



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 6, 2020
1:30 p.m.**

Present: Mayor Bill Feather, Mayor Pro Tem John Linker, Alderman Jim Costantino, Alderman Kim Cress, and Alderman Doug Shelton

Staff: Interim Town Manager Larry Smith, Interim Town Clerk Aubrey Smith, Fire Chief/Maintenance Supervisor Jason Hord, Police Investigator Todd Taylor, Finance Officer Shelly Shockley, and Town Planner Steve Blount

Other Attendees: NC League of Municipalities Representatives Heather James, Hartwell Wright, and Tom Anderson

Call to Order: Mayor Feather called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda:

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to follow the agenda as presented. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

2. Presentation on the Council-Manager Form of Government

An informal presentation was made by HR Consultant Heather James of the NC League of Municipalities with input from both her counterpart Hartwell Wright and the Director of Risk Management, Tom Anderson.

The presentation covered the manager's powers and duties as outlined in statute 160A-148 and the reporting structure for the town clerk. Ms. James stated that if the charter was silent on the reporting relationship for the clerk, the clerk automatically reports to the manager. Ms. James went on to state that the most recent Granite Quarry Charter was silent on this matter.

There was Board discussion regarding whether charter amendments clarified this reporting relationship and the legality of the documents. Ms. James deferred to the town attorney to determine the legality of the documents. Mr. Smith added that Town Attorney Chip Short confirmed that the 2003 legislation was meant to revise and consolidate the 1923 charter.

The Board asked questions regarding the Joint Police Authority (JPA) and to whom the chief should report. It was determined that in the absence of the agreement granting personnel authority, the chief reports to the manager. This was recognized as an item for future deliberation.

The Board asked Ms. James what the next steps should be. She encouraged working with the town attorney to first find out what the charter is and then, if there are amendments to be made, to go through a local legislator to take amendments to the general assembly. Mr. Wright added that the League has legal resources to help walk through the steps.

It was determined that July 2021 would be the next time new legislation could be submitted.

Mr. Wright suggested that during the review of the charter, it would be good to go through ordinances and repeal any that conflict, particularly any that have to do with personnel. He encouraged the manager to put together a proposal to replace all personnel policies and the Board to adopt by resolution instead of by ordinance.

Ms. James, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Anderson left the meeting at the conclusion of the presentation at 2:06 p.m.

3. Discussion of the Granite Quarry Charter, personnel policy, and job descriptions.

The Board determined that the next steps should be to review the reporting structure of the Town and JPA and to discuss a possible rewrite of the charter and personnel policy at a future meeting.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Linker made a motion to have a follow-up meeting on January 21, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Adjournment

ACTION: Alderman Costantino made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aubrey Smith
Interim Town Clerk