



**10. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM**

**1. Call for Nomination for Mayor Pro-Tem**

*Mayor Feather read the guidelines and directives for nominations, and opened the floor for nominees for the office of Mayor Pro-Tem. Alderman Costantino nominated Alderman LaFevers. Alderman Cress nominated Alderman Linker.*

**Discussion:** *Alderman Cress commented, “I feel like the people that I have spoken to during and after the election said they are willing to vote for change and that’s what I’m here for. I think that John Linker with his past experience serving as Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem years ago is very well-versed and he is a past member of the Zoning Board, as well as past Alderman; and I think he is well-fitted for the office of Mayor Pro-Tem.”*

*Alderman LaFevers stated, “I have worked with the Town Board for 12 years and I have served as Mayor Pro-Tem in the past. I am familiar with what all we’ve got going, as well as with format with which we operate now. I would like to think that I could serve in that capacity again.”*

*Alderman Costantino commented, “This is my second year on the Board, and you have two experienced nominees. There have been a lot of changes even since I’ve been on Board and I think that either one of these men will do a great job. If you want experience especially with the things going on today, I say go with Alderman Jim LaFevers.”*

*Alderman Linker stated, “I have experience with the Town’s business, and I realize that I would have to get caught up with the business of today and procedures, but I think I could step in and fill the role.*

**Round 1 Voting Results:**

Linker:2

LaFevers: 2

*Mayor Feather commented since we have a tie, let’s go around again.*

**Round 2 Voting Results:**

Linker:2

LaFevers: 2

*Mr. Linker commented, “Since we’re in a stalemate, I don’t think it looks good for us to stay here all night and do this. I will cast my vote for Jim LaFevers.”*

*Mayor Feather congratulated Alderman LaFevers on being elected Mayor Pro-Tem. We will administer the Oath of Office for Alderman LaFevers at the January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.*

**11. OATH OF OFFICE FOR MAYOR PRO-TEM**

*Oath Administered by Jeffrey R. Barger, Rowan County Clerk of Court*

Jim LaFevers

Mayor Pro-Tem

**12. APPOINTMENTS/OATHS OF OFFICE FOR TOWN CLERK/TOWN MANAGER/TOWN ATTORNEY**

*Oaths Administered by Mayor William D. Feather, Town of Granite Quarry*

Tanya Maria Word

Town Clerk

Phil Conrad

Town Manager

Graham Corriher

Town Attorney

**13. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

*Mayor Feather stated the Public Comments Section of the agenda is missing and needs to be added.*

**ACTION:** Alderman LaFevers made a motion to approve the agenda as changed. Motion seconded by Alderman Costantino.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Alfred Healey, 520 W. Peeler Street. Mr. Healey stated: "My street has a lot of fast traffic, including trash trucks speeding down the at approximately 4:00 p.m. I'm concerned with the 250 units in the housing unit on Faith Road and how it seems to be done. If we do these 250 houses we are going to need more police officers, more fire fighters, and personnel. We're going to need another school with teachers, our trash is going to go up, and we're going to need more public works help. There should have been a referendum on this. The new fire station can go up where the new soccer field is."*

*Mayor Mary Pond, 709 S. Salisbury Ave. Mayor Pond congratulated the new Board members. "I also want to say thank you to the outgoing Board members and let them know that we do appreciate the things they did during their term. I want to also say thank you to the citizens of Granite Quarry and I wanted to do it publicly so that everybody would know; but I want to say thank you to the citizens of Granite Quarry because of the impact and the tenacity and the willingness that the citizens of Granite Quarry have."*

*"During this election a lot went on, but I want this Board to know that I am in full support of the things you all have before you and I also want to offer myself to help to do anything that I possibly can....to serve on some kind of Board, I'm not asking to be out front or anything like that. I want to be one of those people that I am just a phone call away."*

*"I want to say that Granite Quarry is a strong town, it's almost like that 'weeble wobble', but we don't fall down. Granite Quarry is a working town, we are a dedicated town, and a town of people who want to see things done and are willing to work to see things done. I want us to work together as a team! This is a new start, a new beginning. We cannot look back if we want to go*

*forward, so I want us to look forward and do the best that we can with what we have; and when we have concerns we speak those concerns and are willing to work through and come to a resolution for those concerns. Congratulations to the newly elected Board members. There is something wrong with this Board...there are no women on this Board, but we are going to work to get some women on this Board!*

**15. APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS**

*Mayor Feather made the following Board Appointments:*

**Transportation Advisory Committee for Cabarrus-Rowan MPO**

Bill Feather  
Kim Cress

**Centralina COG Board of Delegates**

Bill Feather  
John Linker

**Revitalization Board**

John Costantino  
John Linker

**Parks and Recreation Board**

Kim Cress  
Jim LaFevers

**Environmental Committee**

John Linker  
Jim LaFevers

**Community Appearance Committee**

Kim Cress  
Jim Costantino

**\*Town Hall Remodeling Committee**

Jim Costantino  
John Linker

*Mayor Feather explained, “the Board will need to take some action to set this Committee up. This can be done at the January meeting.”*

## **Mayor's Advisory Committee**

*Mayor Feather stated, "We ask a lot of input from the citizens and sometimes we don't get as much input as we would like; and what I would like to do is set up a committee that basically meets with the Mayor and I would like to ask for volunteers. I would like to put Mayor Mary Ponds at the top of this list to be on that Committee. I would like to possibly get maybe 3 or 4 more other volunteers; then once we get together at our first meeting we can set a meeting time and decide how often people would like to meet...whether it be quarterly or monthly or whatever might be acceptable to the situation. This committee has no authority, it's just comments and recommendations brought back to this Board and talk with the Aldermen and see where they would like to go with it."*

*Alderman Linker commented, "In your list of Committees/Board appointments you call it a Mayor's Advisory Committee and in your minutes, you call it a Mayor's Advisory Board. The only comment I have is, the only thing I heard from people who voted for me during the general election is 'I want more transparency.' 'I want to see what's going on, and I want to know what's going on.' In my opinion any Board or Advisory Committee we need to be as transparent as possible and not conduct business anywhere but in the public. I am fully for transparency and if this is a Board, don't we have to vet the members or applicants? I just want to make sure that every Board is fully transparent, the meeting time is published. I want it all above board, and then any citizen will have full access to when those meetings are and who the membership is."*

*Mayor Feather replied, "We can do that if you would like."*

*Alderman Cress commented, "You have Boards and then you have Committees, as Alderman Linker alluded to, I agree with what he said, and I too have heard from residents that we be transparent. All I'm saying is if this is a Board or a Committee and I've noticed in the last 3 – 6 months that we've set up an application process and I understand that the Mayor Pro-Tem and the Mayor actually chose some of these Board members, I'm speaking specifically of our Planning Board. If this is a Board, it needs to be vetted; the application process should be handled by the Clerk and the Town Manager. If it is a Committee as the Mayor stated, he selects whoever is interested if it's a volunteer type committee. Again, I want to reiterate the point of being very transparent."*

*Mayor Feather replied, "The Mayor did not pick any of those persons for the reason appointments, they were all chosen by the Board of Aldermen, so that was a choice of theirs. Based on your comments there is a part of our general Ordinance that would need to be modified and that was one of the reasons that the Board had taken had brought up a method to do that, and there's also another part of that we have to talk about because there are appointments to those Boards that have to be made by the County. The County has a different set of rules than the Town does and that's where the concern is. So, I would challenge this Board to take and review at what that information was, that has been presented to the past Board and consider that as far as what those changes and recommendations that this Board would like to make, and at some point, look at adopting some type of procedure or process. Because when you leave it open like it is right now, one of the duties of the Mayor is to appoint standing committees and such*

*other committees and outline their powers and duties as deemed necessary to properly care for the affairs of the town.*

**16. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of the Minutes
  - Regular Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2017
2. Departmental Reports (*Reports in Board packet*)
3. Financial Reports

**ACTION:** Aldermen Costantino made a motion to approve the consent agenda and minutes of the November 6, 2017 meeting. Alderman Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

**17. GUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

There were no guest presentations.

**18. TOWN MANAGER’S UPDATE**

*Mr. Conrad stated, “The staff has been working diligently on the transition of power basically getting everyone up to speed. To the new Board members, let us know if you need any assistance we are here to help you and provide whatever information that we can.*

*The previous Board approved funding for new shelving in the vault, the shelves will be installed tomorrow.”*

*Alderman Cress asked are there any security concerns that staff has with items being out of the vault and in the conference room. Mr. Conrad replied, “No the conference room is locked.” We are in the process of updating our filing system and we have at least one person dedicated to helping us do that.”*

*Mr. Cress stated, “In years past I don’t think that anyone has the combination to the safe. I would suggest that you get a quote or have someone look and see if that can be done. It would be nice to be able to have that secured also during this time.” Mr. Conrad replied, “We can consider that.”*

**19. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of 2018 Board of Aldermen meeting schedule and holiday schedule

**ACTION:** Alderman Linker made a motion to approve the 2018 Board of Aldermen meeting schedule. Aldermen LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

2. **Ordinance NO. 2017-01** Senate Bill 155 – Brunch Bill  
To Allow The Sale of Alcoholic Beverages Before Noon on Sundays at Licensed Premises.

**ACTION:** Alderman Costantino made a motion to approve Ordinance NO. 2017-01 Senate Bill 155 – Brunch Bill. Aldermen Linker seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

3. Request Public Hearing Meeting for January 2, 2018 @ 6:30 P.M.

*Mr. Conrad explained, “We are actually moving the Public Hearing to the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. The staff from Salisbury Rowan EDC could not be here this evening and they have assured us that they will attend the January meeting and provide some details to the Board members.”*

*Mayor Feather commented, “At the Board’s pleasure we can take and move this item for discussion to the January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting and set the Public Hearing for February 5, 2018.”*

**ACTION:** Alderman Linker made a motion to set the Public Hearing for February 5, 2018. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. **Board Approval to Accept Donated Property on Faith Rd. from Tom Byrd**

*Attorney Corriher explained, “Clifton Byrd lives in South Carolina and owns the property which is a 9-acre parcel and is looking to donate the property to the Town. His Attorney is in the process of procuring the appraisals. He is talking about some restrictions on the land (i.e. it be a public park or something like that, I don’t have those details right now. What is before you today is to authorize the Town Manager, myself, and the Mayor and anyone else that is needed to take and record the deed. “*

*Alderman Linker commented, “What is our purpose, what do we plan to do with it? Nothing comes free and I’m assuming somewhere there is cost associated it, even if it’s free.” Mayor Feather replied, “We need a motion to discuss it.”*

**ACTION:** Alderman Costantino made a motion to further discuss this topic. Alderman LaFevers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

*Alderman Linker asked, “What is the intended purpose of the land should we decide to accept it.” “What is the cost associated it for accepting it.” Mayor Feather replied, what Mr. Byrd’s intent is basically for the Town take the property. It has a garage on it, I don’t know if that garage could possibly be used for some storage; it does have a house on it and to my understanding it is something that may have some historical value to it, but I really don’t know. His comments were that he really doesn’t want the property too much disturbed, he would prefer to see it as a nature area with a couple of walking trails. Overall he is looking at more of a nature preserve.”*

*Mr. Linker commented, "It sounds like a good idea to me, but I'm still concerned there is going to be some cost associated with it. Let's be cautious especially with the restrictions that he is requesting on the property I'm still concerned with overloading the maintenance department which I think is overloaded now." Alderman LaFevers stated, "I think his comment is fair."*

*Attorney Corriher commented, "Mr. Byrd has a timeline, and is hoping to be done with this by the end of the year." Mayor Feather commented, "I would suggest if we don't want to make a decision today, that we recess this meeting today and reconvene at another date and time or schedule a special called meeting to deal with this sometime towards the end of this month."*

**ACTION:** Alderman Cress made a motion to set a Special Called Meeting to discuss this matter for Monday, December 18, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. Alderman Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

## **20. MAYOR'S NOTES -- Announcements and Date Reminders for 2017**

1. **Town of Granite Quarry Staff & Volunteer Christmas Banquet** – December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 P.M., Shiloh United Methodist Church  
*Mrs. Shockley stated, "We have approximately 97 persons who have R.S.V.P. to attend. We will have live music. Food will be provided by Catering by Sue."*
2. **Town Hall Closed – Christmas Holiday** – December 25 and 26
3. **Town Hall Closed – New Year's Day** – January 1
4. **Granite Quarry Board of Aldermen Meeting** - January 2, at 7:00 P.M.
5. **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Job Shadow Day** – February 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rowan-Salisbury Schools and Rowan County Chamber are partnering to provide a job shadow experience for Rowan County students.

Chief Cook explained. "The Granite Quarry-Faith Joint Police Authority, in cooperation with Granite Quarry and Faith Elementary schools, is conducting their sixth annual Adopt-A-Family for Christmas. We are asking for your support and your help, we are going to provide several families in the community with toys and gifts. Donation boxes marked "Adopt-A-Family" will be located at the Town Hall in Granite Quarry and Faith. Toys, items, or gift cards can be dropped off at either location and the gifts do not need to be wrapped. We will have several elves assisting us in wrapping the gifts. Gifts will be collected through December 22<sup>nd</sup>."

## **21. ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Cress made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 P.M. Aldermen Costantino seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectively Submitted,

*Tanya Maria Word*

Town Clerk/HR Director