



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING MINUTES  
February 6, 2017**

**Present:** Mayor Bill Feather, Mayor Pro Tem Mike Brinkley, Alderman Jim Costantino, Alderman Jim LaFevers, and Alderman Arin Wilhelm

**Staff:** Mr. Phil Conrad – Town Manager, Ms. Barbie Blackwell – Town Clerk/HR Officer, Mr. Scott Stewart – Deputy Clerk/Finance/HR Analyst, Mr. Jim Philyaw – Finance Officer, Mr. Dale Brown – Fire Chief

**Guests:** Mr. Chip Short, Mr. Mark Wineka, Mr. Craig Lamb, Ms. Ann Morris, Rev. David Trexler, Mr. David Earnhardt

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

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

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Zach Huddleston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

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

**Approval of the Consent Agenda:**

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

**Citizen Comments:**

Mayor Feather opened the floor for citizen comments. There were no comments made.

**Guests and Presentations:**

Mr. Craig Lamb of Rowan Cabarrus Community College presented “Better Jobs for Better Lives in Rowan County”. RCCC is working to partner with the community on assisting unemployed and underemployed people to improve their employment status. Mr. Lamb explained that they are following the “R3” system; which consists of refocusing, retraining, and reemployment. The focus is on training opportunities that can be completed in three months.

Mayor Feather asked Mr. Lamb what the Town could do to support the initiative. Mr. Lamb stated “The greatest support would be to share that the program is available to assist people hoping to improve their employment, even if they are currently working.”

**Town Manager’s Update:**

- a. Town Hall LED Lighting:

Mr. Conrad explained that the LED lights were part of Duke Energy’s Energy Saving Program. A subcontractor for Duke Energy has completed the work changing the fluorescent light

fixtures to LED at a cost of \$5,200 to the Town after savings from the program. The utility savings estimated by Duke Energy projected a return exceeding that cost within 9 months. Mayor Feather added that the new light fixtures could continue service after any future building remodeling.

- b. Mr. Conrad stated that the final payment for the Brookwood Culvert has been made. Mayor Feather added that with that project completed, the Town can focus on street paving projects, using approximately \$200,000 of available Powell funds.

### **Old Business**

There were no items to review.

### **New Business & Action Items:**

- a. The contract from Benchmark Planning was reviewed. These services include planning and zoning, Planning Board meetings, and Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) meetings. Alderman Costantino asked "How will services be communicated to citizens now?" Ms. Blackwell explained that Susan Closer would be in the office on a part-time basis to answer questions and communicate with citizens as needed.

**ACTION:** Alderman LaFevers made a motion to approve the contract with Benchmark Planning. Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- b. The contract with South Salisbury Fire Department and Granite Quarry to provide a Fire District Tax Service and Revenue particularly for the area around Heilig Road and the Industrial Park area was presented by Town staff. Under this contract, the South Salisbury Fire Department would be the initial responder and would receive funds from taxes collected from annexed properties. Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley requested that the word "jointly" be added to paragraph three for clarification.

**ACTION:** Alderman Wilhelm made a motion to approve the contract including the word "jointly" as described. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- c. The Board discussed Budget Amendment #6, to transfer funds of \$25,718 from Fund Balance Appropriated to the Police Department Capital Auto fund for the purchase of a new vehicle and equipment.

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley made a motion to approve the transfer of these funds for the purchase of a new vehicle and equipment. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- d. The Board discussed Budget Amendment #7 to transfer \$15,161 from the Fund Balance Appropriated to the Fire Department Capital Equipment fund for purchase of Air Packs. These are funds remaining from the 2015-16 fiscal year.

**ACTION:** Alderman LaFevers made a motion to approve the transfer of these funds for the purchase Air Packs. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- e. The Board reviewed the proposal from Spirit Communications for a new phone system. These are VoIP phones and would not take much time to switch over. The proposal will be discussed further at the March 6, 2017 Board Meeting.

**Mayor's Notes:**

- The Town is accepting applications from citizens to join a Street Light Committee to review policies related to lighting in subdivisions. There is a variety of lighting throughout the town. This committee will review policies about current lighting and make suggestions.
- Mayor Feather presented the calendar of events and announcements as a reminder.

**Mayor's Action:**

- Reverend David Trexler volunteered to join the Planning Board. He has a volunteer history including service as an Alderman in East Spencer, a local hospice house, preaching at retirement homes, and assisting at Rowan Helping Ministry.

**ACTION:** Alderman LaFevers made a motion to appoint Reverend Trexler to the Planning Board. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion was passed with all in favor.

- Mr. Rob Miller, Branch Manager of F&M bank, volunteered to join the Revitalization Team. He has been involved with the YMCA, the Rotary Club, and Meals on Wheels.

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley made a motion to appoint Mr. Rob Miller to the Revitalization Team. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion was passed with all in favor.

- Mayor Feather presented a proclamation to recognize February as Black History Month in the Town of Granite Quarry.

**ACTION:** Alderman Wilhelm made a motion to proclaim February as Black History Month. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- Mayor Feather swore in Jeffrey Scott Stewart to the office as Deputy Clerk / Finance / Human Resources Analyst.

- A public hearing was set for March 6, 2017 to hear public comments on the permitted use table of the UDO regarding terminology for retail sales of alcoholic beverages.

**ACTION:** Alderman LaFevers made a motion to set the hearing for March 6, 2017. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion was passed with all in favor.

a. **Closed Session:**

**A motion is needed as follows: To go into closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statute Section 143-318.11.A.5.6 personnel and property issues.**

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley made a motion to go into closed session at 8:00 pm pursuant to N.C. General Statute Section 143-318.11.A.5.6 for personnel and property issues. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

**A motion is needed as follows: To come out of closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statute Section 143-318.11.A.5.6 personnel and property issues. The Board takes the following action (if any).**

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley made a motion to come out of closed session at 8:36 pm pursuant to N.C. General Statute Section 143-318.11.A.5.6 and the Board took no action. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Alderman Wilhelm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Scott Stewart*

Scott Stewart

Deputy Clerk / Finance / HR Analyst