



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
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2023
4 SOUTH MAIN STREET
5:30 PM

Face coverings are optional for the February 20, 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 COUNCILMEMBER MIKE MACKIE
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE COUNCILMEMBER RITCH BOLICK
- IV. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT - COUNCILMEMBER MARTIN TOWNSEND

*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 Granite Falls Elementary School Resource Officer Abel Rivas to the Council.
- VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023.
- IX. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT BRUCE CANNON

X. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

XI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1) PUBLIC (LEGISLATIVE) HEARING ON REZONING PETITION #1-2023 – 53 FALLS AVENUE

The Council shall hold a public (legislative) hearing on Rezoning Petition #1-2023. Mitch Hawkins submitted a Zoning Map Amendment for a portion of his property located at 53 Falls Avenue. The property is currently split-zoned, with the front portion (~0.5 acre) in the N-B, Neighborhood Business District while the rearmost portion (~0.25 acre) is in the R-15, Single Family Residential District. The request is to rezone the front portion from N-B, Neighborhood Business to H-B, Highway Business, while leaving the balance of the property in the R-15 District. The property is currently vacant. The Council called for the public hearing at the February 6, 2023, Council meeting following the presentation by Town Planner Greg Wilson. At the public hearing, all residents of the Town and other interested parties must be allowed to speak. The rezoning would become effective immediately. (See attachment #1.)

The public hearing has been duly noticed by posting a sign on the subject property, publishing a notice in the News Topic and by direct mail to adjacent property owners per the requirements set forth in G.S. §160D-602.

XII. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

1) REZONING PETITION #1-2023 – 53 FALLS AVENUE

Council shall consider Rezoning Petition #1-2023 for approximately (~0.5 acres) of the front portion of the property located at 53 Falls Avenue. The property is currently zoned R-15, Single Family Residential and the request is to rezone the front portion from N-B, Neighborhood Business to H-B, Highway Business, (See attachment #1 for Ordinance #374.)

A Council Member may consider the following sample motion script to simplify the State requirements:

“I make a motion to (Approve or Deny) Rezoning Petition #1-2023, Rezoning Ordinance #374, and to approve the corresponding Statement of Consistency & Reasonableness contained in the agenda packet.”

Any additions or deletions to either of the sample motion scripts must be noted within the motion

2) 2022 PLANNING DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Granite Falls Town Planner Greg Wilson will present the 2022 Planning Department Annual Report. (See attachment #2.)

3) 2022 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Water Resources Director and Public Works Director Randy Smith will present the 2022 Public Works Department Annual Report. (See attachment #3.)

4) **2022 WATER RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT**

Water Resources Director and Public Works Director Randy Smith will present the 2022 Wastewater and Water Treatment Departments Annual Reports. (See attachment #4.)

5) **APPROVE PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MARCH 2023 AS AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH**

The Council is requested to approve a proclamation approving March 2023 as American Red Cross month. (See attachment #5.)

6) **BUDGET AMENDMENT #10 – 2022-2023 – FINANCE OFFICER ASHLEY PRESNELL**

The Council is requested to approve Budget Amendment #2023-10 to record an insurance reimbursement of \$43,028 for the loss of a 1997 Ford dump truck and a woodchipper that were totaled when the truck slipped out of gear at a work site. The budget amendment authorizes Town staff to spend the reimbursement on a replacement vehicle if one is available. (See attachment #6.)

7) **ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT COMPANY AGREEMENT**

The Council is requested to approve the General Agreement with Asplundh Tree Expert Co. for March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2024, and to authorize the Town Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the Town. The agreement establishes compensation, obligations and insurance requirements, etc. There are no significant changes to the terms and conditions and the agreement includes rate increases of approximately 7.3% or approximately \$4,554 per year. Asplundh's rates are still lower than the labor rate quotes we received from other tree trimming companies. (See attachment #7.)

8) **ASPLUNDH STORM EMERGENCY PROCEDURE - TREE CREWS**

The Council is requested to approve the Storm Emergency Procedure – Tree Crews Terms and Conditions with Asplundh Tree Expert Co. for March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2024, and to authorize the Town Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the Town. (See attachment #8.)

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 meet on Tuesday, March 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center.
2. The Merchants' Association will meet on Monday, March 13th at noon in the 1st floor conference room in the Town Office.
3. The History Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 14th at 2:00 p.m. at the History Museum.
4. The Planning Board will meet on Tuesday, February 28th at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Room.
5. The Board of Adjustment will meet on Wednesday, March 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, March 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, March 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.