



TOWN OF
GRANITE FALLS
North Carolina

Dr. Caryl B. Burns Mayor • Tracy Townsend Mayor Pro Tem • Jerry T. Church Town Manager
Council Members Ritch Bolick • Larry Knight • Jim Mackie • Mike Mackie • Martin D. Townsend

AGENDA

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023

4 SOUTH MAIN STREET

5:30 PM

Face coverings are optional for the January 23, 2023, Council meeting but all attendees are encouraged to wear face coverings, and to social distance from other attendees who are not members of the same household, regardless of vaccination status. Individuals in high-risk groups, individuals who are completing isolation or were recently exposed, and residents at risk of infection should continue to wear face coverings in all public indoor settings.

- I. WELCOME - CALL TO ORDER MAYOR DR. CARYL B. BURNS
- II. INVOCATION PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR CHAD RABY
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE COUNCILMEMBER MIKE MACKIE
- IV. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT COUNCILMEMBER RITCH BOLICK

*In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Council member to avoid both conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts. Does any Council member have any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflicts with respect to any matters coming before the Council today? If so, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict and refrain from any undue participation in the particular matters involved.
(N.C.G.S. 14-234, N.C.G.S. 160A-479.11, & N.C.G.S. 160D-109)*

- V. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
- VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS/RECOGNITIONS
Police Chief Chris Jenkins will introduce Patrol Officers Samuel Craig, Michael Tackett, and Hannah Tester to the Council.
- VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022.
- IX. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT BRUCE CANNON

X. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

XI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1) SECOND PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) APPLICATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

The Council shall hold a second public hearing to receive citizen input in the development of CDBG applications for the upcoming year. CDBG funds may be used for a variety of different activities including Neighborhood Revitalization (NR), Economic Development (ED), and Demolition projects. Sherry Long, Assistant Executive Director with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG), will be here to for the citizen input process and to answer questions about the CDBG funds. (See attachment #1.)

The public hearing has been duly noticed by publishing a notice in the News Topic as required under NC General Statutes.

XII. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

1) CDBG NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION GRANT

The NC Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development Division (REDD) has officially notified the Town that we have been awarded \$4,999,000 in CDBG funds for round two of the NR program. One of the stipulations is that the Town must hold two public hearings to obtain public input for this award. Sherry Long, Assistant Executive Director with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG), will be here to discuss the grant in further detail and answer questions about the CDBG NR funding. The Council does need to authorize Mayor Caryl B. Burns to sign all documents related to the CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant on behalf of the Town. (See attachment #1.)

2) 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Granite Falls Parks and Recreation Director Chad Raby will present the 2022 Parks and Recreation Department Annual Report. (See attachment #2.)

3) FINANCIAL REPORT

The Revenue and Expenditure report for the period ended December 31, 2022, is enclosed for the Council's review. This report represents 50% of the current 2022 – 2023 fiscal year budget. Also enclosed for Council review is the financial dashboard and an analysis of the current year's sales tax revenue and property tax revenue versus the previous year and budgeted revenues. (See attachment #3.)

4) BUDGET AMENDMENT #9 – 2022-2023

The Council is requested to approve Budget Amendment #9 – 2022-2023 to allow the Police Department to spend restricted Federal Drug Tax Funds. (See attachment #4.)

5) **APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE WOOTEN COMPANY FOR WATER SYSTEM ASSET INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT**

The Town of Granite Falls was awarded and has accepted a \$150,000 grant from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality to perform asset inventory and assessment work on the Town water system. The engineering services to be performed under this grant are updating the Town’s existing water system hydraulic model including the need for the existing elevated storage tanks.

As required under North Carolina General Statute 143-64.31 (AKA the “Mini-Brooks Act”), Town staff issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Engineering Services for the Water Asset Management Plan Components. The responses to the RFP were due September 7, 2022, and the “Mini-Brooks Act” required the Town staff to evaluate proposals using a Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) process before entering into contract negotiations with responders to the RFP. Town staff has completed the QBS process and recommends that the Town approve a Professional Services Agreement with The Wooten Company for the Water System Asset Inventory and Assessment for a lump sum of \$142,00 for field services and a lump sum amount of \$8,000 for report services. The agreement is from January 2023 until October 2024.

Action Requested: Approve Professional Services Agreement for Water System Asset Inventory and Assessment with The Wooten Company as presented and approve the Town Manager executing the agreement on behalf of the Town. (See attachment #5.)

6) **NORTH CAROLINA LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES (NCLM) CORE MUNICIPAL PRINCIPLES AND LEGISLATIVE GOAL STATEMENTS**

On the first two pages of Attachment #6 are the NCLM Board of Directors recommended Core Municipal Principles to serve as a guide in efforts to oppose legislative proposals that would act to undermine our cities and towns. On the last five pages of Attachment #6 are the NCLM Board of Directors recommended Legislative Goal Statements for the 2023-2024 biennium NC Legislative session. The NCLM solicited input for these goals from all municipalities, grouped the input into 16 goals, and sent the 16 goals back to municipalities to vote on their top 10 goals out of the 16 recommended goals in order to present the “top ten” goals to the NC Legislature. Due to the short timeline the Town was given to respond to the NCLM request, Mayor Caryl B. Burns requested Town Manager Jerry Church review the NCLM goals and appointed him to cast the Town “ballot” for the goals that are most important to the Town of Granite Falls. The top ten goals from the Town of Granite Falls are designated with asterisks on the last 5 pages of attachment #6. (See attachment #6.)

XIII. MANAGER UPDATE

Town Manager Jerry Church shall update the Council on the following:

- 1) Enclosed with your Agenda package is a calendar of events through the end of February 2024. Revisions since the last calendar are highlighted in yellow.

Note: Members of the Town Council may attend events that are, or are not, sponsored by the Town but there will be no Council business conducted at any of these events in instances where a quorum of the Council may be present.

XIV. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. WPCOG Policy Board
2. Caldwell County Railroad Policy Board
3. Sales Tax Reinvestment Committee
4. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Technical Coordinating
5. Caldwell County Economic Development Commission (EDC)
6. NC Municipal Power Agency # 1 Board of Commissioners
7. Caldwell County Manager’s bi-monthly meeting

XV. INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS

1. The Recreation Advisory Board will not meet in February.
2. The Merchants’ Association will not meet in February.
3. The History Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 14th at 2:00 p.m. at the History Museum.
4. The Planning Board will meet on Tuesday, January 24th at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Room.
5. The Board of Adjustment will meet on Wednesday, February 8th at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Room.
6. The WPCOG MPO/RPO will meet on Wednesday, February 22nd at 1:00 p.m. at the WPCOG.
7. The ABC Board will meet on Monday, February 13th at 5:30 p.m. at the ABC Store.

XVI. CLOSED SESSION

Under N.C. General Statute 143-318.11 (3) the Council shall hold a closed session to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

XVII. OTHER BUSINESS

XVIII. ADJOURN

Reminder: The next Town Council Meeting is a regular meeting on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

In accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, neither the Town of Granite Falls, nor the Granite Falls ABC Board, discriminates based on disability in conducting its meetings. Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aids or services or other accommodations for effective communication and participating in a meeting may contact the Town Clerk at (828) 396-3131. Requests should be made at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.