



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, September 3, 2019**

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

**Staff:** Interim Town Manager Larry Smith, Town Clerk/HR Officer Tanya Word, Town Planner Steve Blount, Fire Chief/Maintenance Supervisor Jason Hord, Finance Officer/Planning Coordinator/Events Administrator Shelly Shockley, Town Attorney Chip Short, Deputy Clerk/Finance/HR Analyst Aubrey Smith, Police Chief Mark Cook

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

**Moment of Silence:** Mayor Feather opened the meeting with a moment of silence.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Feather led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Approval of the Agenda:**

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

**2. Approval of the Consent Agenda:**

**a. Approval of the Minutes**

- Special Called Meeting Minutes - July 25, 2019
- Regular Board Minutes – August 5, 2019

**b. Departmental Reports**

- c. ~~Financial Reports~~** *pulled from Consent Agenda for additional discussion.*

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the Financial Reports removed. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

**3. Review and Discussion of Financial Reports**

There was discussion regarding this year's interest, how much remained on a loan and how that would affect borrowing for large projects.

#### **4. Citizen Comments**

- Doug Shelton of 135 N. Main Street in Granite Quarry spoke about policies, ordinances, sidewalks, subdivision planning and made a request of the Board of Aldermen for more effective communication to residents.
- Town Attorney Chip Short addressed the Board regarding a letter that had been submitted by Mike Brinkley with the request that it be read aloud at the meeting. Mr. Short advised that the Board not read the letter aloud to avoid the appearance of conflict but enter the letter into the record if they would like to do so.

The Board consensus was to enter the letter into record.

#### **5. Guests and Presentations-** There were no guest presentations.

#### **6. Town Events**

- **Family Fun Fest** – Saturday, October 19, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Civic Park

#### **7. Public Hearing to consider an incentive request from “Project Profile Trail”**

This item was continued from the August 5, 2019 meeting. There was a request to continue the Public Hearing until the October 7, 2019 meeting.

**ACTION:** Alderman Linker made a motion to continue the public hearing to the October 7, 2019 meeting. Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

#### **8. Town Manager’s Update**

##### **a. Town Goals Updates/ Town Developments**

Mr. Smith reviewed the progress of the Board’s major goals and projects. He stated that recodification of ordinances and the Byrd property plaque are behind target schedule.

#### **9. Old Business**

##### **a. Committee Updates**

- i. Parks and Recreation** – Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers updated the Board on the recent Adult Fish for Fun as well as the upcoming Kids Fish for Fun and Family Fun Fest. Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers also spoke about the improved condition of the parks and trails and thanked the maintenance staff for their efforts.
- ii.** Alderman Costantino and Mayor Feather spoke about the visit the Granite Quarry Elementary Fourth Graders made to Town Hall and the activities the students participated in including a mock Board meeting with the students filling roles of the Board.

## **New Business & Action Items**

- b. Salisbury Christian School** – Requested to obtain the old Town Hall sign via donation and repurpose it to meet their needs of communicating to parents and the community.

There was discussion regarding more than one request made for the sign and whether they knew that a frame would have to be built since the columns and base are still being used with the new sign at Town Hall. Mr. Smith mentioned that if the Town was inclined to donate the old sign the Civitans should be considered first since they donated toward the original sign. The request was made to table the decision until the next meeting for research on surplus laws and options.

**ACTION:** Alderman Costantino made a motion to table the item until the October 7, 2019 Board of Aldermen Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- c. One Church One Child Ministry** – Support was requested for the Rowan One Church One Child Ministry (ROCOC). ROCOC seeks to improve the lives of Rowan County children, teenagers, and birth parents currently receiving Child Protective or Foster Care Services from the Rowan County Department of Social Services (RCOSS).

There was discussion regarding whether a contribution had been made in the past. Mayor Feather suggested the Board consider budgeting next year specifically for these types of contributions for local organizations.

No action was taken on this item.

- d. Granite Quarry Civitan Club** – 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fiddlers Convention – Requested an Ad Sponsorship for the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fiddlers Convention. Prices are as follows:
- Guitar Sponsor - \$50.00 (Business Card size listing, 4 complimentary tickets)
  - Fiddle Sponsor - \$100.00 (Quarter-page advertisement, 6 complimentary tickets)
  - Banjo Sponsor - \$250.00 (Half-page advertisement, 8 complimentary tickets)
  - Mandolin Sponsor - \$500.00 (Acknowledgement at the convention, full-page advertisement in the program, 10 complimentary tickets)
  - Named Champion Award - \$1,000.00 (Acknowledgement at the convention, full-page advertisement in the program, organization name on the trophy, 15 complimentary tickets)

**ACTION:** Alderman Costantino made a motion authorizing the Finance Officer to issue a check in the amount of \$100.00 from account #01-4120-37 (Advertising) for Ad Sponsorship for the Granite Quarry Civitan Club – 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fiddlers Convention. Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- e. **RESOLUTION NO. 2019-18** A Resolution of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Granite Quarry, North Carolina, Authorizing the Town Manager to Enter into an Agreement with Landscape Architect Lynn Raker, PLA, ASLA.

This request came to the Board from the Revitalization Committee. There was discussion regarding what the cost would cover.

Doug Shelton, Chairman of the Revitalization Committee, was recognized by the Board and gave the background for the request. The Revitalization Committee recommended this specific landscape architect because of her experience with towns in the area. A professional opinion was sought because of the constraints the project faces. The deliverable would be three or four design concepts complete with cost estimates to present to the Board of Aldermen.

There was also discussion on whether there was money budgeted to complete the project once the design was presented and where the money for the design would come from. Mr. Smith stated that the design concept would be covered by Admin. Professional Services and could be used to estimate what should be set aside in the budget for the project in the next fiscal year.

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers made a motion authorizing the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Landscape Architect Lynn Raker, PLA, ASLA for the Town Square redesign project at a cost not to exceed \$3,500. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion failed with Alderman Linker and Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers in favor and Aldermen Cress, Costantino and Mayor Feather against.

Mayor Feather suggested this item be revisited at the December or January meeting so the new Board would have an opportunity to vote on it.

- f. **ORDINANCE NO. 2019-08** A Moratorium Prohibiting the Establishment and/or Expansion of Sweepstakes Cafes.

North Carolina General Statute 160A-174 provide cities in North Carolina the General Police Power to define, prohibit, regulate or abate conditions detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of its citizens to abate nuisances.

The Town of Granite Quarry and many other communities are experiencing an influx of Internet Cafes/Internet Sweepstakes Operations.

The Town of Granite Quarry's Table of Permissible Uses currently affords no definition for terms such as Internet Cafes or Internet Sweepstakes Operations.

**ACTION:** Alderman Linker made a motion to accept the Moratorium prohibiting the establishment and/or expansion of Sweepstakes Cafes. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

## 10. Board Comments

- Mayor Feather shared an update on the MPO projects including the bridge on North Main Street having a completion date of 11/8/2019 and construction on both bridges on St. Paul beginning 8/12/2020. He stated concern over the St. Paul bridge project occurring at the same time as the construction of the turn lane at Faith Road and Heilig Road which was delayed until the spring.
- Alderman Costantino stated that a stop light needed to be added at the intersection of Faith Road and Peeler Road.

**ACTION:** Alderman Costantino made a motion that a traffic study be requested for Faith Road and Byrd Road. Alderman Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

## 11. Mayor's Notes – Announcements and Date Reminders

- a. Planning Board Meeting – Monday, September 9, 5:30 p.m.
- b. Rowan Chamber Business After Hours – Monday, September 9, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Salisbury Motor Company, 700 West Innes Street.
- c. CCOG Executive Board Meeting – Wednesday, September 11, 6:00 p.m.
- d. Parks, Events and Recreation Committee Meeting – Monday, September 16, 5:00 p.m.
- e. Revitalization Team Meeting – Tuesday, September 17, 3:30 p.m.
- f. Power in Partnership Breakfast Series – Thursday, September 19, 7:30 a.m., Trinity Oaks
- g. Cabarrus-Rowan County MPO Meeting – Wednesday, September 25, 5:30 p.m.
- h. Granite Quarry Civitan Club – 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fiddlers Convention – Saturday, October 12, East Rowan High School
- i. Family Fun Fest – Saturday, October 19, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Civic Park

## 12. Closed Session

### Motion to Go into Closed Session

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statutes Section 143-318.11(a)(6) for the discussion of personnel matters, and N.C. General Statutes Section 143-318.11(a)(5) to establish and instruct staff on the material terms of a proposed agreement for the acquisition of town property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease of town property on behalf of the Town. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

### **Motion to Come Out of Closed Session**

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers made a motion to return to open session. Alderman Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

**There was no action taken during closed session, but there was Board consensus for the following:**

- Staff to move forward with due diligence including research for the property identified.
- Staff to have a real estate agent look at the Well House property to determine its worth.

### **13. Adjournment**

**ACTION:** Alderman Costantino made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Aubrey Smith*

Deputy Clerk/Finance/HR Analyst

I would like to take this opportunity to ask the Board to consider several items that have occurred in the last month.

The first item I think should be examined are the changes made to the zoning ordinance (UDO) as it pertains to electronic gaming. The changes made on June 4, 2018 do not reflect the views of the Board at the time the entire Zoning Ordinance was rewritten in 2016. I think anyone who studies the background of this original ordinance will understand what the Board was trying to accomplish. While the Planner used the threat of legal action as a reason, sometimes a Board must fight for what they think is right for the Town.

Secondly, I urge the Board to begin reviewing the subdivision ordinance in an effort to make existing residents more aware that changes are coming to their area. While I know that everything required by law is done by the Town, I think with a little more effort we can work to prevent problems such as the ones encountered during the administrative approval of a minor subdivision on Yadin St.

Finally, I request that copies of 2 memos sent to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment by the Town Planner be forwarded to me immediately. It has come to my attention that my name is mentioned several times and I am apparently the subject of these letters. Since these are public records I would like the opportunity to view these letters.

Thank you.

Mike Brinkley

