

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD JULY 16, 2018**

**REGULAR MEETING** The Granite Falls Town Council held a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 16, 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, Jim Mackie, Martin Townsend and Tracy Townsend.

**ABSENT** The following members of the governing body were absent: Larry Knight and Mike Mackie.

**STAFF PRESENT** The following staff members attended the meeting: Town Manager Jerry Church, Town Clerk Paula Kirby, Town Planner Greg Wilson, Administrative Assistant Kara Calloway, Police Chief Chris Jenkins, Police Lieutenant Ricky Gilliland, Patrol Officer Todd Arnette, and Parks and Recreation Director Chad Raby.

**VISITORS** NC House Representative Destin Hall, NC Senator Warren Daniel, Lydia Daniel, and Rob Howard.

**NEWS MEDIA** James Branch, representing the *News-Topic*, attended the meeting.

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

**INVOCATION** Parks and Recreation Director Chad Raby led in prayer.

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

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

Police Chief Chris Jenkins introduced Police Lieutenant Ricky Gilliland to the Council.

Police Chief Chris Jenkins introduced Patrol Officer Todd Arnette to the Council.

**Recap of the 2018 legislative session and preview of the upcoming 2019 legislative session** NC House Representative Destin Hall informed the Council that the State may award Caldwell County with a \$15 million grant which would cover between 60 to 75% of the \$20-\$25 million needed to build the new Granite Falls Middle School. The Town

received a one-time allocation of \$50,000 in the 2018-2019 state budget to assist with ADA projects at the Recreation Center.

NC Senator Warren Daniel stated that the State is trying to keep annual budget growth to 3-4% with a continued focus on cutting income taxes. He also stated that the employment rate is up in North Carolina. He feels that the State budget is in good shape.

Mayor Hayes asked when the decision would be made regarding the \$15 million for the Middle School. Representative Hall stated the decision will be made in early September of this year.

Mayor Hayes thanked Representative Hall and Senator Daniel for their work to assist the Town of Granite Falls. He also thanked them for their public service and work in Raleigh.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Martin Townsend made a motion the Council approve the agenda with the exclusions of NC Senator Deanna Ballard's update and the Closed Session. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

**MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD JUNE 18, 2018 APPROVED** Tracy Townsend made a motion the Council approve the minutes from the Special Meeting held June 18, 2018. Martin Townsend seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

**TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT** Town Attorney Bruce Cannon reported that the County Officer that was shot today was in stable condition.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS**

**PUBLIC HEARING CALLED FOR REZONING PETITION #3-2018 – LAUREL STREET** Town Planner Greg Wilson reviewed with the Council the Granite Falls Planning Board meeting held Wednesday, July 11, 2018 where they reviewed Rezoning Petition #3-2018. Rob Howard submitted a Rezoning Petition for four (4) separate properties on Laurel Street across from the Town Public Works Facility. The properties are owned by four (4) different owners and each property is approximately ½ acre. One of the parcels is currently vacant and the other three properties are occupied by one residential duplex per property. The properties are currently zoned R-15, Single Family Residential and the request is to rezone these properties to R-8, Medium-High Density Residential District. The R-8 District allows for multi-family residential (including duplexes) as a permitted use, while the R-15 District does not.

The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council approve the Petition for Rezoning #3-2018 as submitted.

Tracy Townsend made a motion the Council call for a public hearing at the Special Town Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, August 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of Rezoning Petition #3-2018 is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

**REPORT ON UNPAID TAXES AND SETTLEMENT FOR 2017-2018 TAXES**

**ACCEPTED** After July 1 and before being charged with 2018-2019 taxes, the Tax Collector must make a sworn report to the governing board showing a list of unpaid taxes constituting liens on real property, a list of unpaid taxes on personal property not constituting liens on real property and make settlement for 2017-2018 taxes per North Carolina General Statute 105-373(a).

Martin Townsend made a motion the Council accept the report as submitted. Jim Mackie seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of the list is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

**MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT**

The preliminary Revenue and Expenditure Report for the period ended June 30, 2018 was presented for the Council’s review and comment. This report represents 100% of the 2017–2018 fiscal year budget. Also presented for Council’s review were the financial dashboard and an analysis of 2017-2018 sales tax revenue and property tax revenue versus prior year and budgeted revenues. Copies of these reports are attached and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT #16 FY 2017-2018 APPROVED**

The Town of Granite Falls electricity sales exceeded the budgeted amount. Due to the increased sales of electricity, the Town purchase of electricity also exceeded the budgeted amount. Additionally, the Town entered into a reimbursement agreement with the NC DOT to relocate electric lines for the new Duke Street interchange. The Town has expended engineering fees and used supplies in fiscal 2018 and will not receive the reimbursement from the NC DOT for these expenditures until fiscal 2019. Budget Amendment #16 authorizes these expenditures in fiscal 2018.

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| <b>Increase Electric Fund Revenue</b>                    | <b>\$100,000.00</b> |
| <b>Increase Electric Purchases</b>                       | <b>\$ 75,000.00</b> |
| <b>Increase Electric Engineering Expense</b>             | <b>\$ 15,000.00</b> |
| <b>Increase Electric Supplies Expense</b>                | <b>\$ 70,000.00</b> |
| <b>Decrease Electric Pole Inspection Expense</b>         | <b>\$ 10,000.00</b> |
| <b>Decrease Electric Capital Outlay Lines</b>            | <b>\$ 19,000.00</b> |
| <b>Decrease Electric Maintenance &amp; Repairs Lines</b> | <b>\$ 31,000.00</b> |

Dr. Caryl B. Burns made a motion the Council approve Budget Amendment #16 FY 2017-2018 as presented. Martin Townsend seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

**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:

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| Labor Day    | Monday, September 3 <sup>rd</sup>   |
| Veterans Day | Monday, November 12 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Thanksgiving | Thursday, November 22 <sup>nd</sup> & Friday, November 23 <sup>rd</sup>   |
| Christmas    | Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup> |

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 except for Christmas Day.

**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 August 2019. Revisions since the last calendar were highlighted in yellow. Upcoming events include the ElectriCities Annual Conference August 20-22, 2018 in Asheville, NC (Please see Town Clerk Paula Kirby about registering for this event), the Granite Falls Merchants Association Festival on Main on Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and the NCLM Connect CityVision Annual Conference in Hickory, NC, September 19-21, 2018 (Reservations Required, See Paula).

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.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** Jim Mackie made a motion the Council adjourn the meeting. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.