



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

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

Staff: Mr. Phil Conrad – Town Manager, Ms. Tanya Word – Town Clerk/HR Officer, 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. Dale Brown – Fire Fighter, Mr. Graham Corriher – Town Attorney, and Ms. Shelly Shockley – Finance Analyst/Planning Coordinator/Events Coordinator

Guests: Mr. Ed Shell, Mrs. Sandra Shell, Mr. Robert Anderson, Mr. Zach Huddleston, Mr. Mark Wineka, Mr. John Fisher, Mrs. Joy Fisher, Mr. Doug Shelton, Mrs. Kathy Feather, Mr. Jason Smith, and Mr. John Linker.

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. Mayor Feather, stated “The Town of Granite Quarry lost a very dear family member this past week, Chief Clyde Adams, he was the original chief of Granite Quarry. He had been here for several years and served the community well. At this time, I would like to ask Chief Cook to come and give a little brief history before we have a moment of silence.”

Chief Cook presented the following memorial tribute in honor of Chief Adams, “This evening we honor the life of Retired Chief Clyde Adams, Jr. For those that may have not known Chief Adams well, he was born here in Rowan County, graduating North Rowan High school in 1962 and becoming employed in private sector thereafter.

Like so many of us, Chief Adams felt the calling to further serve his community and in May 1975, Chief Adams joined the Rowan Co. Sheriff’s Office as a special deputy; completing his Basic Law Enforcement Training in August 1975. During his time with the Sheriff’s Office, Chief Adams also served as a reserve officer for the Rockwell Police Department, achieving the rank of lieutenant.

In the early 1990’s, Chief Adams was appointed as the police coordinator for the Town of Granite Quarry through an agreement with the Sheriff’s Dept. On May 22nd, 1995, Clyde Adams was officially appointed as the Chief of Police for the Town of Granite Quarry, also becoming the first Chief of Police for the Town. Under the leadership and direction of Chief Adams, the department grew and in 2007, the GQ-FJPA was formed through a partnership with the Towns of Granite Quarry and Faith which Chief Adams was instrumental in developing. During his career, Chief Adams secured many grants to off-set departmental expenses, was a committee member for both

the RCCC BLET program and the CJ Technology Program; along with being an honorary member of the NC Law Enforcement Officers Association since 1975. Chief Adams Officially retired on June the 1st, 2010, honorably serving his community for 35 years.

Chief Adams was loved by many in the community and he shared his love of community through service, dedication, and commitment. After my appointment as Chief, Chief Adams was there to help me along with any questions or concerns I may have had. It was during these conversations that I saw how deeply Chief Adams cared for his department and his officers. It was not so much through what he may have said, but what I saw in his eyes. Sometimes you just know what people are thinking without a word spoken. I knew I had to become the keeper of *his* department: I hope we have lived up to Chief Adams expectations of what he would have wanted his department to be.

I can say with all sincerity, I have not heard anyone speak harshly or have any ill-words about Chief Adams. Through conversations with friends, co-workers and family, he cared deeply for everyone he met and the community he served. Although Chief Adams may not physically be here with us he will live on in our hearts, thoughts, words, and deeds.”

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

Approval of the Agenda:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brinkley asked that under Mayor’s Section that the closed session be removed.

ACTION: Mayor Pro-Tem Brinkley made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Citizen Comments:

Mr. Doug Shelton, 135 N. Main Street, stated, *“As everyone knows I am one of the candidates for Alderman this year, and I just want to say I appreciate all the coaching and help I had for a first timer; I thoroughly enjoy it, and I really hope I get a chance to serve. We have a good group of people running this year. Granite Quarry can’t go wrong, one way or the other.”*

Mr. Jason Smith, Hot Dog Shack, 408 S. Salisbury Avenue, *“Thanked the Board for being diligent on the speed limit change in that area. As many of you know, I believe that community service is something that we are called to do. I spend a great deal of time doing as much as I can to give back to this community and the surrounding communities, and really appreciate when people come together with that same mind set to get things done.*

Over the past few weeks I have had several occasions where I have worked directly with two different members of the paid staff in Granite Quarry, those people are Jason Hord from your maintenance department and Shelly Shockley who works in your front office.

I am aware that these two people are paid staff and some people may say ‘that this is their job’, well I proudly stand before you tonight to say that these two people have went well above what their standard job description would require. Mrs. Shockley has been willing to help out at every turn with the Merchants Association, she had very successful turnout at the Fall Festival, she made

everyone feel welcomed, thanked them for coming, and simply made sure they felt like they belonged in Granite Quarry for that event.

Our annual duck race for the Merchants Association had some last-minute plans fall thru, and Mr. Hord addressed the issues we were having, and Jason met me outside to let me know how much he would like to help wherever he was needed. I have seen Mr. Hord on several occasions going above and beyond to make sure things were done right.

Many people have made comments in this community about how they have noticed the efforts and their positive attitudes in our community and at work. Because of the efforts of Jason and Shelly, Granite Quarry is in fact a better place to work, a better place to visit, and a better place to live. Because of their efforts, The Hotdog Shack and F&M Bank are excited to present this plaque to Jason and Shelly for all that they have done and continue to do.”

Mr. Ed Shell, 510 Lewis Street, stated, *“Something that I don’t like about the structure of these meetings is you have to guess what’s coming if you want to make a comment about it; and when there are new items, you kind of have to guess what the intent is and where it’s really going. The letter I see here on the agenda to go to the Thread Trail, I can’t tell if this is a draft, I can’t tell if the staff is asking for approval tonight or whatever; so, I’m assuming it’s not a draft and that staff is wanting it approved. I question the timing on this, there is no urgency and nothing has suddenly occurred that requires that this letter go out to the Thread Trail. I don’t have a problem with the concept that is being expressed, but I do have a problem with the timing. There is at least the possibility that there may be some new faces present up here in another meeting. It seems unfortunate that you would preempt their ability to influence what’s happening in this respect. Any action on this I think should be deferred until the next meeting.”*

“Secondly what this letter fails to do is particularly with its reference to the existing proposal by NCDOT is to acknowledge the fact that the proposed plan is extremely contentious and hopefully will be changed. I think the wording could be changed so that it expresses the notion that you’re asking for a realignment but that you can’t be certain of exactly where it would fall. You need to acknowledge that there is some uncertainty about this. I think that to do otherwise would be very unfair and set a precedence that shouldn’t be there. It is a matter of great concern within the community as far as where the exact path of this bypass will be and particularly where the intersection of 52 on the northern end will be extremely contentious.”

“I’m making two suggestions, (1) delay this, and (2) change the wording of the letter to say that you’re asking for a conceptual realignment wherever the new path may fall.”

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

ACTION: Aldermen Arin Wilhelm made a motion to approve the consent agenda and minutes of the September 5, 2017 meeting, October 2, 2017 meeting, and the Special Called Board meeting of October 16, 2017. Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Guests and Presentations:

There were no guest presentations.

Town Manager's Update:**1. Carolina Thread Trail Alignment Request**

Mr. Conrad explained, "That we've been in discussions about looking at the current alignment of Carolina Thread Trail as it comes through the middle of downtown. A segment of the current Carolina Thread Trail alignment extends along US 52 through downtown Granite Quarry. The Town of Granite Quarry believes that the bypass connector would be a viable option as a realigned Carolina Thread Trail route, in lieu of the current US 52 sidewalk segment. The proposed Granite Quarry Bypass realigned route also makes a critical connection between open rural land and our growing downtown. The Town has recently completed and adopted a downtown master plan. This access makes the trail accessible to many residents of the greater Granite Quarry area, connecting important destinations such as the Old Stone House. By consensus, the Board asked the Town Manager to send the letter to Carolina Thread Trail."

2. TAP Fund Request:

Mr. Conrad explained, "This is a Federal program or Federal funding source that local government and NCDOT have access to; this is the third call for projects the NCDOT, Division 9 has put out. We actually submitted a list of projects for the first call and we were awarded funds; I think there were about 7 or 8 intersections here in town where there were improvements to make them more accessible for people with mobility impairment basically scooters, wheelchairs, etc. The deadline for submitting project requests is December 4th. Inside your board packet is a request to NCDOT for consideration of some additional cross section and intersection improvements. We're not asking for any funding tonight, we're asking for your endorsement tonight to submit this letter to NCDOT for their consideration."

Mayor-Pro Tem Brinkley asked what is number of lanes. Mr. Conrad replied, "the total number of lanes that is coming into an intersection."

ACTION:

Alderman Wilhelm made a motion authorizing the Town Manager to send letter to NCDOT. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

3. Recommendation for Approval of UnitedHealthcare as the Employee New Group Health Insurance

Town Staff communicated with four brokers to gather competitive quotes for Health Insurance coverage:

*Miller Financial
North Carolina League of Municipalities
Laymon Group
Rick Johnson*

18 plans were reviewed in total and narrowed down to 7 options by Administrative staff.

Cost Analysis looked like this:

\$609.80 – Current Individual Aetna Premium

\$552.85 – United 7x7 Plan

\$ 56.95 – Monthly Premium Savings to Town

\$683.40 – Annual Premium Savings to Town per EE

16 currently enrolled employees

\$10,934.40 – Annual Premium Savings to Town

\$4,800.00 – Annual HRA cost at \$250 per EE including administrative cost

\$5,134.40 – Annual Net Savings to Town

After several reviews staff recommends United Healthcare as the preferred option.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brinkley made a motion for staff to go with United Healthcare for their health insurance. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Granite Fun Fest Recap

Mrs. Shockley commented Family Fun Fest was a huge success. There was a live band, hayrides, bounce houses, and a lot of participation from the community. There were over 100 children that came out to enjoy the event. Staff is already starting to plan for next year's Granite Quarry Fun Fest.

5. Administration Request to Dispose of Surplus Items

Request to sell on GovDeals:

HP2140 Fax Machine

Request to dispose of:

Receipt Printer

2 Motorola Cell Phones

2 Keyboards and one Mouse

Broken Poloroid Camera

Broken Calculator

ACTION:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brinkley made a motion to sell the HP2140 Fax Machine on GovDeals and dispose of administration surplus. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

New Business & Action Items:**1. Approve Budget Amendments #6 and #7**

Mr. Philyaw explained. "that when the auditors came in I discussed recognition of money from GovDeals; the GovDeals money we received it and I put it in the surplus items account, my understanding of the General Accepted Accounting Principles, you don't put revenues in an expenditure account; so we did a transfer from a revenue account into an expenditure account, discussed that with the auditors and of course there is a difference in what I thought was right and what the Town Manager thought was right. The first budget amendment was made on the decision of the Town Manager."

"The Auditors came in and looked at our surplus items sold account and wondered why it was so low compared to the budget. The Auditor told me according to the General Accepted Accounting Principles revenues are not supposed to be posted to an expenditure account. Budget amendment #6 reverses the original and Budget amendment #7 corrects it according to what the Auditor recommended."

ACTION:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brinkley made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #6. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brinkley made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #7. Alderman Wilhelm seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

2. Board Appointments ZBA

Ms. Word explained, "there were eight vacant slots on the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Four application packets were received for the ZBA, an additional application was received on Friday afternoon for a total of five."

"Applications were received from the following persons:

Robert Anderson

Samuel Lonnie Goodman

Stanley Walter Grabowski

Richard Luhrs

Douglas Shelton"

"Staff recommends the following appointments to the ZBA:

Robert Anderson – in town with term expiring 2018

Richard Luhrs – in town with term expiring 2018

Douglas Shelton – in town with term expiring 2019

Stanley Walter Grabowski – in town with term expiring 2020

Samuel "Lonnie" Goodman – ETJ with term expiring in 2020"

ACTION:

Alderman Wilhelm made a motion to recommend Samuel "Lonnie" Goodman to Rowan County Commissioners for their approval for him to serve on the Zoning Board of

Adjustments from the ETJ with his term to expire in 2020. Aldermen Costantino second the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro-Tem Brinkely made a motion to appoint the following persons to the Zoning Board of Adjustments:

Robert Anderson – in town with term expiring 2018

Richard Luhrs – in town with term expiring 2018

Douglas Shelton – in town with term expiring 2019

Stanley Walter Grabowski – in town with term expiring 2020

Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

3. Senate Bill 155 – Brunch Bill

Mayor Feather explained, “That the Brunch Bill is a request to be able to sell alcoholic beverages on Sunday at 10:00 A.M. Right now that is setting at 12:00 P.M. This is a request that has come to us from the businesses in town that sell alcoholic beverages and the reason they’ve requested it is because apparently the county has adopted this, the City of Salisbury has adopted this, and they feel it’s unfair competition for their business. This particular item will not be something that we can take and approve at this meeting, it has to go through public hearing and this is something that the Planning Board should have to consider and bring recommendations back.”

Mayor’s Notes:

Ms. Shockley announced, “The Volunteer and Staff Christmas Banquet will be Friday, December 8th at 6:30 P.M. at Shiloh United Methodist Church at 234 South Main Street.”

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

Alderman Wilhelm expounded on the Hope over Heroin campaign, “In September, in Cabarrus County alone, the emergency department had 460 opioid overdoses. In fact, Cabarrus County is #1 in North Carolina for opioid overdoses; Rowan County is in the top five.”

“Much is being done through law enforcement, community service agencies, through counseling, detox and rehabilitation facilities, but they have not been able to stop the spread of this epidemic. We believe this is a community problem that must include the Church and the message of Hope through a relationship with Christ.”

“This is why we are partnering with the non-profit organization Hope Over Heroin to bring Hope to Roan and Cabarrus County on September 7-8, 2018.”

“Hope over Heroin has successfully organized outreach events that area collaboration of Churches, Business/Civic Leaders, and Addiction Recovery Resources. These events increase awareness and connect resources for the addicted and their families.”

“We are looking to partner with churches, businesses, and other organizations willing to:

Attend the Volunteer Meeting on **Sunday, November 12th at 4:00 P.M.** at Kannapolis City Hall – 401 Laureate Way, Kannapolis.

Possibly serve on one of the Hope over Heroin Committees.

Promote the event to your congregation and community.

Consider donating to help addicts and their families receive help.

This project is being done by the River of Life Church.”

Mayor Feather asked, Alderman Wilhelm if he would attend the meeting on November 12th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tanya Maria Word

Tanya Maria Word

Town Clerk