



**TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY  
TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, December 9, 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:** Town Manager/Fire Chief Jason Hord; Town Clerk Aubrey Smith; Town Attorney Zachary Moretz; Planning, Zoning, and Subdivision Administrator Richard Flowe; Police Chief Todd Taylor; Public Works Director Colton Fries; Public Works Assistant Director Josh Whitley; Police Officer Jzanese Weekes

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

**2. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**A. Approval of the Minutes**

- 1) Regular Meeting November 12, 2024
- 2) Closed Session November 12, 2024 (*handout*)

**B. Departmental Reports**

**C. Financial Reports**

**D. Certification of Fire Roster**

**ACTION:** Council Member Linker made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Shelton 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 there continue to be meetings with potential donors for the Civic Park project. The TAP sidewalk project design preliminary drawings received approval from the NCDOT. Work continues on the Granite Industrial Park sign agreement. The fiber optic cable being installed along Highway 52 will bring underground broadband from Winston Salem to Albemarle. The street paving in town is ongoing. New snowflake decorations have been hung at the Lake Park. The Town is working with Granite Quarry Elementary School to sponsor children and families for Christmas; Manager Hord encouraged anyone who felt moved to help to please take one of the remaining cards. He gave kudos to the Police Department for

quickly closing a robbery case that occurred in town. FEMA stated the Lake Park project is ready for close out; the Town will be receiving the remaining \$36,971.12 that is owed for reimbursement.

Manager Hord recognized Public Works Director Colton Fries and introduced the new Public Works Assistant Director, Josh Whitley. Josh brings a wealth of experience to his role. The Council welcomed him to the Town.

Manager Hord recognized Todd Taylor who was chosen for the Chief of Police position after the conclusion of the application and assessment process. Todd has been with the Town for over 28 years and has served as the Interim Chief of Police since July.

The Town's newest Police Officer, Jzanese Weekes, was recognized and sworn in. Chief Taylor administered the oath of the Untarnished Badge for Officer Weekes.

**5. Proclamation**

**Doug Rice**

Mayor Barnhardt read and presented a proclamation for Doug Rice honoring his career and character as a resident of the Town of Granite Quarry.

**Recess**

**ACTION:** Council Member Linker made a motion to take a short recess. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

*The Council recessed at 6:22 p.m.*

*Mayor Barnhardt called the meeting back into session at 6:38 p.m.*

**6. Public Hearing**

**ZMA 2024-12-09 Mathis**

**A. Staff Summary**

Planning, Zoning, and Subdivision Administrator Richard Flowe introduced the Zoning Map Amendment request for property located at 428 and 0 W Bank Street, parcels 351 022 and 351 126, to change the current designation of "Single-Family Residential-3 (SFR-3)" to a new zoning designation of "Mixed-Use-1 (MU-1)". There was a neighborhood meeting held on November 14, 2024 to answer questions from neighboring property owners. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended approval of the proposed amendment. Clerk Smith attested that notice of the hearing had been given.

**B. Public Hearing**

- 1) Opened: Mayor Barnhardt opened the public hearing at 6:42 p.m.
  - Joe Mathis, owner of the properties in question, spoke on his desire to have the properties rezoned.
- 2) Closed: Mayor Barnhardt closed the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

**C. Council Discussion and Decision**

**ACTION:** Council Member Linker made a motion to adopt Ordinance ZMA 2024-12-09. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**Old Business**

**None**

**New Business**

**7. Budget Amendment**

**Street Signs**

The Council reviewed the budget amendment for the purchase of Granite Quarry branded street signs and hardware discussed at previous meetings.

**ACTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Shelton made a motion to approve Budget Amendment FY24-25 #3 as presented to purchase Granite Quarry branded street signs and hardware. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**8. Council Appointments**

**A. Centralina Board of Delegates Representative and Alternate**

**ACTION:** Council Member Linker made a motion to appoint Council Member Mack as representative to the Centralina Board of Delegates and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton as the alternate. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**B. Transportation Advisory Comm. Representative and Alternate**

**ACTION:** Council Member Linker made a motion to appoint Mayor Barnhardt as the CRMPO TAC representative and Council Member Luhrs as the alternate. Mayor Pro Tem Shelton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**9. Discussion and Possible Decision Chamber Gala Sponsorship**

The Council discussed the opportunity to purchase a Corporate Sponsorship for the Chamber of Commerce’s 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala for \$1,500. There was interest in opening the invitation to staff and their spouses at the Town’s expense and purchasing any additional seats as needed.

**ACTION:** Council Member Linker made a motion to pay \$1,500 for a Corporate level sponsorship and other tickets as needed for staff and their spouses. Council Member Luhrs seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**10. Council Comments**

- Council Member Linker asked whether the handouts regarding the Veterans Memorial were for informational purposes only. Mayor Barnhardt confirmed they were and shared that the concept was being shared for discussion and no current action.

**11. Announcements and Date Reminders**

<b>A.</b>	Thursday	December 12	12:00 p.m.	Council Properties Tour
<b>B.</b>	Friday	December 13	8:00 a.m.	Mayors Roundtable
<b>C.</b>	Wednesday	December 18	5:30 p.m.	Community Appearance Commission
<b>D.</b>	Thursday	December 19	7:30 a.m.	Chamber Power in Partnership Breakfast
<b>E.</b>	Tuesday	December 24		Town Offices Closed for Christmas
<b>F.</b>	Wednesday	December 25		Town Offices Closed for Christmas
<b>G.</b>	Thursday	December 26		Town Offices Closed for Christmas
<b>H.</b>	Wednesday	January 1		Town Offices Closed for New Year’s
<b>I.</b>	Monday	January 6	6:00 p.m.	Planning Board
<b>J.</b>	Monday	January 6	6:15 p.m.	Board of Adjustment
<b>K.</b>	Tuesday	January 7	5:30 p.m.	Events Committee
<b>L.</b>	Wednesday	January 8	5:30 p.m.	Community Appearance Commission

**Adjournment**

**ACTION:** Council Member Linker made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Mack seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting ended at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Aubrey Smith*  
Town Clerk