



TOWN OF
GRANITE FALLS
North Carolina

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

AGENDA
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2021
4 SOUTH MAIN STREET
5:30 PM

Per Center for Disease Control guidance, attendees at the Council meeting who have not been vaccinated should continue to wear face coverings and social distance from others in attendance.

- I. WELCOME - CALL TO ORDER MAYOR BARRY HAYES
- II. INVOCATION REVEREND TOM MCDONALD, CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE MAYOR BARRY HAYES
- IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
- V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS/RECOGNITIONS-NONE
- VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD JUNE 7, 2021.
- VIII. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT NONE SCHEDULED
- IX. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
- X. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT #2-2021 – CHAPTER 160-D UPDATE

The Council shall hold a public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment #2-2021 which updates the Town of Granite Falls Zoning Regulations as required by legislative updates to Chapter 160-D of the North Carolina General Statutes. The Council called for the public hearing at the June 7, 2021 Council meeting following the presentation of the update by Town Planner Greg Wilson. At the public hearing, all residents of the Town and other interested parties must be allowed to speak. The update would become effective immediately. (See attachment #1.)

Notice of the public hearing was duly provided in the *News Topic* as required by law.

2. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

The Council shall hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 for \$14,657,950. The budget, including the budget message, was presented to the Council at the special Council meeting held May 26, 2021 and is a “blueprint” used to provide a sound financial framework for all Town operations. It ensures that the Town’s limited resources are allocated toward the services and priorities identified by the Council. More specifically, the budget is a financial plan consisting of estimated sources of revenues and proposed expenditures. **(Please bring your copy of the budget from the May 26th special meeting.)**

The recommended budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 of \$14,657,950 is \$398,902 or 2.8% more than the 2020-2021 amended budget of \$14,259,048. The largest increases in the 2021-2022 budget are Salaries, Wages and Benefits (\$289,000), Capital Outlay (\$188,000), Street Paving & Maintenance (\$217,000), and the Purchase of Electricity (\$88,000). The anticipated cost increases in 2022 will be offset by decreases in the Grace Village Hope Grant (\$220,500), COVID-19 expenses (\$64,000), Debt Service (\$58,000) and Bad Debt Expenses (\$29,000). The full-time head count remains at 62 employees. (See attachment #2.)

Notice of the public hearing was duly provided in the News Topic as required by law.

XI. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

1. UPDATE TO THE TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS ZONING REGULATIONS – ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT #2-2021

Council shall consider the update to the Town of Granite Falls Zoning Regulations. (See attachment #1.)

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

“I make a motion to (Approve or Deny) Zoning Text Amendment #2-2021 and to approve the corresponding Statement of Consistency & Reasonableness contained in the agenda packet.”

NOTE: Any additions or deletions to the applicable Statement of Consistency contained in the agenda packet should be noted within the motion

2. ADOPT BUDGET ORDINANCE #359

Following the public hearing on the budget, the Council is required to adopt the Budget Ordinance #359 for \$14,657,950 for fiscal year 2021-2022 that will enact the budget. (See attachment #2 for Budget Ordinance #359.)

3. APPROVE FEE SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

Council is requested to approve the Town of Granite Falls Fee Schedule effective July 1, 2021. The Fee Schedule includes the electric rate schedules and the new water and sewer rate schedules as well as other fees. The only change in the Fee Schedule since it was presented in May was a reduction in season pool passes due to the lifeguard shortage that won’t allow us to open the pool every day this summer. The Council is requested to approve the 2021-2022 Fee Schedule as presented and to revise the 2020-2021 Fee Schedule to charge the same season pool passes rates in 2020-2021 since the pool season falls in both fiscal years. (See attachment #3.)

- 4. ADOPT UPDATED RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS (REPS) RIDER**
The Council needs to adopt an update to the Renewable Retail Rider #15. The Retail REPS Rider must be updated for the Renewable Resource and the DSM/Energy Efficiency portions of the charge. Approval is also required to enable the Town to bill and collect these “pass through” charges effective July 1, 2021. (See attachment #4.)
- 5. ADOPT UPDATED RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES (REC) RIDER**
The Council needs to adopt an update to Retail Rate Schedule Rider #16, Renewable Energy Credit Rider and a revised standard purchase offer for RECs. These monthly credits and purchase offer amounts would be in effect July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. (See attachment #5.)
- 6. RECEIVE APPROVED BUDGET FROM GRANITE FALLS ABC BOARD**
At the May 17, 2021 regular meeting, Council was presented a proposed 2021-2022 budget for the Granite Falls Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Under N.C.G.S. 18B-702, effective for fiscal years starting after May 1, 2011, each local ABC Board must operate under a balanced budget and the proposed budget must be presented to the local ABC Board, the appointing authority (Granite Falls Town Council) and the NC ABC Commission before June 1st of each year. The budget must be adopted by the local ABC Board at a meeting held after June 1st each year and the budget approved by the local board must be submitted to the appointing authority and to the NC ABC Commission. The ABC Board approved the budget at its June 21, 2021 meeting which was held earlier this afternoon. The Council is not required to approve this budget, but the presentation of the approved budget to the Council from the ABC Board must be reflected in the Council meeting minutes. The approved ABC budget for 2021-2022 did not change from the proposed ABC budget the Council accepted on May 17, 2021. (See attachment # 6.)
- 7. APPROVE REVISED EMPLOYEE JOB GRADES, CLASSIFICATIONS, AND PAY RANGES FOR FISCAL 2021-2022 TO INCLUDE THE ADDITION OF ONE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE AT THE RECREATION CENTER**
Council is requested to approve increasing the full-time head count budget for 2021-2022 from 62 to 63 employees by adding an Athletics Program Specialist at the Recreation Center. Both of the part-time night and weekend Recreation Center building supervisors are currently seeking full-time employment and Staff believes they will be successful finding employment in this extremely tight labor market. Increasing the Recreation Center head count will not require a budget amendment or additional funds to pay for this position as the Rec Center will eliminate three part-time positions (2 night-time building supervisors and one part-time groundskeeper) and assign those duties to full-time staff. Town staff will also delay new hires, that the Council had previously approved, by a month to 45 days to cover the rest of the needed funds. If the Council approves adding the new position at the Recreation Center, Council is requested to approve revised employee job grades, classifications and pay ranges for fiscal 2021-2022. (See attachment #7.)
- 8. APPROVE BUDGET TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO CLOSE OUT TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS DWSRP PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**
Council approved funding for the Drinking Water State Reserve Program Loan project. Effective with the 2019 fiscal year and going forward, Town staff must request Council approval to transfer funds from the applicable department budgets into the individual project budgets before the end of the fiscal year instead of obtaining Council approval after the end of the current fiscal year for the actual amounts of the transfers. These transfers are the amounts of the current fiscal year estimated project expenditures less projected reimbursements from any funding agency that has committed funding for the project. Finance Officer Jana Williams requests the Council approve the estimated budget transfer as presented. (See attachment #8.)

9. TOWN HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Town of Granite Falls Administrative Office, the Recreation Center, and the Public Works and Electric Departments will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

July 4 th	Monday, July 5 th (Rec. Center building closed. Pool is open.)
Labor Day	Monday, September 6 th

The Police and Fire Departments and the Water and Wastewater Facilities will be on duty as scheduled and those employees scheduled to work these holidays receive alternate time off with pay. Republic Services will pick up garbage and recycling on their regular schedule.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS NOT LISTED

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 July, 2022. 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.

2. Other Items of Interest

XIV. 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 in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

XV. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. WPCOG Policy Board
2. Caldwell County Railroad Policy Board
3. Sales Tax Reinvestment Committee
4. Catawba River Study Committee
5. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Technical Coordinating
6. Caldwell County Economic Development Commission (EDC)
7. Corporate Circle – sponsored by Caldwell Chamber of Commerce
8. NC Municipal Power Agency # 1 Board of Commissioners
9. Caldwell County Manager’s bi-monthly meeting
10. ElectriCities Grassroots Committee
11. Caldwell County’s Green Commission

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. The Granite Falls Recreation Advisory Board will meet Tuesday, August 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center.
2. The Granite Falls Merchants' Association will meet Tuesday, June 22nd at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Office Conference Room.
3. The Granite Falls History Committee will meet Tuesday, July 13th at 2:00 p.m. at the History and Transportation Museum.
4. The Granite Falls Planning Board will meet Tuesday, July 27th at 5:00 p.m.
5. The Granite Falls Board of Adjustment will meet Wednesday, July 14th at 5:00 p.m.
6. The Granite Falls Land Use Plan Steering Committee will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center Social Hall.
7. The WPCOG MPO/RPO will meet Wednesday, June 23rd at 1:00 p.m. at the WPCOG.
8. The Granite Falls ABC Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2021-2022 budget on Monday, June 21st, at 5:00 p.m. at the ABC store. The Granite Falls ABC Board will meet Monday, June 21st at 5:30 p.m. at the ABC store. The Granite Falls ABC Board will also meet Monday, July 12th at 5:30 p.m. at the ABC Store.

In accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, neither the Town of Granite Falls, nor the Granite Falls ABC Board, discriminates on the basis of 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.

Reminder: The next Town Council Meeting is a regular meeting on Monday, July 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.