



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING MINUTES
August 7, 2017**

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

Staff: Mr. Phil Conrad – Town Manager, Mr. Scott Stewart – Deputy Clerk/Finance/HR Analyst, Mr. Jim Philyaw – Finance Officer, Mr. Dale Brown – Fire Chief, Mr. Jason Hord – Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. Mark Cook – Police Chief, Mr. Steve Blount – Town Planner, Mr. Travis Barnhardt – Fire Fighter, Mr. Graham Corriher – Town Attorney, and Ms. Shelly Shockley – Office Assistant

Guests: Mr. Doug Shelton, Mr. Ed Shell, Mrs. Sandra Shell, Mr. Mark Wineka, Mr. Robert Anderson, Mr. John Linker, Mr. Zach Huddleston, Mr. Rick Lanier, Mr. Wes Rhinier, Ms. Mary Ponds, Mr. Garry Mattingly, and Ms. Jamie Vanhay.

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. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion passed all in favor.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

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

Citizen Comments:

Wes Rhinier gave the following comment:

"I'm here tonight to ask if the Board will consider ceasing any further development on the Faith Road Soccer/La Cross field until possibly after the election. It's been brought to my attention that it seems like a lot of shady stuff went down with the purchasing of this land. Mr. Renn was trying to purchase that land and it seems like the town kind of out muscled him. He was willing to outbid the Town and personally I don't think Government should be in competition with private citizens for purchasing private land. This land is not in Granite city limits so I really don't think Granite should have been purchasing it anyway. He's also afraid that he's going to be annexed since the plan is to annex that land over there. More importantly I'd like an environment study done to the impact of the bees. Bees are very important and it's a lively hood for them. He never got an opportunity to speak. He also stated he was invited to come and speak at one of the meetings and apparently you all sent him to a different place so he wasn't ever able to speak and voice his opinion for the purchase of the land. I would just ask that you all would reconsider and hold off on any further development. That's about it. Thank you for your time."

Mary Ponds gave the following comment:

"I come before you tonight to acknowledge and to offer my tremendous amount of appreciation for the great deed that was done in my honor. I want to thank the Board and the citizens of Granite Quarry for naming a street in my honor. Usually, when things like that happen, it's after! I keep wondering if the Board and the citizens know something that I don't know. But I do want you all to know that I am greatly appreciative and more so humbled for that opportunity and for that privilege and to know that the citizens of Granite and the Board saw fit to do that. I didn't want you to think I was taking it lightly and assuming that was what you were going to do, because I had no idea. But I do want you to know that I was greatly, highly appreciative, and also humbled of the gesture. Thank you."

Guests and Presentations:

Rick Lanier from The U.S. Motto Action Committee presented the history of the National Motto "In God We Trust" and presented the Town with information regarding the display of the motto at the Town Hall. Alderman Costantino and Alderman Wilhelm discussed asking for citizen input and holding a public discussion about adding it to the remodel of Town Hall. Mayor Feather added that he would have the architect look at it.

Garry Mattingly from Slice of Heaven presented the Town with cards for the full time First Responders (Police or Fire) on behalf of Slice of Heaven, Jamie Vanhoy from Wahoo's Diner, and Jason Smith from The Hot Dog Shack. These cards, when presented, entitle the card holder to one free meal per month from each of these restaurants to recognize them for their service.

Town Manager's Update:

1. Mr. Conrad asked Jason Hord to present the Cost and Proposal from Godley's Garden Center for the Granite Lake Landscaping of the bank. The landscaping would be very low maintenance and would have foliage that would bloom year-round.

ACTION:

Alderman LaFevers made a motion to accept the quote for \$7,478 and to appropriate the funds from the Fund Balance. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

2. Mayor Feather announced that the South Rowan Street Fence will be installed at the end of this week and the limbs that are on the site are being mulched up this week.
3. Mayor Feather advised that after Board approval, funds remaining in Fiscal Year 16-17 Powell Bill Fund will go toward the Street Resurfacing Project. The Town will then need to secure a loan for the additional amount of approximately \$40,000.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley made a motion to proceed with repaving using the Powell Bill allocation and authorized the Town Manager to pursue a loan to finance the balance. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Mr. Conrad updated the Board on the Faith Road Subdivision. LGI homes is pursuing the first phase. He has been speaking with utility providers and regulatory agencies for storm water and any environmental issues. They plan to begin construction within 8 months.

5. Mr. Conrad proposed a Code Enforcement Contract with Benchmark Planning on an as needed basis with a rate of \$65 per hour.

ACTION:

Alderman Wilhelm made a motion to approve the contract. Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

6. Mr. Conrad introduced Steve Blount as the new Town Planner and announced that Ms. Tanya Word will start as the new Town Clerk on August 21, 2017.

Old Business:

1. The Draft Personnel Policy was provided for review.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to approve the Draft Personnel Policy Manual. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

2. Mayor Feather presented the Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 with the updated Chart of Accounts.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley made a motion to approve the Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 with the updated Chart of Accounts. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion was passed with all in favor.

New Business & Action Items:

1. Mr. Hord presented the quote on the Bobcat/Skid Steer for the Town Maintenance Department, which includes many functions, such as street and gutter sweeping capabilities, and limb pickup.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley made a motion to approve the quote for the Bobcat/Skid Steer. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

2. Mayor Feather asked for approval of the disposal of surplus property.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to approve the disposal of surplus property. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion was passed with all in favor.

3. Mayor Feather requested Discretionary Funding from the General Assembly for Sidewalk Improvements to US 52 in Downtown.

ACTION:

Alderman LaFevers moved to approve Discretionary Funding from the General Assembly for Sidewalk Improvements to US 52 in Downtown. Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Mayor Feather requested Discretionary Funding from the General Assembly for Veronica Lane. Veronica Lane is a state-owned road but is within the Town of Granite Quarry limits. There has been damage to the road and the culvert and it needs to be repaired. The state will approve the road and bring it up to their standards, if the Town will adopt the road using Powell Bill funds, for maintenance.

ACTION:

Alderman Costantino made a motion to pursue Discretionary Funding from the General Assembly for Veronica Lane. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

5. Mayor Feather made a request to appropriate \$10,950 to the appropriate line item from the repair for Chamandy Drive Guardrail and Resurfacing Project – FY 2017-2017 Budget Amendment #1. The guardrail and road were damaged when a tractor trailer rolled over on Chamandy Drive. Mr. Hord explained that the repair for the guardrail is \$5,000 and the cost to resurface the road is \$5,950. Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley advised that this amount does not include any cost to Granite Quarry to administer these repairs. Mr. Hord stated that he is going to submit another invoice to the insurance company for the Town's time. This item was tabled until the next Board Meeting.

ACTION:

No action was taken at this time.

6. Mayor Feather asked that the Board recognize funds received from the Blanche and Hubert Ritchie Foundation in the amount of \$10,000 – Amendment #2.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Brinkley moved to approve the Budget Amendment. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

7. Mayor Feather asked the Board to process and appropriate funds received from GovDeals for the sale of a surplus Police Vehicle – Amendment #3.

ACTION:

Alderman Wilhelm made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #3. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

8. Mayor Feather asked the Board to review and consider ideas for an incentive program for Voluntary Annexation. The Board agreed to submit their ideas by August 25th.

9. Mayor Feather provided information regarding Yes Solar Solutions and the potential solar power use to be considered in the Town Hall Remodel project.

10. Mayor Feather proposed the consideration of Tree City Designation at a cost of \$6,200. The Board will be reconsidered at the September Board Meeting.

Mayor's Notes:

Mayor Feather presented the calendar of events and announcements as a reminder.

Mayor's Action:

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 8:09 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 8:44 pm pursuant to N.C. General Statute Section 143-318.11.A.5.6 and the Board took no action. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly Shockley

Shelly Shockley
Office Assistant