

**Town of Garner
Town Council Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2018**

The Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Garner Town Hall located at 900 7th Avenue.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Ronnie Williams, Mayor ProTem Ken Marshburn, Council Member Kathy Behringer, Council Member Jackie Johns, Council Member Buck Kennedy, and Council Member Gra Singleton

Staff Present: Rodney Dickerson-Town Manager, John Hodges-Asst. Town Manager-Development Services, Matt Roylance-Asst. Town Manager-Operations, Rick Mercier-Communications Manager, Forrest Jones-Public Works Director, Pam Wortham-Finance Director, Tony Chalk-Town Engineer, Jonathan Ham-Asst. Town Engineer, Thad Anderson-Interim Town Attorney, Stella Gibson, Town Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Gra Singleton

INVOCATION: Council Member Gra Singleton

PETITIONS AND COMMENTS

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Kennedy
Second: Singleton
Vote: 5:0

PRESENTATIONS

Fire Chief Matt Poole stated Garner Volunteer Fire-Rescue (GVFR) was asked to participate in a benchmarking analysis of the Harrisburg Fire Department performed by the consulting firm of NC Fire Rescue Innovative Solutions. Fourteen other North Carolina departments were included in the comparison.

Highlights included GVFR as having:

- the highest in actual fires per 1,000 population
- fires as a percent of all responses
- square miles of service area (84 square miles) – this is the largest district size of those compared
- square miles and population per fire station
- average number of incidents per fire station
- percent of population age 0-17

Chief Poole added that an area of improvement they are working on is to capture the percentage of fire loss damages.

CONSENT

Ordinance Amending FY2017/2018 Operating Budget

Presenter: Pam Wortham, Finance Director

Budget amendment to rollover purchase orders still open on June 30, 2018. These are items or services ordered prior to June 30 but not received or delivered before this date. This is standard procedure to officially recognize these items as part of the next year's budget and are accounted for through the assigned fund balance category that sets money aside for these planned expenditures.

Action: Consider Adoption of Ordinance (2018) 3931

Motion: Marshburn
Second: Behringer
Vote: 5:0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Aversboro Road Line Striping

Presenter: John Hodges, Asst. Town Manager

Mr. Hodges stated NC DOT will begin resurfacing Aversboro Road between Timber Drive and 7th Avenue in the next few weeks. Joey Hopkins, Division Engineer, asked if the Town would like to stripe this segment of Aversboro Road as three lanes - one lane in each direction with a turn lane in the center. There would be extra pavement on each side that would be delineated with a solid line, creating space that could be used as future bike lanes. However, these lanes would not be marked as dedicated bike lanes until/if the Town should choose to. NC DOT noted that the markings could be done with paint instead of thermoplastic to allow for easier reconfiguration if desired.

Action: Council consensus not to stripe this segment of Aversboro Road as three lanes

2018 Pavement Condition Assessment Project Award

Presenter: Jonathan Ham, Asst. Town Engineer

Mr. Ham stated the Engineering Department is seeking approval to award the 2018 Pavement Condition Assessment Project to The Kercher Group. Mr. Dickerson clarified funding for this project will be from the Powell Bill.

Council Member Singleton asked when The Kercher Group would be able to start on this project and Mr. Ham responded the Town would provide a Notice to Proceed that could be signed in the next week or two. The project is scheduled to be complete in 60 days.

Council Member Kennedy asked about the following three years of surveys included in the project costs and whether there was a need to sign Task 1 and then decide if we wanted to move forward when that portion was completed. Mr. Ham responded Task 1 could be completed now and a decision on Task 2 considered at a later time; the cost would remain the same.

Action: Award Project to The Kercher Group. After the study is completed, but before next step, staff to update Council on how the project went. At that time, any changes, reevaluation, or termination can be considered.

Motion: Kennedy
Second: Singleton

Council Member Singleton stated taking aggressive approach to resurfacing is money well spent. Mayor ProTem Marshburn asked if there was a schedule of streets to be resurfaced in place already. Mr. Ham responded there was. At the top of the list are the streets that were scheduled to be resurfaced in this cycle, but funding was unavailable.

Motion: 5:0

Timber Drive Sidewalk Connectors Contract Award

Presenter: Jonathan Ham, Asst. Town Engineer

Mr. Ham stated the Engineering Department is seeking approval to award SEPI Engineering and Construction the engineering and design services contract for the Timber Drive Sidewalk Connectors Project. This area is between Blanton and Stowe Street and Harth Drive and the Post Office. LAPP funding is in place for an 80/20 match (the Town would be responsible for the 20% which is \$80,000).

Action: Award of Engineer/Design Services Contract to SEPI for Project

Motion: Kennedy
Second: Behringer
Vote: 5:0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MANAGER REPORTS

- garner info
- Finance Report
- Building & Permit Report
- Mr. Jones provided an update of the unprepared storm debris/yard waste removal resulting from Hurricane Florence. The annual fall cleanup and the storm debris pickup will be combined to make them into one event beginning October 8. Residents should expect the process to take a couple of weeks.
- Mr. Hodges provided the following:
 - New Rand Road home that burned - staff is working to resolve the issue of overgrown grass and weeds. An agent for the property advised if the project pending for this site does not

move forward soon, the house will be demolished.

- Lighting at North South Station – Planning staff did an evaluation and found a large number of lights were not working or out. The management group was contacted, and they turned in work orders to get the lights fixed. Staff will re-visit the site when repairs are completed.
- Mr. Roylance advised the deadline to apply for LAPP funding for the South Garner Greenway is October 31 and we can move forward with multiple route options. The Town will be required to match 20% (which gives us more points). In order to improve our application status, community meetings will be held on October 11 to allow feedback from the community.
- Mr. Dickerson stated the annual manager’s professional development conference (ICMA) is scheduled for the first part of next week. The Work Session was rescheduled to Thursday, September 27.

ATTORNEY REPORTS

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshburn

- Thanked Town staff who assisted during Hurricane Florence.
- Expressed sympathy for the plight of those in the community labeled as homeless and noted a gentleman who uses Lake Benson as a place to stay. Council Member Behringer provided Mayor ProTem Marshburn with a contact name for those individuals to receive assistance.
- Tickets go on sale on October 18th for the morning Rotary Club’s 14th Annual OysterFest.

Behringer

- Reported the repair of the flooding at the intersection of Garner Road west of Vandora Springs has been corrected.
- The railroad is installing new rails at New Rand Road and St. Mary’s Street. The area where the trenches were installed has washed out causing impacts to vehicles. Currently, no signage is in place.

Singleton

- Expressed appreciation for scheduling the fall cleanup for debris.
- Noticed Turner Asphalt was performing some resurfacing last week and did fast, neat, and clean work.

Kennedy

- Asked for an update of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Mr. Dickerson advised the EOC was set up in the Police Department Training Room with staff and representatives from Public Safety (Fire, Police), Public Works, Communications, and Administration. An EOC allows direct resources and makes a bigger impact so emergencies can be responded to as soon as possible. Updates were posted on social media and the Town’s website.

Johns

Council Member Johns had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:43 p.m.