



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 9, 2025 6:00 p.m.**

Present: Mayor Brittany Barnhardt, Mayor Pro Tem Doug Shelton, Council Member John Linker, Council Member Laurie Mack, Council Member Rich Luhrs

Staff: Town Manager/Fire Chief Jason Hord; Town Clerk Aubrey Smith; Town Attorney Zachary Moretz; Finance Director Shelly Shockley; Police Chief Todd Taylor; Public Works Director Colton Fries; Office Assistant/Event Coordinator Debbie Loflin-Benge; Police Officer William Tyler Shultz; Police Officer Daniel Castillo

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: Council Member Linker made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the Minutes

- 1) Regular Meeting May 12, 2025
- 2) Strategic Planning Meeting May 20, 2025
- 3) Closed Session April 14, 2025 (*handout*)
- 4) Closed Session May 12, 2025 (*handout*)

B. Departmental Reports

C. Financial Reports

ACTION: Council Member Luhrs made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

3. Public Comments- There were no public comments.

4. Town Manager's Update

Manager Hord shared highlights from the Town Manager's report in the agenda packet including that Rowan Tourism had recently installed wayfinding signs and will be installing three additional signs by mid-July. The latest issue of the quarterly newsletter, The Quarrier, was just mailed out to residents. The Fire Department is continuing fire hydrant testing and maintenance. The Events Committee and Community Appearance Commission have combined meeting dates and will be meeting consecutively the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Planning Director is looking into potential

areas for water and sewer extensions discussed in previous planning sessions. Chief Taylor took possession of the two newest police vehicles. The Legion Building is undergoing electrical upgrades. Crews are working to replace rusted poles at the Lake Park. The street sign update project is nearly complete. An RFQ for on-call engineers was sent out and received a good response. The Town will retain four firms: Alley, Williams, Carmen, and King; KCI; McAdams Engineering; and Colliers Engineering.

Manager Hord updated the Council on discussions with the Town of Faith regarding contracted police services. After representatives from both towns met, a number was requested from Faith. It was relayed to Manager Hord that the Town of Faith would be willing to pay \$195,798 for one year of police services. He asked for and received consensus to move forward with that number to develop a contract. During discussion on the subject, council members stated a desire to see a more permanent solution or agreement reached before February of 2026 in order to plan for the new budget. The importance of being transparent about what specific services are being provided and what those services cost was restated. Finance Director Shockley confirmed the proposed budget would not need to be amended before being adopted; the adopted budget could be amended at a later date to reflect revenues not being as high as projected if necessary. Manager Hord stated the contract would come before the Council in July.

Manager Hord invited Chief Taylor to introduce two of his newest officers. Chief Taylor thanked the Council for the recent salary adjustments that have made the Police Department salaries more competitive and have already helped to attract more candidates. Mayor Barnhardt swore in full-time Police Officer William Tyler Shultz and part-time Police Officer Daniel Castillo. Chief Taylor spoke about the significance of the untarnished badge and administered the oath for both officers. He presented Officer Shultz and Officer Castillo with their badges, each pinned on by the officers' wives.

Recess

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Shelton made a motion for a quick recess. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was recessed at 6:18 p.m.

Mayor Barnhardt called the meeting back into session at 6:25 p.m.

5. Public Hearing

Ordinance 2025-01 Budget FY 25-26

A. Staff Summary

The Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 was presented to the Council at the regular meeting May 12, 2025. Manager Hord stated that no changes had been made since the proposed budget was presented. Mayor Barnhardt commended staff for being able to develop a budget to keep the tax rate at .44 per the Council's request.

B. Public Hearing

- 1) **Opened:** Mayor Barnhardt opened the public hearing at 6:27 p.m.
There were no comments from the public.
- 2) **Closed:** Mayor Barnhardt closed the public hearing at 6:27 p.m.

C. Council Discussion and Decision

Council Member Luhrs stated he believed everyone had worked very hard to prepare a proper budget and that was well thought out, addressed the needs of the community, and was fiscally prudent. The other council members voiced their agreement.

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to adopt Budget Ordinance 2025-01 for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 as presented. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

6. Public Hearing

Ordinance 2025-02 Schedule of Fees

A. Staff Summary

The updated Schedule of Fees was presented to the Council at the regular meeting May 12, 2025. Manager Hord stated the adjustments were well thought out with a focus on being competitive and in-line with surrounding communities. He pointed out specific changes including that the fee for off-duty police services was raised from \$35 to \$40 an hour.

B. Public Hearing

- 1) **Opened:** Mayor Barnhardt opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m.
There were no comments from the public.
- 2) **Closed:** Mayor Barnhardt closed the public hearing at 6:30 p.m.

C. Council Discussion and Decision

There was discussion on the reasoning behind specific fees including shelter reservations and copies. The shelters are currently rented on a half-day and full-day basis, which has been a successful change from the three time slots that were available in previous years. The shelter rates are comparable to others in the area. The parks and shelters are all public and open to everyone on a first-come, first-served basis but anyone desiring exclusivity is encouraged to make a reservation. There was also discussion regarding whether the fee for a fireworks permit opened the town to any liability. It was stated the town's ordinances and general statutes protect against that specific liability and that the firework permit could be granted by the town to the Fire Department for a specific event.

ACTION: Council Member Mack made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-02 to adopt the Schedule of Fees as presented. Council Member Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Old Business

7. Discussion

Disposal of Street Signs *cont.*

Manager Hord shared that since last month's discussion on the best way to dispose of the surplus street signs he was able to get more information from Jason Smith who has an online auction business and recommended auctioning the signs. Mayor Pro Tem Shelton stated he believed the signs should be disposed on a first-come, first-served basis for a nominal fee. Council Member Luhrs agreed. Manager Hord offered the possibility that the signs be sold at Granite Fest. Attorney Moretz suggested the possibility of donating the signs and letting an entity sell them and donate back the proceeds. Manager Hord stated he would take the comments from the Council under consideration and present a plan at a future meeting for the Council's consideration.

New Business

8. Street Acceptance

Village at Granite

Manager Hord invited Public Works Director Colton Fries to the podium to discuss the request for street acceptance. Director Fries stated a petition had been received from LGI for the town to accept the streets in the Village at Granite. He shared that the streets had been inspected and all issues had been addressed. Once the streets are accepted the new branded street signs could be installed. The streets total 1.09 miles. The streets, curb, gutter, signs, and any sidewalks would become town property once accepted.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Shelton made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-05 accepting additional streets into Granite Quarry's Municipal Roadway System for permanent maintenance to be included on 2025-26 Powell Bill. Council Member Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

9. Proclamation

Juneteenth

Mayor Barnhardt recognized the proclamation for Juneteenth.

10. Council Comments

- Mayor Barnhardt shared that she participated in her first Mayors Association meeting with the NC League of Municipalities and later in the month will participate in the retreat in Asheville. Mayor Barnhardt has been appointed to the Board of Directors. Council Member Luhrs pointed out that Mayor Barnhardt's energy level has been a great asset to the town.
- Council Member Linker asked about the timeline for the three projects that were presented at the strategic meeting in May. Manager Hord shared that they are all in the discussion/planning stage.
- Friday, June 13 there will be a Mayors Roundtable led by Steve Fisher. Mayor Pro Tem Shelton will not be able to attend. Council Member Luhrs volunteered to attend in his place.

11. Announcements and Date Reminders

A.	Wednesday	June 11	5:00 p.m.	Centralina Executive Board
B.	Wednesday	June 11	5:30 p.m.	Community Appearance Commission
C.	Wednesday	June 11	6:00 p.m.	Events Committee
D.	Wednesday	June 25	5:30 p.m.	CRMPO TAC
E.	Friday	July 4		Independence Day
F.	Monday	July 7	6:00 p.m.	Planning Board
G.	Monday	July 7	6:15 p.m.	Board of Adjustment
H.	Wednesday	July 9	5:30 p.m.	Community Appearance Commission
I.	Wednesday	July 9	6:00 p.m.	Events Committee

Adjournment

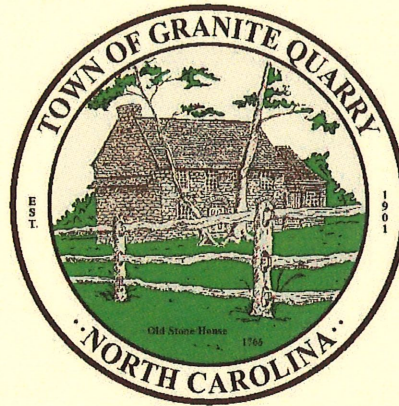
ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Shelton seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting ended at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aubrey Smith

Town Clerk

TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY NORTH CAROLINA



RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 (FY26)

PREPARED BY:
JASON HORD
TOWN MANAGER

May 12, 2025

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Town Manager's Budget Message FY 2025-2026

May 12, 2025

Mayor Brittany Barnhardt
Town Council
Town of Granite Quarry
143 N Salisbury Avenue
Granite Quarry, NC 28146

Honorable Mayor Barnhardt, Council Members, and community members of Granite Quarry:

I am pleased to present you with the following proposed FY26 budget. Over the past few years, the Council has consistently discussed its desire to not just maintain, but to enhance the Town's levels of service. This is accomplished by strategic planning sessions centered around town services, properties, and growth areas to ensure that Granite Quarry remains a great place to live, work, and visit through our core values.

Strategic Goals

During the Town's Planning Retreat on February 26, 2025, Department Heads shared strategic goal progress, previewed upcoming priorities, and identified necessary resource needs for the next fiscal year. At that time discussions were held around capital purchases of vehicles and equipment and the amount of surplus in the FY25 budget. In an effort to avoid a tax rate increase in FY26, Council asked the Town Manager to identify any of the capital purchases that could be purchased in the current budget.

Personnel

This fiscal year, we prioritized employee retention while strategically planning for responsible growth.

1. Personnel Pay, Salary & Benefit Comparisons and Classification/Compression Analysis

We conducted a very thorough study and analysis of both statewide and local government peer groups. Ultimately, we determined our annual grade scale market adjustments have kept the Administration and Public Works department salaries fairly competitive. Both public safety departments were addressed in this budget proposal with one-time market adjustments and pay grade changes in some cases, to assist in preventing compression. However, a comprehensive salary study will most likely be needed before the FY27 budget.

2. CPI/Market Adjustments and Merit Availability ("Performance Pay")

We predict that those adjustments - along with the proposed performance pay (and merit tied to performance measurements), insurance, and benefits - will keep us competitive on the compensation front. Given the fluctuating market conditions, we will keep an eye on any mid-year changes and conduct another thorough analysis next year.

3. Organizational Culture

Compensation keeps towns competitive. In the end, organizational culture keeps towns staffed. We continue to strive to make the Town of Granite Quarry a great place to work. We have listened to what our employees want and in the past year we have started employee appreciation events and the #GQSOLID award, recognizing an employee every quarter that demonstrates the Town's core values daily who has been nominated by their peers. We have also collected autobiographies from all employees for employee spotlights in our newsletters and social media.

Debt Service

The town financed a new fire engine in FY25 that has an anticipated delivery in FY28. The annual payment listed in this proposed budget is \$123,094 with a remaining balance of \$1,107,838, and a current anticipated payoff date of 7/1/2034.

Capital Needs

The Town has done a phenomenal job of maintaining facilities and equipment to minimize and prolong the need for repairs or replacements of capital assets. The capital vehicles and equipment that were slated by the departments to be included in the FY26 budget were purchased from a projected surplus in the FY25 budget. Each department is responsible for maintaining and updating a 5-year plan to address capital needs.

Tax Rate and Assessed Tax Base

The Town has struggled to offer its desired level of service and cover inflationary costs at such a low tax rate for a number of years. The margin between GQ and our comparable peer group municipalities, who *were* adjusting more with such costs, has grown. Ultimately GQ has remained the 3rd lowest tax rate among *all* units of local government within the County, and the lowest tax rate among our benchmark peer group.

Unit of Government	FY25 Tax Rate
East Spencer	0.86
Salisbury	0.665
Rowan County	0.58
Spencer*	0.605
China Grove*	0.56
Kannapolis (Rowan County)	0.5595
Rockwell	0.55
Landis**	0.49
<u>Granite Quarry*</u>	<u>0.44</u>
Faith	0.41
Cleveland	0.3936 (0.3 city + 0.0936 community fire rate)

* Benchmark "peer group" municipalities (by composition, budget, and/or population standards).

** As a city with electric utility, Landis is actually not in our peer group for some benchmarking standards but is illustrated in Table 1 as such by population and levels of general services.

Consequently, we often see existing resources stretched, difficulty in securing funding for proactive goals, and a growing reliance on fund balance for operations and essential projects.

While Table 1 in and of itself does not imply that Granite Quarry needs to be at the same tax rate as any particular municipality within our benchmark peer group, it does provide a good and simple illustration of the limitations behind these challenges. The Town Council and Administration are indeed on the same page about wanting to ensure that we *continue* offering the best possible services at the best value we can for the community we serve.

Executive Summary

This budget allocates funding to the areas with the highest priority as determined by this Administration and the Town Council. The Town is currently undertaking a large number of major, even transformational, projects and goals. As these projects and goals approach their launch, staff is actively pursuing funding through public-private partnerships and grants. The Town has recently contracted with a state lobbyist for the first time, who will work with the North Carolina General Assembly to obtain funding for our identified priority projects. Staff have worked very hard to develop, retain, and attract talented staff dedicated to our core values and continuous improvement.

The following is a more detailed overview of items funded by the departments.

Budget Overview

After careful consideration, the following budget recommendations represent Town Council goals, departmental input, and community needs within a tax rate of 44.00 cents per \$100 valuation. The total recommended budget is \$4,781,856.

General Fund:		\$ 4,781,856
Governing Body	\$ 151,348	
Contingency and Transfers	472,885	
Administration	784,059	
Police	1,183,449	
Fire	1,296,621	
Public Works	510,005	
Streets: Powell Bill	29,000	
Streets: Non-Powell Bill	62,950	
Parks and Recreation	72,104	
Environmental	183,936	
Events	35,500	
Total General Fund:		\$4,781,856

FY 2025-2026 Departmental Highlights

Governing Body: The recommended budget for Governing Body is \$151,348. It includes funding for the annual financial audit, increased attorney fees, additional training, and meetings. This also introduces a \$25 per meeting stipend for Planning Board members and, when business must be conducted, for Zoning Board of Adjustment members to aid in recruitment and retention.

Contingency and Transfers: The proposed budget for Contingency and Transfers is \$472,885. This includes a transfer of \$372,885 to the Transformational Project for Granite Civic Park improvements and \$100,000 in General Fund Contingency.

Administration: The proposed budget for Administration is \$784,059. This includes continuation of contracts for part-time code enforcement and planning services, funding to accomplish Governing Body communication/community engagement goals, increased bonding cost requirements for municipal finance officers, and increased interlocal agreement costs of tax collections. This also adds a PT Office Assistant that will allow our Community Engagement Coordinator to work with our community partners on merchant groups, events, and committees.

Police: The proposed budget for the Police Department is \$1,183,449. This includes continuing operational cost increases such as fuel, supplies, maintenance contracts, dues, and subscriptions. Full staffing and enhanced career development programs with police positions are part of the Town's priority goal strategy to increase police services including community policing initiatives.

Fire: The proposed budget for the Fire Department is \$1,296,621. This budget also accounts for ongoing increases in standard public safety supplies and operational costs. Furthermore, it includes funding for additional part-time firefighters. These personnel will serve as a fourth member on each shift and cover scheduled time off for full-time firefighters. This strategic move addresses the national decline in volunteer firefighters while proactively ensuring our ISO Class 1 rating. Maintaining this top rating not only reflects our commitment to the highest quality of public protection but also directly benefits our community through lower insurance rates. This also includes the debt service payment for the term of 10 years to replace the frontline fire engine.

Public Works: The proposed budget for Public Works is \$510,005. This includes funding for an additional FT Public Works Technician to enhance parks maintenance and supplement general public works quality efforts. Two additional sets of town banners and Christmas decorations are also included.

Streets – Powell Bill: The proposed budget for Powell Bill is \$29,000. This includes allocations for minor repairs. No large paving projects are scheduled in FY26 due to the limited state funding through the Powell Bill appropriations. To better assist with the ongoing street/sidewalk repair needs, a \$20.00 per year car fee will be assessed for all vehicles registered in the Town of Granite Quarry. These revenues will be placed into the street department and allocated for these specific needs.

Streets – Non-Powell Bill: The proposed budget for Non-Powell Bill Streets is \$62,950.00. This includes the utilities costs for Streetlights.

Parks and Recreation: The proposed budget for Parks and Recreation is \$72,104. This includes normal operational upkeep of parks and their facilities. The Transformational Project for Civic Park improvements is not included in these figures but instead is funded through a Capital Project Ordinance.

Events: To accommodate the increasing scale of our events, we've created a separate Events Department. Staff excels in obtaining sponsorships and donations which significantly reduces event expenses. The proposed budget for events is \$35,500 for FY26.

Environmental: The proposed budget for Environmental costs is \$183,936. The cost is addressed in the budget as a \$15.00 per month environmental fee, an increase from \$13.00 fee in FY 25.

The proposed General Fund budget is balanced with a tax rate of 44.00 cents per \$100 of valuation. Projected revenues and other funding sources are \$4,781,856 and projected expenditures are \$4,781,856.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Hord

Jason Hord
Town Manager



TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY, NORTH CAROLINA
Budget Ordinance No. 2025-01
Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY26)

**AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS AND THE RAISING OF REVENUE FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Granite Quarry, North Carolina that the following anticipated fund revenues and appropriations, certain fee and charge schedules, and with certain restrictions and authorizations, are hereby appropriated and approved for the operation of the Town Government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.

Section 1: General Fund

Anticipated Revenues

Ad Valorem Taxes	\$1,914,286
Unrestricted Intergovernmental	1,393,938
Restricted Intergovernmental	391,280
Permits and Fees	50,000
Sales and Services	242,000
Other General Revenues	224,591
Subtotal	4,216,095
Other Financing Sources and Uses	565,761
Total Anticipated Revenues	<u>\$4,781,856</u>

Authorized Appropriations By Department

Governing Body	\$151,348
Contingency and Transfers	472,885
Administration	784,059
Police	1,183,449
Fire	1,296,621
Public Works	510,005
Streets – Powell Bill	29,000
Streets – Non-Powell Bill	62,950
Parks and Recreation	72,104
Events	35,500
Environmental	183,936
Total Authorized Expenditures / Transfers	<u>\$4,781,856</u>

Section 2: Levy of Taxes

There is hereby levied for FY26 an Ad Valorem Tax Rate of 44.00 cents (\$0.44) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2025. This rate of tax is based on an estimated assessed valuation of **\$433,864,470** and an estimated collection rate of **99.0%**, yielding **\$1,914,286** in ad valorem tax revenues.

Section 3: Special Authorization - Budget Officer

- A. The Town Manager is hereby authorized to make any budget transfers as may be required within each department if the total appropriation for each fund does not change and contingency funds are not utilized to do so.
- B. Interfund transfers established in the Budget Ordinance or Capital Project Ordinances may be accomplished without additional approval from the Town Council.

Section 4: Restrictions - Budget Officer

- A. Interfund and interdepartmental transfer of money, except as noted in Sections 3 and 7, shall be accomplished by Town Council authorizations only.
- B. Utilization of appropriations contained in Contingencies and Appropriations from Fund Balance may be accomplished only with specific approval of the Town Council.

Section 5: Utilization of Budget Ordinance

This ordinance shall be the basis of the financial plan for the Town of Granite Quarry Municipal Government during FY26. The Town Manager shall administer the budget and ensure that operating officials are provided with guidance and sufficient details to implement their appropriate portion of the Budget.

The Administration Department shall establish and maintain all records in consonance with this Budget Ordinance and the appropriate Statutes of the State of North Carolina.

Section 6: Salary Adjustments

- A. For FY26, funding for the necessary salary and pay grade adjustments concluded from the Town Manager's annual pay and classification surveys analysis is authorized, effective July 1, 2025.
- B. A Market Adjustment of 2% will be available on July 1, 2025. Merit consideration of 0:3% will be available as part of performance pay consideration to classified employees at the time of their respective annual performance evaluations throughout the course of the year, if or as they merit according to the following schedule:

Performance Level	Market Adjustment	Merit Below Midpoint	Merit Above Midpoint
Does Not Meet Expectations	2.0%	No increase	No increase
Meets Expectations	2.0%	Up to 1.0%	No increase
Exceeds Expectations	2.0%	Up to 2.0%	Up to 2.0%
Exceptional	2.0%	Up to 3.0%	Up to 3.0%

C. Longevity pay authorization will be considered at the regular monthly meeting of the Town Council in November. Projected funding for longevity pay is according to the following schedule:

1. Currently active, full-time employees:

A. 6 months or more, less than 1 year	\$ 150
B. 1 year or more, less than 5 years	\$ 200
C. 5 years or more, less than 10 years	\$ 250
D. More than 10 years	\$ 300
2. Currently active, part-time employees:

A. Admin, PW, FD	If over 500 hrs., 1% of gross wages YTD up to \$200 maximum.
B. PD	If consistently reported when called, \$50 flat rate.
3. Currently active FD volunteers with over 30% calls \$ 100

Section 7: Re-appropriation of Funds Encumbered in FY25

Appropriations hereinabove authorized and made shall have the amounts of the unearned portion of contracts on June 30, 2025, added to each appropriation as it applied in order to properly account for payment against the fiscal year in which it is paid.

Section 8: Project Ordinances

A. FEMA Granite Lake Repairs Project GPO 2020-04

1. This Grant Project Ordinance was adopted in 2020 to repair damages sustained by Hurricanes Florence and Michael to Granite Lake Park, funded by federal and non-federal funds. The project has reached completion. Reimbursement processing is underway.

2. The following amounts were approved and expended to date for the project:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Engineering Services	\$ 174,250	\$ 171,169
Construction Costs	547,619	503,524
Contingency (10%)	46,512	0
Total Appropriations	<u>\$ 768,381</u>	<u>\$ 674,693</u>

3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete the project:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>To Date</u>
FEMA Grant	\$ 576,286	\$ 506,020
NCDEM Grant	192,095	168,673
Total Anticipated Revenues	<u>\$ 768,381</u>	<u>\$ 674,693</u>

B. Transformational Project CPO 2023-01

1. This Capital Project Ordinance was adopted in 2023. In Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 the Town received \$959,916.71 through American Rescue Plan Act funding, which it elected to expend under the standard allowance for the provision of government services authorized by 31 CFR Part 35.6(d)(1). While this amount was specifically used to reimburse the Town for qualifying salaries during the pandemic, Town Council chose to use this same amount of funds as the basis for Transformational Projects it wishes to see achieved within the Town limits. The primary focus of this project to date is improvements to the Granite Civic Park.

2. The following amounts were approved and expended to date for the project:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Civic Park Improvements	\$ 1,355,595	\$ 419,565
Transfer to TAP Project Fund	110,000	40,840
Contingency	14,322	-
Total Appropriations	\$ 1,479,917	\$ 460,405

3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete the project:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Transfer from General Fund	\$ 959,917	\$ 460,405
PARTF Grant	500,000	-
Woodson Foundation Grant	20,000	-
Total Anticipated Revenues	\$ 768,381	\$ 460,405

C. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Project CPO 2023-03

1. This Capital Project Ordinance, adopted in 2023, is for acquisition, design, engineering, and construction of a pedestrian sidewalk connecting Granite Lake Park and Granite Civic Park. The project has been applied for under the Transportation Alternatives Program, which will reimburse the Town 80% of the project cost.

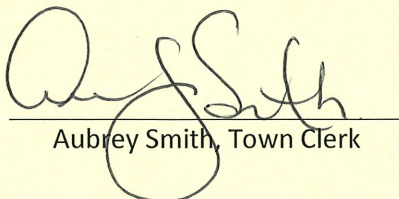
2. The following amounts were approved and expended to date for the project:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Administrative, Engineer, or Architect Fees	\$ 75,000	\$ 74,796
Construction Costs	452,500	-
Contingency	22,500	-
Total Appropriations	\$ 550,000	\$ 74,796

3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete the project:

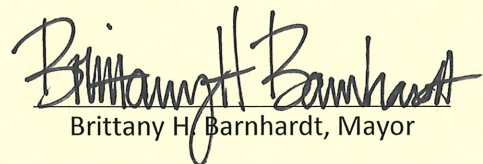
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Transfer from Transformational Project CPO 2023-01	\$ 110,000	\$ 40,840
Transportation Alternative Programs	440,000	50,861
Total Anticipated Revenues	\$ 550,000	\$ 91,701

Copies of this ordinance, the Town Manager's budget message, and the accompanying attachment shall be maintained in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Granite Quarry and shall be made available for public inspection.


Aubrey Smith, Town Clerk

Adopted June 9th, 2025




Brittany H. Barnhardt, Mayor

Revenue Assumptions for FY 2025-2026 Budget

Ad Valorem Taxes

Property Taxes. Property tax values are provided by the Rowan County Tax Assessor's Office. Once expenditures and all other General Fund revenues were projected, the amount necessary to balance the budget was calculated. Using that figure as the target, a property tax rate applied to the assessed valuation was calculated that would result in that amount of revenue being generated. An uncollectable rate of 1.00% was factored in the calculations.

Tax Penalties and Interest. Based on historical trends.

Prior Year Taxes. Based on historical trends, economic forecasts, anticipated continuation of collection percentages, and adjusted by the size of the 2024 property tax receivable balance projected as of June 30, 2025.

Unrestricted Intergovernmental

Local Option Sales Tax. Based on estimates provided by the North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM), historical trends, State legislative changes, local conditions, and economic forecasts.

Solid Waste Disposal. Based on forecast projections and health trends of the construction sector. The State levies a \$2/ton "tipping tax" on municipal solid waste and construction / demolition materials deposited in all NC landfills (and/or passing through transfer stations for any out of state disposal). It applies proceeds to different programs and then distributes 18.75% of the proceeds back to municipalities and counties on a per capita basis.

Beer & Wine Tax. Based on national market research forecast projections of beer and wine sales, compared against state distribution formulas. These sales taxes are distributed from the NC Department of Revenue to municipalities based on population.

Utility Franchises. Based on estimates provided by the NCLM and historical trends of both distributions and auditing adjustment amounts. This category includes Electricity, Piped Natural Gas, Telecommunications, and Video Programming Franchise Taxes & Fees. Underlying factors such as policy changes, energy prices, weather, and changing technologies cause growth or decline in these revenues to swing dramatically in any given year.

Restricted Intergovernmental Revenues

Powell Bill Revenues. Based on estimates provided by the NCLM and the Office of State Budget and Management.

Granite Quarry-Faith Police Revenues. Granite Quarry provides police services to the Town of Faith through an interlocal agreement between the two towns. The adopted FY26 payment amount for those services is \$225,000.00

Permits and Fees

Local Revenues. Based on historical trends, economic forecasts, and known growth and development plans in queue within Town limits.

Sales and Services

Solid Waste/Recycling Collection. Based on the recommended environmental fee of \$15 per month per household and the anticipated collection rate through Salisbury-Rowan Utilities' (SRU) billing department.

Other General Revenues

Local Revenues. Based on fee schedule, and historic and current trends.

Investments Interest. Based on estimated cash balances & interest rate projections.

Surplus Items. Based on anticipated surplus items and their estimated market value

FY 2025-2026 Salary Schedule							
Classification Title	Grade	# Position	Hiring Rate	Minimum	Mid- Point	Maximum	Notes
Town Clerk	19	1	61,312	64,378	78,173	95,034	
Finance Director	21	1	67,597	70,977	86,186	104,775	
Community Engagement Coord.	9	1	37,639	39,521	47,990	58,340	New position for 25/26
Public Works Director	20	1	64,378	67,597	82,082	99,786	
Public Works Assistant Director	16	1	52,963	55,611	67,528	82,093	
Public Works Technician	6	2	32,514	34,140	41,456	50,397	adding 1 for FY26
Police Chief	26	1	86,273	90,587	109,998	133,723	Grade 23 to 26
Police Investigator	17	1	55,611	58,392	70,904	86,197	Grade 16 to 17
Police Sergeant	17	2	55,611	58,392	70,904	86,197	Grade 16 to 17
Police Officer	15	6	50,441	52,963	64,313	78,184	Grade 13 to 15
Fire Captain	17	3	55,611	58,392	70,904	86,197	Grade 15 to 17
Fire Engineer	14	3	48,039	50,441	61,250	74,460	Grade 13 to 14
Firefighter	11	3	41,497	43,572	52,909	64,320	

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR THE TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY

WHEREAS, the Town of Granite Quarry is authorized by North Carolina General Statute § 160A-314 to establish fees for services rendered by municipal departments; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and in the public interest to establish and adopt a comprehensive schedule of fees to be charged by various municipal departments for services, permits, licenses, inspections, and other municipal functions; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Granite Quarry has determined that the adoption of such a schedule of fees is necessary for the efficient and effective operation of municipal government, to ensure the fair allocation of costs for services, and to provide transparency and accountability in municipal finances.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY, NORTH CAROLINA:**

Section 1. Adoption of Schedule of Fees

The schedule of fees, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby adopted and shall be the official schedule of fees for the Town of Granite Quarry.

Section 2. Fee Structure and Categories

The Schedule of Fees includes but is not limited to the following categories:

- Permit and Service Fees
- Infrastructure and Equipment Fees
- Public Safety Fees
- Administrative and Miscellaneous Fees

Section 3. Payment of Fees

All fees, charges, and assessments listed in the Schedule of Fees shall be payable to the Municipality in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth by the respective departments and as otherwise set forth in the applicable laws and regulations.

Section 4. Collection of Fees

The Town of Granite Quarry Finance Department or other designated department shall be responsible for the collection of all fees and charges established under this ordinance, and such fees shall be paid in the manner and within the timeframes established by the Town.

Section 5. Adjustments to Fees

The Town Council may from time to time, by resolution, modify the Schedule of Fees. All such adjustments shall be made in accordance with applicable law, and notice of such modifications shall be provided to the public in a manner deemed appropriate by the Town Council.

Section 6. Severability

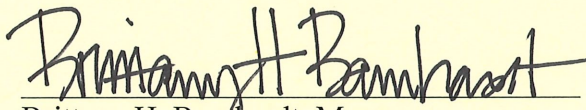
If any provision of this ordinance or the Schedule of Fees is determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 7. Effective Date


This ordinance shall take effect on July 1, 2025 upon adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Granite Quarry, North Carolina.

Adopted this 9th day of June, 2025.




Brittany H. Barnhardt, Mayor

ATTEST:


Aubrey Smith, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

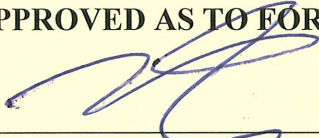

Zachary Moretz, Town Attorney

EXHIBIT A
SCHEDULE OF FEES

**FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY**

BUILDING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES			
Building Type	Rental Times and Description	Rental Fee	
		Residents	Non-Residents
Park Shelter or Gazebo	Half Day (6 hours) 8am-2pm OR 2pm-8pm	\$40	\$60
	Full Day (12 Hours) 8am-8pm	\$75	\$100
Civic: Kitchen	Kitchen rental	\$15	\$50
	Kitchen key deposit	\$25	
Civic: Ball Field	Up to 2 hours	\$10	
Civic: Tennis Courts	Up to 2 hours	\$10	
Legion Building	Half Day (7 hours)	\$100	\$250
	Full Day (14 Hours) 8am-10pm	\$150	\$350
	Rental deposit	\$150	
Legion Building: Civic Group or Church	Half Day (7 hours)	\$50	\$150
	Full Day (14 Hours) 8am-10pm	\$75	\$200
	Rental deposit (no discount)	\$150	
	Grill Fryer Deposit	\$150	
ADMINISTRATIVE FEES			
Item Description		Fees	
Copies and Faxes		\$0.25 per page	
Plotted Maps, other oversized or specialized documents		Production cost	
Environmental Fee (resident and non-dumpster commercial)		\$15 per month	
Returned Check Fee		\$35	
FIRE DEPARTMENT FEES			
Fireworks Permit		\$130	
Fire Reports		\$5 per report	
POLICE DEPARTMENT FEES			
Peddler Permit		\$100 per person	
Police off-duty services (entity pays the officer directly)		\$40 per hour, 3 hour minimum	
Police Reports		\$5 per report	
Golf cart registration		\$10 per cart	
Golf cart violation		\$150 per violation	
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FEES (including Town abatements)			
Heavy equipment / tractors		\$250 per hour with operator	
Light equipment		\$150 per hour with operator	
Brush pickup, second load for residents		\$65 per load	
Mulch (Subject to availability as determined by Director. Call Town Hall for scheduling.)		\$10 per bucket (GQ residents)	
		\$20 per bucket (Non-residents)	
OTHER FEES			
Memorial Bricks		\$50 each 4"x 8"	
		\$75 each 8"x 8"	
Food Vendor		\$50	
Craft or Sales Vendor		\$25 per 10x10 booth	

EXHIBIT A
SCHEDULE OF FEES

SCHEDULE OF FEES PLANNING, ZONING, AND SUBDIVISION FEES		
Item	Description	Fee
Subdivision <i>(If a third submittal is required an additional review fee will be charged)</i>	Exemption/Recombination Plat	\$65
	Sketch Plat Review	\$140 (1 acre or less) \$280 + \$12 per dwelling unit (over 1 acre)
	Minor Subdivision Final Plat Review	\$100 per map sheet
	Major Preliminary Plat Review - less than 24 lots	\$750
	Major Preliminary Plat Review - 24 or more lots	\$3,000 + \$60 per lot over 32
	Preliminary Plat - Minor Revision	\$300
	Preliminary Plat - Major Revision	\$900
	Final Plat Review	\$350 per map sheet
	Performance Guarantee Review	\$6,300
	<i>(Letter of Credit, Bond, etc. Also applies to revisions, replacements, and partial release requests)</i>	
GQDO Amendments	Text Amendment	\$500 + \$195 advertising charge
	Map Amendment	\$2,300 + \$195 advertising charge
GQDO Permits	Single, Two-Family structures, Mobile Homes	\$125 + \$65 for permits subject to design review
	Single Family attached / multi-family <i>(condo, apartments, townhomes, etc.)</i>	\$125 + \$65 per unit
	Residential Addition / Accessory Structures / Driveways	\$75
	Fences	\$10
	Home Occupation	\$75
	Non-residential	\$125+ Site Development Plan review fee if applicable
	Temporary Construction Trailers	\$100
	Temporary Use Permits (When Required)	\$80
	Special Use Permit	\$2,000 + \$195 advertising charge and +Site Development Plan Review Fees below
	Zoning Verification Letter for Institutional Requests	\$175
	Certificate of Non-Conformity Adjustment	\$80
Sign Permits	<i>(when obtained separately from primary development permits)</i>	
	Permanent Sign	\$125
	Outdoor Advertising Sign (Billboard)	\$375
	Temporary Sign	\$25
Site Development Plan Review	Sketch Review & Pre-application	\$280 + \$12 per dwelling unit per session
	Site Development Plan Review <i>(If a third submittal is required an additional review fee will be charged)</i>	\$425 + \$50 per acre
	Site Development Plan Review Fees shall apply to the extent of any revisions made to plans previously reviewed or approved.	
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Variance	\$400
	Appeal of Zoning Administrator Decision/ Interpretation Request	\$400 <i>(refunded if overturned)</i>
	Special Use Permit	See GQDO Permits
No Permit Issued	Where construction begins without the appropriate permits in place, the permit cost shall be doubled	

EXHIBIT A
SCHEDULE OF FEES

**Constructional Plan Review and Construction Administration Fee
Schedule for Major Subdivisions and Site Development Plan Projects**

Construction Plan Review (Site and Infrastructure Only)

Fee

Streets (public and/or private)	\$4.25 per linear foot of street centerline
Parking/Loading Areas (including access drives)	\$0.15 per square foot
Storm Drainage	\$1.95 per linear foot of street centerline
Water Lines	\$1.25 per linear foot of pipe
Sewer Lines	\$1.45 per linear foot of pipe
Stormwater Quality and/or Stormwater Detention Facilities in ROW	\$900.00 per BMP

If a third submittal is required, an additional review fee will be charged.

Site Development Plan Review Fees shall apply to the extent of any revisions made to plans previously reviewed or approved.

Construction Administration

Fee

Streets (public and/or private)	\$4.75 per linear foot of street centerline
Parking/Loading Areas (Including access drives)	\$0.30 per square foot
Storm Drainage	\$2.00 per linear foot of street centerline
Water Lines	\$1.45 per linear foot of pipe
Sewer Lines	\$1.65 per linear foot of pipe
Stormwater Quality and/or Stormwater Detention Facilities in ROW	\$1,150 per phase and/or sub-area

RESOLUTION 2025-05

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING ADDITIONAL STREETS INTO TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY'S MUNICIPAL ROADWAY SYSTEM FOR PERMANENT MAINTENANCE

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Granite Quarry, under articles §136-66.10, §160A-296 and §160D of the North Carolina General Statutes, and under Article 16, Section 16.1-8 of the Granite Quarry Development Ordinance, seeks to adopt specific additional streets into the Town's Transportation Roadway System; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended by the Town of Granite Quarry's Planning, Zoning, and Subdivision Administrator, and the Town of Granite Quarry's Engineer, that specific additional streets, meeting specifications and criteria as described in Article 16 of the Granite Quarry Development Ordinance, be accepted into the Town's Roadway Transportation System; and

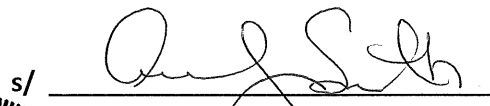
WHEREAS the following specific streets are offered for acceptance into the Town of Granite Quarry's Transportation System for permanent maintenance:

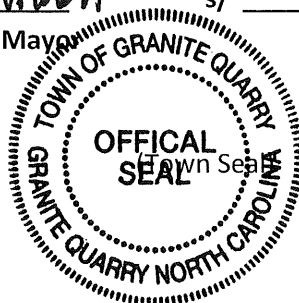
Road Name and Length

- *Limestone Terrace - from Faith Road to Waterstone Drive - 998 total feet in length*
- *Winding Creek Road - from Limestone Terrace to the end of the street at the Phase 1 limits - 1998 total feet in length*
- *Waterstone Drive - from Winding Creek Road to the end of the street at the northern end of the subdivision - 1409 total feet in length*
- *Standing Oak Drive - from Waterstone Drive to the end of the street at the northern end of the subdivision - 978 total feet in length*
- *Trail Wood Court - from Standing Oak Drive to the cul-de-sac - 250 total feet in length*
- *Ramses Run - from Standing Oak Drive to the cul-de-sac - 105 total feet in length*

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town Council of the Town of Granite Quarry accepts permanent maintenance of the above referenced streets and adopts them into its Transportation Roadway System by Resolution.

s/ 
Brittany H. Barnhardt, Mayor

s/ 
Aubrey Smith, Town Clerk



Proclamation

JUNETEENTH 2025

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation effective January 1, 1863 stating that, “slaves within any State, or designated part of a State...in rebellion,...shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.”; and

WHEREAS, after almost three more years of conflict and loss, the end of the Civil War and the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution ended the sanctioned institution of slavery; and

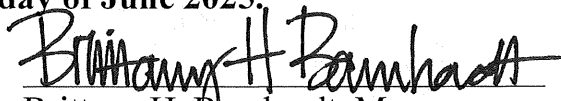
WHEREAS, the news of freedom spread gradually throughout the nation and on June 19, 1865, Union Soldiers, led by General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas and issued General Order No. 3 announcing freedom to some of the last enslaved people in America; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth (June 19), also called Emancipation Day or Juneteenth Independence Day, became a state holiday in Texas in 1980 with a number of other states subsequently following suit; in 2021 Juneteenth was made a federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States.


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brittany H. Barnhardt, Mayor of the Town of Granite Quarry, on behalf of the Town Council and the residents of Granite Quarry do hereby recognize June 19, 2025 as Juneteenth and encourage our residents to become aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American History and in the heritage of our nation and Town.

ADOPTED this 9th day of June 2025.




Brittany H. Barnhardt, Mayor

ATTEST:


Aubrey Smith, Town Clerk