

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 5, 2018

REGULAR MEETING The Granite Falls Town Council held a Regular Meeting on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Administrative Building.

PRESENT The following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Barry Hayes, Council Members Dr. Caryl B. Burns, Larry Knight, Jim Mackie, Mike Mackie, Martin Townsend, and Tracy Townsend.

ABSENT The following member of the governing body was absent: None.

STAFF PRESENT The following staff members attended the meeting: Town Manager Jerry Church, Town Clerk Paula Kirby, Town Planner Greg Wilson, Police Chief Chris Jenkins, Electric Services Director Rick Sisk, and Water Resource Director Chris Graybeal.

VISITORS Assistant Scout Master Rich McKercher, Scout Den Leader Luke Barger, Boy Scouts Brian Coons, Emery McCurdy, Richie McKercher, Christopher Tocci, Spencer Richard, Elijah Baker, Avery Annas, Troy Harris, Evan Hodge, Jackson Puckett, Ethan Hodge; Renee Coons, Matt Tocci, Michael Richard, Ben Baker, Heather McCurdy, Denise Annas, Emily Kroom, Jeremy Puckett, Jennifer Bowman, Allison Hodge, J.P. Miller, Melanie Proctor, and Alan Huffman.

NEWS MEDIA Guy Lucas, representing the *News-Topic*, attended the meeting.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER Mayor Barry Hayes called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

INVOCATION Reverend Dan Greene, Christian Fellowship Chapel, led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Barry Hayes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mike Mackie made a motion the Council approve the agenda as presented. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 22, 2018 APPROVED Martin Townsend made a motion the Council approve the minutes from the Special Meeting held January 22, 2018 as presented. Tracy Townsend seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT Town Attorney Bruce Cannon did not have a report.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD No one registered to speak during the Public Comment Period.

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING ON ASSESSMENT AGAINST REAL PROPERTY OWNERS FAILING TO PAY INVOICES TO THE TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS CALLED TO ORDER Mayor Barry Hayes called to order a public hearing on the preliminary assessment roll against real property owners failing to pay invoices to the Town of Granite Falls for services rendered by the Town to abate public nuisances on said real property. These abatement services consisted of mowing grass and/or removing refuse or solid waste and/or demolition of declared nuisance structures in accordance with Town Ordinances.

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

No one registered to speak during the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ASSESSMENT AGAINST REAL PROPERTY OWNERS FAILING TO PAY INVOICES TO THE TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS CLOSED Mayor Barry Hayes closed the public hearing on the preliminary assessment roll against real property owners failing to pay invoices to the Town of Granite Falls for services rendered by the Town to abate public nuisances on said real property.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

ASSESSMENTS FROM THE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL APPROVED The Council was requested to approve the preliminary assessment roll, after determining whether or not to allow any discounts from the assessment roll, against real property of owners failing to pay invoices to the Town of Granite Falls for services rendered by the Town to abate public nuisances on said real property. These abatement services consisted of mowing grass and/or removing refuse or solid waste and/or demolition of declared nuisance structures in accordance with Town Ordinances.

Tracy Townsend made a motion the Council approve the preliminary assessment roll as presented with no discounts. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of the preliminary assessment roll is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED FOR ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT #1-2018 Town Planner Greg Wilson reviewed with the Council the Granite Falls Planning Board meeting held Tuesday, January 30, 2018. The Planning Board considered Zoning Text Amendment #1-2018 which would clarify parking requirements for elementary, middle and high schools for new construction and for substantial renovations on an existing site. The Planning Board

voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council approve Zoning Text Amendment #1-2018 as submitted.

Jim Mackie made a motion the Council call for a public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment #1-2018 at the regular Town Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, February 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of Zoning Text Amendment #1-2018 is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED FOR ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT #2-2018 Town Planner Greg Wilson reviewed with the Council the Granite Falls Planning Board meeting held Tuesday, January 30, 2018. The Planning Board considered Zoning Text Amendment #2-2018, submitted by J.P. Miller, which would expand the hours of operation for Wine Shop/Wine Bar and Craft Beer Bottle Shop/Taproom businesses that are allowed in the Central Business District under Conditional Use Permits. The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council approve Zoning Text Amendment #2-2018 as submitted.

Jim Mackie made a motion the Council call for a public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment #2-2018 at the regular Town Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, February 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Martin Townsend seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of Zoning Text Amendment #2-2018 is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED FOR ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT #3-2018 Town Planner Greg Wilson reviewed with the Council the Granite Falls Planning Board meeting held Tuesday, January 30, 2018. The Planning Board considered Zoning Text Amendment #3-2018, submitted by J.P. Miller, which would allow food trucks to operate in commercial districts and would also establish standards for required permits, location, hours of operation, signage and public safety. The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council approve Zoning Text Amendment #3-2018 as submitted.

J.P. Miller informed the Council that extended hours would be beneficial for holding fund raising events for non-profit organizations, wedding receptions, and special holiday events.

Martin Townsend made a motion the Council call for a public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment #3-2018 at the regular Town Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, February 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Jim Mackie seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of Zoning Text Amendment #3-2018 is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

2017 POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT Granite Falls Police Chief Chris Jenkins presented the 2017 Police Department Annual Report to the Council. A copy of the report is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

2017 ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT Granite Falls Electric Services Director Rick Sisk presented the 2017 Electric Department Annual Report to the Council. A copy of the report is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

2017 WATER RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT Granite Falls Water Resource Director Chris Graybeal presented the 2017 Wastewater and Water Treatment Departments Annual Reports to the Council. Copies of these reports are attached and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

2ND QUARTER ABC DISTRIBUTION APPROVED Town Finance Officer Marsha Harbison requested the Council authorize the distribution of ABC funds for \$4,598.07 to the local schools as follows:

Granite Falls Elementary School	36%	\$1,655.31
Granite Falls Middle School	36%	\$1,655.31
Dudley Shoals Elementary School	<u>28%</u>	<u>\$1,287.45</u>
Total Distribution	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$4,598.07</u>

These funds represent the portion of the ABC Store profit distribution to schools for the second quarter ended 12/31/2017.

Tracy Townsend made a motion the Council approve the second quarter ABC distribution to schools as presented. Mike Mackie seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

ABC EXPENDITURE STATEMENTS The principals of the local schools submitted their expenditure statements for the quarter ended December 31, 2017 for the Council's review and comments. Copies of the statements are attached and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

ABC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS The Granite Falls ABC Board submitted the financial statement for the six-month period ended December 31, 2017 for the Council's review and comments. Copies of the statements are attached and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

ADVERTISE TAX LIENS ON 2017 TAXES Granite Falls Tax Collector Kim Anderson submitted a certified list of property owners who have unpaid taxes that represent an unpaid tax lien. It was requested that the Council set the date of Thursday, May 10, 2018 to advertise the 2017 unpaid taxes on real property as required by NCGS 105-369(c).

Jim Mackie made a motion the Council set the date of Thursday, May 10, 2018 to advertise the 2017 unpaid taxes on real property as requested. Tracy Townsend seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of the list is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE DISCOVERIES AND RELEASE TAXES The Council was asked to authorize Granite Falls Tax Collector Kim Anderson to approve \$305.04 in property tax discoveries and to release taxes in the amount of \$76.47. Ms. Anderson submitted a certified request and the Caldwell County Tax Office verified the discoveries and releases.

At a regular Council meeting held on Monday, February 20, 2012, the Town Council approved a resolution allowing the Tax Collector not to bill a taxpayer, or otherwise attempt to collect property taxes when the principal amount of the property taxes due does not exceed \$3.00. The resolution requires the Tax Collector to keep a record of the amount of minimal taxes and report this to the governing body. Tax Collector Kim Anderson has reported that the \$76.47 in tax releases were for principal amounts of taxes due that were less than \$3.

Martin Townsend made a motion the Council authorize Granite Falls Tax Collector Kim Anderson to approve \$305.04 in property tax discoveries and to release taxes in the amount of \$76.47 as requested. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. Copies of the property tax discoveries and releases are attached and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

ADOPTION OF TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS MISSION STATEMENT APPROVED

The Town of Granite Falls has been using the following Mission Statement for the past few years:

“Develop, implement and conclude projects/activities, which would create a sense of community throughout the entire Town for the benefit of the Town as a whole and would result in enhanced community pride and volunteerism.”

Town staff recommended that the Council consider approving an updated Mission Statement:

“The Town of Granite Falls is committed to building community pride and enhancing the quality of life for its citizens by providing responsive, cost-effective services timely, respectfully, professionally, and honestly.”

Dr. Caryl B. Burns submitted an alternative which Town Staff likes better than the version they submitted:

“The Town of Granite Falls is committed to building community pride and to enhancing the quality of life for all citizens by providing timely, cost-effective services delivered honestly, professionally, and respectfully.”

Martin Townsend made a motion the Council approve the Mission Statement submitted by Dr. Burns. Jim Mackie seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE APPROVED Tracy Townsend made a motion the Council approve cancelling the regular Council meetings

scheduled for Monday, March 5, 2018, Monday, March 19, 2018, and Monday, April 2, 2018. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

Larry Knight made a motion the Council approve calling for a special Council meeting on Monday, March 26, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council room followed by a special Council budget work session on Monday, March 26, 2018 at 6:15 p.m. in the Council room. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

MANAGER UPDATE Town Manager Jerry Church updated the council on the following:

1. Enclosed with the Council's agenda package was a calendar of events through the end of February 2019. Revisions since the last calendar were highlighted in gray. Members of the Town Council may attend these events but there will be no Council business conducted at any of the events in instances where a quorum of the Council may be present.
2. The February 1, 2018 Catawba-Wateree Drought Management Advisory Group (C-W DMAG) drought trigger update indicated through the Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) drought indicators, that the C-W basin remained in Stage 0 Normal conditions for the seventh consecutive month.
3. The 2018-2019 budget process is underway and on schedule at this point.

MEETING ADJOURNED Mike Mackie made a motion the Council adjourn the meeting. Martin Townsend seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.