

**Town of Garner  
Regular Session Agenda Minutes  
April 21, 2020**

This regular meeting of the Town Council was conducted electronically.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Mayor Ken Marshburn

Present: Mayor Ken Marshburn, Mayor ProTem Kathy Behringer, Council Members Phil Matthews, Demian Dellinger, Gra Singleton, and Elmo Vance

Staff Present: Rodney Dickerson-Town Manager, John Hodges-Asst. Town Manager-Development Services, Matt Roynance-Asst. Town Manager-Operations, Rick Mercier-Communications Manager, David Beck-Finance Director, Mike Franks-Budget & Special Projects Manager, Fred Baggett-Interim Town Attorney, and Stella Gibson-Town Clerk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Ken Marshburn

**INVOCATION:** Mayor Ken Marshburn

**PETITIONS AND COMMENTS**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion: Behringer  
Second: Matthews  
Vote: 5:0

**PRESENTATIONS**

**CONSENT**

Motion: Behringer  
Second: Matthews  
Vote: 5:0

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

**NCDOT Planning Grant Initiative**

Presenter: Gaby Lontos-Lawler, Senior Planner

Ms. Lawler provided an overview of NC DOT's bicycle and pedestrian planning grant initiative program. The deadline to apply for this grant cycle is June 30, 2020. The pedestrian plan that would result from this engagement would be used to identify sidewalk and other pedestrian improvements that may be included in the next bond referendum.

Ms. Lawler will consult with CAMPO and NC DOT for examples of the final product from others who have participated in the program.

Although several Council Members were in support of moving forward with the grant process, Council Member Singleton requested that the Town's application be withdrawn for consideration as the information is already provided in the Garner Transportation Plan adopted in June 2018.

Council Member Dellinger requested this item be placed on a future agenda for additional discussion.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **MANAGER REPORTS**

- Garner info
- Building & Permit Report
- Quarterly Financial Report
  
- COVID-19 Update: The Town continues to follow regulations provided by Wake County. Staff is continuing to work in office or telework and follow social distancing at Town Hall. Supplies are on-hand and on order and efforts are being made to get more supplies in. Supplies can also be obtained from Wake County.
  
- Budget Update: In preparation of the budget shortfall, department heads are looking at bigger impact items that can be cut from the budget to get expenditures down. Items may be added back to the budget in the future, however, there is a need to be cautious. It is anticipated the proposed budget will be provided to Council on first week of May, a public hearing held May 19 with adoption by July 1.
  
- Sales tax revenue runs 3 months behind, which means the Town will not receive the revenue until June. Vehicle tax revenue is received from the State between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month.
  
- Council Member Behringer asked about hazard pay for emergency personnel. Mr. Dickerson advised this is done in larger governments and would be a significant cost depending on how it was structured. Wake County has not issued a higher pay expenditure for emergency personnel. The Town's focus right now is to ensure funds for PPE, sustainability and having proper staffing.
  
- April 28 Council Meeting: The second meeting in May will be the next Council Meeting. Council consensus to move forward with the April 28 meeting. Further discussion may be needed regarding future meetings in May.
  
- Mr. Baggett stated the motor vehicle tax contains provisions that relate to deadlines. The State will give flexibility on the budget and recommended the Town give it some time before bringing the budget to Council.
  
- NCDOT has received the right-of-entry for installation of the fencing in downtown. An amendment to the Town's maintenance agreement was executed to allow the installation and allow the Town to maintain the fence. It would also allow the Town to extend the fencing to the west beyond Montague Street. NCR and the contractor will be on-site Friday to coordinate installation details with Public Works staff.

- A news story about the impacts of NC DOT revenue shortfall ran in several outlets today. The two Garner projects mentioned were: Hwy 50 bridge over US 70 – the let date for this project has been pushed out to January 18, 2022 due to the revenue shortfall and the Hwy 401 superstreet conversion (Anaron Court to south of Old Stage) is on the list; the one month delay is due to utilities and not the revenue shortfall. The new let date is June 16, 2020.
- Beginning Friday at 8:00 p.m. crews will close the ramps to and from I-40 East at Jones Sausage Road (Exit 303). Detours will direct drivers to US 70 at White Oak Crossing to access I-40 East and Jones Sausage Road. The flyover bridge from I-440 East to I-40 East will also be closed for the weekend. A detour will lead drivers onto I-40 West to Exit 298A to take US 401 South and US 70 East through Garner to access I-40 East.

### **ATTORNEY REPORTS**

Mr. Baggett had nothing to report.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Singleton

- Confirmed the Planning Commission will meet in May.
- Confirmed the Spring pick-up will start next Monday and requested information be marketed to the public.
- Asked if the closures on Jones Sausage Road were advertised on social media. Staff will verify.
- Thanked staff for work on Hwy 70/Purvis Street.
- Vandora Springs Road: work at Foxwood & Spring Drive sidewalk project looks good.
- Forwarded sidewalk information to Manager and staff.

Behringer

- Thanked the Public Works department for work at the Rec Center field.
- The area northwest and southwest on Umstead Drive are in terrible need of being mowed. Mr. Dickerson stated there is a work order in place for the clearing.
- Mayor Pro Tem Behringer expressed concern regarding vehicles speeding on Garner Road. Mr. Dickerson will pass along to police officials.

Vance

- Thanked the first responders and staff for their hard work.

Dellinger

- Reported on the Small Business Resiliency Fund – DGA, working with the Chamber, raised \$50K.
- Stated he is proud of Garner and how citizens/Town/police/community are coming together.

Marshburn

- Encouraged citizens to participate in the 2020 Census.
- Thanked Garner citizens for the opportunity to serve as Mayor.

**ADJOURN:** 8:32 p.m.

