



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 8, 2024 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: Interim Town Manager/Fire Chief/Public Works Director Jason Hord; Town Clerk Aubrey Smith; Town Attorney Zachary Moretz; Planning, Zoning, and Subdivision Administrator Richard Flowe; Finance Director Shelly Shockley; Interim Police Chief Todd Taylor; Police Sergeant Richard Tester

Call to Order: Mayor Barnhardt called the meeting to order at 6:01 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

Agenda amendments recommended by staff:

- Addition of item 15B to consider amending the regular meeting schedule
- Addition of item 12B to consider the Fire Truck Financing agreement
- Amendment of item 16 to add discussion of business expansion in addition to attorney-client privilege as the reason for entering closed session

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to approve the agenda with the suggested amendments (*items above*). Mayor Pro Tem Shelton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the Minutes

- 1) Regular Meeting July 11, 2024
- 2) Closed Session Meeting July 11, 2024
- 3) Special Meeting July 22, 2024
- 4) Closed Session July 22, 2024

B. Departmental Reports

C. Financial Reports

D. Rules of Procedure Updates – Board of Adjustment

E. Fiddlers Convention Sponsorship Request - \$100

F. Resolution for ABC Designated Official - updated

Mayor Pro Tem Shelton asked that there be an additional \$100 donation to the Civitans for a Granite Fest ad in the Fiddlers Convention program.

ACTION: Council Member Luhrs made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the amendment of the amount of the donation to the Civitans from \$100 to \$200. 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 Update in the agenda packet including that Public Works had obtained a new dump truck that came in under the budgeted amount. Both the Police Department and Fire Department participated in the Faith 4th events. Police Officer Shuffler is continuing his training. Three new full-time firefighters have been extended job offers to begin working August 19th. The Planning Department has stayed busy; Ashley Lattin is filling in for Susan while she is out. Manager Hord gave kudos to Event Coordinator Debbie Loflin-Benge and the Police Department on the National Night Out event. The event had an excellent turnout.

Manager Hord shared that Assistant Public Works Director Colton Fries had been working to get estimates for street improvements. A handout showing street scoring was shared with the Council. The handout showed estimates for six full streets and several patches spread around different areas of the Town. Manager Hord stated if there were no Council objections, the repairs would be put out for bid.

Manager Hord shared that Duke Energy representatives stated the feasibility study would be ready in 3-5 weeks. Today beginning at 4:00 a.m. power outages were reported due to storm damage. More than 1500 were without power; repairs are underway. A tree in the Lake Park is down over a fence and currently marked off. Manager Hord recognized Rowan County Communications for handling everything during the storm. He gave special thanks to Chief Taylor for his emergency coordination efforts.

Manager Hord invited Chief Taylor and Sergeant Tester forward for a special presentation. Sergeant Tester read a statement recognizing Murphy Corl for his actions on December 2, 2022 while employed as a Granite Quarry Patrol Officer. Officer Corl responded to a call where firefighters were actively being engaged with gunfire while attempting to extinguish a house fire. A firefighter was struck by gunfire and pinned down, unable to escape. Officers, including Officer Corl, were struck by gunfire while attempting to extract the firefighter. Although he sustained two gunshot wounds, Officer Corl engaged the gunman which allowed for the firefighter to be extracted for treatment. Sergeant Tester presented Officer Corl with the Medal of Valor for his actions. The full statement is included in the minute book.

Chief Taylor thanked Officer Corl for his service, bravery, and commitment on behalf of the community. Sergeant Tester and Chief Taylor also presented Officer Corl with a plaque honoring his service. Mayor Barnhardt thanked Officer Corl for sacrificing his safety to make sure all first-responders made it home that night. Officer Corl recognized others who were involved in the incident including Bob Clement, Randal Addison, and Nick Plumley. He stated it was a joint effort.

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion for a five-minute recess. Mayor Pro Tem Shelton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The Council recessed at 6:23 p.m.

Mayor Barnhardt called the meeting back to order at 6:26 p.m.

5. Guest Presentation **In God We Trust**

Rick Lanier of the US Motto Action Committee made a presentation requesting that “In God We Trust” be placed both in the town hall meeting room and on the exterior of the building. The phrase would be placed at no cost to the Town. He requested a yes or no vote from the Council.

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to approve (*addition of “In God We Trust” motto to town hall*) based on review by the Town’s legal counsel. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Lanier will be in touch with staff.

6. Public Hearing **Comprehensive Land Use Plan & FLUM Update**

A. Staff Summary

Mr. Flowe presented and summarized the drafted amendments to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and associated Future Land Use Map. The amendments were drafted after the recent non-annexation boundary agreement with Salisbury which defined the areas of growth for the Town and increased the Town’s scope of influence. The Planning Board has recommended the proposed amendments. The Council was presented with the changes for review at the July meeting.

B. Public Hearing

- 1) Opened: Mayor Barnhardt opened the public hearing at 6:41 p.m.
 - There were no comments from the public.
- 2) Closed: Mayor Barnhardt closed the public hearing at 6:41 p.m.

C. Council Discussion and Decision

Council Member Linker stated he believed the updates addressed a lot of the lingering issues and the priorities of community members brought up on the community survey.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Shelton made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-04 to update the Town 2040 Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Future Land Use Map. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

7. Public Hearing **Annexation/ZMA 3000 Old Concord Road**

A. Staff Summary

Mr. Flowe presented the petition for voluntary annexation of a non-contiguous property in the Town’s area of influence and a recommended initial zoning designation of “Industrial”.

Clerk Smith attested that notice of the hearing had been made.

B. Public Hearing

- 1) Opened: Mayor Barnhardt opened the public hearing at 6:47 p.m.
 - Dennis Stiller, 2913 Old Concord Road- shared that he lives directly across from the property and stated his concern on whether his side of the road would need to be widened to add a turning lane. Mr. Stiller also asked what the allowable uses would be for the property.
 - Mayor Barnhardt shared that the purchaser of the property was planning to open an office to serve as headquarters for a construction company that would be working for the Toyota center. Essentially it would be offices for employment and storage.
 - The petitioner shared that DOT would like to see a turn lane on the northbound side of the road, opposite Mr. Stiller’s property.
- 2) Closed: Mayor Barnhardt closed the public hearing at 6:51 p.m.

C. Council Discussion and Decision

ACTION: Council Member Luhrs made a motion to adopt Ordinance ANNEX 2024-08-08-1 to annex 3000 Old Concord Road as a non-contiguous property. Council Member Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Shelton made a motion to adopt Ordinance ZMA 2024-08-08-1 to amend the Granite Quarry Development Ordinance. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Old Business
New Business

None

8. Annexation **Farmside Way**

A. Resolution Directing Clerk to Investigate

Mr. Flowe presented the petition for a voluntary contiguous annexation in the Town's ETJ. The subdivision will require new streets and infrastructure.

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-08-08-1 directing the clerk to investigate a petition for annexation. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

B. Certificate of Sufficiency

The certificate of sufficiency was entered into the record.

C. Resolution Setting Date for Public Hearing

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-08-08-2 setting the date for a public hearing regarding an ordinance for annexation for Monday, September 9, 2024. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

9. Annexation **Texas Roadhouse**

A. Resolution Directing Clerk to Investigate

B. Certificate of Sufficiency

C. Resolution Setting Date for Public Hearing

Mr. Flowe stated that the materials had not been received in time and requested no action at tonight's meeting.

10. Annexation **Circle K**

A. Resolution Directing Clerk to Investigate

Mr. Flowe presented the petition for voluntary annexation in the Town's area of influence.

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-08-08-3 directing the clerk to investigate a petition for annexation. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

B. Certificate of Sufficiency

The certificate of sufficiency was entered into the record.

C. Resolution Setting Date for Public Hearing

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-08-08-4 setting the date for a public hearing regarding an ordinance for annexation. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

11. Bid Award

Civic Park Parking Lot

Manager Hord stated that bids were received and scored for the Civic Park Parking Lot project. Staff recommended awarding the project to Carolina Siteworks, Inc. for the base bid of \$199,750.00. The project would be covered by funds in the Transformational Capital Project. It was confirmed that the project should begin and be completed by Granite Fest.

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to award the contract for Civic Park Improvement - Parking Areas to Carolina Siteworks, Inc. for the base bid of \$199,750.00. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

12. Contract

H-GAC Interlocal Contract for Cooperative Purchase

Manager Hord shared the H-GAC contract allows bidding to be done on behalf of the Town.

ACTION: Council Member Luhrs made a motion to approve the H-GAC contract to proceed with financing options and agreement. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

12. B. Contract

Fire Truck Financing Agreement

ACTION: Council Member Luhrs made a motion to approve the Atlantic Emergency Solutions financing contract for the Pierce Fire Engine. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

13. Proclamation

National Day of Service Remembrance

Mayor Barnhardt acknowledged the proclamation in the agenda packet for the National Day of Service Remembrance.

14. Council Comments

- Council Member Linker shared he was impressed with the level of detail on the code enforcement report. Mayor Pro Tem Shelton concurred and stated he would like to see the specific violations.

15. Announcements and Date Reminders

A.	Monday	August 12	5:00 p.m.	Chamber Business After Hours
B.	Wednesday	August 14	5:00 p.m.	Centralina Board of Delegates
C.	Wednesday	August 14	5:30 p.m.	Community Appearance Commission
D.	Thursday	August 15	6:00 p.m.	Rowan Municipal Association
E.	Saturday	August 17	9:00 a.m.	Shred-It Event – Town Hall
F.	Wednesday	August 28	5:30 p.m.	CRMPO TAC Meeting
G.	Monday	September 2		Labor Day – Town Offices Closed
H.	Tuesday	September 3	5:30 p.m.	Events Committee
I.	Tuesday	September 3	6:00 p.m.	Planning Board
J.	Tuesday	September 3	6:15 p.m.	Board of Adjustment
K.	Wednesday	September 11	5:00 p.m.	Centralina Executive Board
L.	Wednesday	September 11	5:30 p.m.	Community Appearance Commission

15. B. Discussion and Possible Action Regular Meeting Schedule Amendment

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Shelton made a motion to amend the regular meeting schedule by changing all regular meetings back to the second Monday of each month, with the exception of November 11th, when the meeting would be held on Tuesday, November 12th. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

16. Closed Session

ACTION: Council Member Luhrs made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statutes Section 143-318.11(a)(3) and (a)(4) to consult with an attorney retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege and to discuss business expansion. Council Member Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The Council went into closed session at 7:14 p.m.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Shelton made a motion to return to open session. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The Council returned to open session at 8:05 p.m.

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to match what was specifically agreed upon by the County (*in the incentive agreement with Amrep*). Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The planned occupancy date is May 2025.

Adjournment

ACTION: Council Member Linker made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting ended at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aubrey Smith

Town Clerk