

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

REGULAR MEETING The Granite Falls Town Council held a Regular Meeting on Monday, August 17, 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, and Martin Townsend.

ABSENT The following member of the governing body was absent: Tracy Townsend

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, Finance Officer Marsha Harbison, Senior Customer Service Representative April Deal, Senior Customer Service Representative Shawnasi Holland, and Police Chief Chris Jenkins.

VISITORS Michael Hice, Jim Beaver, and Renae Winkler

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 Pastor Heidi Punt, Christ United Lutheran Church, led in prayer.

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS/RECOGNITIONS

New Employee Introductions:

Town Finance Officer Marsha Harbison introduced Senior Customer Service Representatives April Deal and Shawnasi Holland to the Council.

Fire Chief Brian Bennett, Fire Engineer David Adkins, and Caldwell County Schools Superintendent Dr. Don Phipps were unable to attend the meeting.

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AUGUST 13, 2018 Martin Townsend made a motion the Council approve the minutes from the Special Town Council meeting held August 13, 2018 as presented. Larry Knight 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.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

CHANGE TO COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE APPROVED Jim Mackie made a motion the Council cancel the regular council meeting scheduled for Monday, October 1, 2018. Dr. Caryl B. Burns seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED FOR REZONING PETITION #4-2018 – 499 NORTH MAIN STREET Town Planner Greg Wilson reviewed with the Council the Granite Falls Planning Board meeting held Tuesday, August 28, 2018 where they reviewed Rezoning Petition #4-2018. Jeff Cook submitted a Rezoning Petition for property located at 499 North Main Street. The property is approximately .44 acres in size and is currently occupied by a single-family home but is zoned H-B, Highway Business. The request was to rezone this property to R-15, Single Family Residential. The H-B District allows for commercial uses while the R-15 District does not.

The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council approve the Petition for Rezoning #4-2018 as submitted.

Martin Townsend made a motion the Council call for a public hearing at the Regular Town Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Jim Mackie seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of Rezoning Petition #4-2018 is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED FOR ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT #5-2018 Town Planner Greg Wilson reviewed with the Council the Granite Falls Planning Board meeting held Tuesday, August 28, 2018. The Board considered Zoning Text Amendment #5-2018, submitted by James Beaver, which would add “Metal Recycling Facilities” as a Conditional Use in the M-1, General Manufacturing District. The proposed language would include specific requirements for their location, screening, hours of operation, and landscaping. Those standards would apply to new facilities or to existing facilities that are expanding.

The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council approve Zoning Text Amendment #5-2018 as submitted.

Larry Knight made a motion the Council call for a public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment #5-2018 at the Regular Town Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Jim Mackie seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of Zoning Text Amendment #5-2018 is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

POPULATION ESTIMATE The NC Department of State Budget and Management estimated the Town of Granite Falls' population at 4,643 as of July 1, 2017, which is a decrease of 9 from the July 1, 2016 estimate of 4,652. A copy of the Preliminary 2017 Municipal Population Estimate is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

CHARGE TAX LEVY 2018 The Council was requested to charge Tax Collector Kim Anderson with collecting the 2018 ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$1,738,836.93 under NC General Statute §159-13. The 2018 levy represents an increase of \$23,781.74 or 1.39% from the 2017 tax levy. 2018 assessed property tax values increased by \$5,302,507 from 2017. The breakdown of the tax assessments is shown below.

Real Property	\$347,564,870
Personal Property	<u>\$40,135,672</u>
Total Assessed Valuation	<u>\$387,700,542</u>

Martin Townsend made a motion the Council charge Tax Collector Kim Anderson with collecting the 2018 ad valorem taxes as requested. Mike Mackie seconded the motion, with a unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of the 2018 Tax Levy is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT The financial dashboard and an analysis of current year sales tax revenue versus prior year and budgeted revenues, for the two months ended August 31, 2018, were presented for the Council's review. These reports represent 17% of the current 2019 fiscal year budget. Copies of the reports are attached and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN APPROVED NCDEQ, Division of Water Resources Staff has completed a review of the Town of Granite Falls Water Shortage Response Plan (WSRP) and has determined that the WSRP meets the minimum criteria for such plans as outlined in NCGS 143 355.2 (a) and 15A NCAC 02E. 0607. The Council was asked to approve the WSRP and the resolution stating that the plan has been approved.

Mike Mackie made a motion the Council approve the resolution for approving the Water Shortage Response Plan as requested. Martin Townsend seconded the motion, with a

unanimous affirmative vote. A copy of the resolution is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

REPORT ON ELECTRICITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE AUGUST 20-22, 2018

Mayor Barry Hayes and Council Member Jim Mackie reported on the ElectriCities Annual Conference August 20-22, 2018. Council Member Jim Mackie stated that the meetings were excellent and informative. He encouraged everyone to attend future conferences. Mayor Barry Hayes also stated the meetings were informative. Mayor Hayes found the session on Solar Power very interesting.

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:

Veterans Day	Monday, November 12 th
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 22 nd & Friday, November 23 rd
Christmas	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24 th - 26 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 except for Christmas Day.

MANAGER UPDATE

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

1. Enclosed with the Council's agenda package was a calendar of events through the end of October 2019. Revisions since the last calendar were highlighted in yellow. Upcoming events include the NCLM Connect CityVision Annual Conference in Hickory, NC, September 19-21, 2018 (Reservations Required, See Paula), the NC DOT Public Meetings on the Pinewood Road Project in the Council Room on Thursday, October 4, 2018 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (Town Employees and Town Elected Officials only) and from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (all other interested parties), the Granite Falls Merchants Association Festival on Main on Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Public Power Week October 7 through 13, 2018 (Customer appreciation day is Tuesday October 9th. Please see Paula to sign up to serve refreshments to customers.)

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. Town Manager Jerry Church gave a presentation to the Granite Falls Rotary Club on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 and gave a presentation to the Caldwell Early College 10th Graders on Friday, August 31, 2018.
3. The Town was prepared for Hurricane Florence but had no major damages, overflows, emergencies or street issues. Only 20 power outages were reported.
4. The new Christmas tree will be replaced before the Festival on Main.
5. The Town has not been called by other municipalities to provide any mutual aid for Hurricane Florence.

CLOSED SESSION CANCELLED Mayor Barry Hayes cancelled the scheduled Closed Session.

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