



TOWN OF GRANITE QUARRY
BOARD OF ALDERMEN – RECESS MEETING MINUTES
June 20, 2018 • 3:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Mayor Bill Feather, Mayor Pro Tem Jim LaFevers, Alderman Jim Costantino, Alderman Kim Cress, Alderman John Linker

Staff: Phil Conrad – Town Manager, Tanya Word – Town Clerk, Mr. Mark Cook – Police Chief, Ms. Shelly Shockley – Finance Analyst / Event Planner, Dale Brown – Fire Chief, Jason Hord – Maintenance Manager

Visitor(s): Mark Wineka

Call to Order: Mayor Feather called the meeting to order and requested a motion to come out of recess.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers made a motion at 3:00 P.M. to come out of recess from June 6, 2018. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Approval of the Agenda:

ACTION: Alderman Linker made a motion to approve the agenda as with the addition of NCDOT sidewalk CMAQ invoice as item two. Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

FY 2018-19 Budget Planning Session:

Review of the 2018-19 budget included some changes from the Town Manager. Mr. Conrad stated that the solid waste collection, which includes waste management, recycling, plus the leaf and limb service provided to citizens has a proposed increase from \$11 to \$12 monthly per household.

Mayor ProTem LaFevers called three banks to get quotes on money market accounts and CD's. Pinnacle Bank reported a 2.2% interest rate for 10 months on accounts over \$25,000, 2.45% interest for 15 months, or 2.65% for 24 months. Additionally, over \$100,000 in a special savings account allowing withdrawals without penalty would get 1.69% on the average balance. Wells

Fargo has not replied to the information request yet. BB&T has a similar savings account with a 1.25% interest rate. All current accounts are at F&M Bank. The state guidelines would have bids from several vendors before making a decision.

Mr. Conrad reviewed the remainder of the budget. Planning and Zoning has now been moved to part-time salary cost rather than being included in contracted services with the addition of part-time staff. There is a reduced amount of \$7,500 included in contracted services for Code Enforcement.

Visionary Funds were requested by the Revitalization Team in the amount of \$20,000, which is a reduction of \$10,000. Under capital outlay for land purchase there was \$22,500 budgeted for leaf and limb storage facility, which has now been eliminated for the budget year with the extension of the permit for the current site. Mayor Feather suggested moving the remaining funds in the Visionary Funds from 2017-2018 to the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Alderman Linker asked for information regarding the \$13,000 budgeted for dues and subscriptions. Mr. Conrad explained this is for the Town and includes the MPO & EDC dues, Chamber of Commerce dues, North Carolina League of Municipality, and CCOG membership.

There were no changes to the Police Department budget.

The Fire Department proposed part-time budget has been reduced by \$52,000 to \$160,000. Chief Brown explained that this took the third person scheduled out of the plan for the next fiscal year. The hope is that in the next fiscal year this can be addressed. Alderman Linker asked what was achieved toward having a 3-person crew after the reduction from \$212,000 to \$160,000. Chief Brown replied that this budget assures that two firefighters are available, and potentially in the future adding a full-time Fire Chief might add the third person.

Maintenance Department changes include a reduction from \$20,000 to \$10,000 for sidewalks. Perhaps if sidewalk projects go well this could go up to \$20,000 again for the next year. Changes to Parks were only consolidation of some codes. Expenses for utilities is still \$178,000. Chamandy Drive is effectively the Town portion of the grant for "Project Frozen" of \$25,000. There was a reduction to \$6,146 for the Veterans' Memorial due to potential grant funding to cover 50% of the project costs.

Alderman Costantino suggested paying off the Fire Truck from the fund balance and then using the funds that would have gone toward ongoing payments back into the Fire Department for staffing. Alderman Linker agreed on paying off the truck and funding the Fire Department, but added that he would like to get closer to the staffing level originally requested. Alderman Linker also mentioned the potential sale of the Rowan Street property, income from adding the SECU, Village at Granite, and potentially improved investment return that Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers discussed as potential ways to fund more staffing in the Fire Department. Mayor Feather suggested putting the money into contingency funds, from which they could move it to the Fire Department

later if necessary. Alderman Cress agreed that it would be better to pay off the truck rather than paying more interest on a loan.

Alderman Costantino suggested asking for donations on the Veterans' Memorial. Mayor Feather stated that there are items that need to be done in the parks, and the Veterans' Memorial could be included in those for a Part F grant request that would provide matching funds to cover the costs. Mayor Feather and Mayor Pro Tem LaFevers agreed that the process should start to collect bids for investment accounts.

Mayor Feather stated that with the changes to the budget, there should be no tax increase necessary to balance the budget. The changes will be documented for the June 26 meeting at 5:00 PM for budget adoption.

Sidewalk Information

The Town had requested leniency on \$12,000 that was charged back from the State for sidewalk project planning. North Carolina responded with a denial of that request. This has been written on a purchase order already. The project was previously cancelled by the Town Board that resulted in these charges.

Adjournment:

Alderman Costantino made a motion at 4:01 P.M. to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Cress seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Stewart

Deputy Clerk