hard work on all the current projects.
- Alderman Shelton stated that he was disappointed and that he feels nothing tangible had been done at the parks. There was Board discussion on Alderman Shelton’s statement.

13. Announcements and Date Reminders

A.	Tuesday	November 15	3:30 p.m.	Revitalization Team
B.	Wednesday	November 16	5:30 p.m.	CRMPO TAC Meeting
C.	Thursday	November 17	7:30 a.m.	Power in Partnership Breakfast
D.	Monday	November 21	5:00 p.m.	Parks, Events and Recreation Committee
E.	Monday	November 21	5:30 p.m.	Zoning Board of Adjustment
F.	Thursday	November 24		Thanksgiving (Office Closed 24th & 25th)
G.	Saturday	December 3	2:00 p.m.	Christmas at the Lake
H.	Monday	December 5	6:00 p.m.	Planning Board
I.	Thursday	December 8	6:00 p.m.	Community Appearance Commission

14. Closed Session

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statutes Section 143-318.11(a)(5)(ii) to discuss other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to return to open session. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

There was no action taken in closed session.

Board Comments continued

- There was discussion regarding the volunteer and staff get-together that was formerly held at Christmas. PERC will discuss moving the gathering to a family event at the park in the spring.
- Mayor Barnhardt expressed a desire to have refreshments beginning at 5:00 p.m. before the December Board meeting and inviting staff to a meet and greet. No Board action was taken.
- Individual Board members discussed branded items like shirts and water bottles to be given away to Board members and staff. No Board action was taken.
- Mayor Barnhardt discussed the possibility of breakfast or snacks for staff as a token of appreciation. No Board action was taken.

Adjournment

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The meeting ended at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aubrey Smith

Town Clerk