

**Town of Garner
Work Session Agenda Minutes
April 28, 2020**

This work session meeting of the Town Council was conducted electronically.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Mayor Ken Marshburn

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

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Mayor Ken Marshburn

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Behringer
Second: Matthews
Vote: 5:0

PRESENTATIONS

DISCUSSION/REPORTS

Neighborhood Meeting Emergency Interpretation

Presenter: Jeff Triezenberg, Planning Director

Mr. Triezenberg advised that developers have inquired about guidance to keep their projects moving forward through the approval process as they approach completion of the Technical Review Committee portion of the review period. Mr. Triezenberg recommended an interpretation to the UDO requirements for neighborhood meetings outlining what would be considered acceptable measures for conducting the meetings during a period of an emergency declaration restricting gatherings of up to 50 people.

Council Member Dellinger expressed concern regarding how developers would document attendance/participation in the neighborhood meetings and suggested creating a template to provide to developers, so the information is recorded in a consistent manner. Council Member Dellinger also suggested placing the projects supplemental materials on the developers or Town's website. He also requested an update of how the first project that followed the new guidelines went at the next meeting.

Mr. Baggett suggested taking roll call to capture the names and contact information of those who participate remotely.

Motion:Behringer

Second: Matthews

Vote: 5:0

Action: Concurrence from the Town Council to amend the UDO during a period of emergency declaration.

Hazard Pay

Presenter: Rodney Dickerson, Town Manager

Wake County has drafted an agreement to provide all employees required to interact directly with the public as part of their regular duties, a 5 percent pay increase. The increase will be retroactive to May 16 and continue until their EOC is closed. Staff has requested a copy of the agreement.

Wake County anticipates reimbursement by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act which they can apply for based on the size of their population.

Based on the Town's cost share agreement with Wake County, the County's cost share is 42% when you account for the 9 fully funded positions. The Town is responsible for the other 58%. Staff is unsure if the Town's portion of this cost will be reimbursable by the CARES Act.

This includes most non-officer and civilian positions in the Fire and Police Departments, Building and Fire Inspectors in the Inspections Department and Construction Inspectors in Engineering. Based on this methodology, the cost of providing hazard pay would be approximately \$13,400 per pay period, \$29,100 per month and \$349,000 for an entire fiscal year.

Mr. Baggett advised a bill was introduced at the General Assembly to look at the COVID-19 problem relating to how the State will handle federal money managed by the State. A portion is anticipated to be directed to local governments. The bill introduced does not contain any indication as specific as hazard pay.

Staff will provide funding options at the May 4 meeting.

Staff will prepare an agreement for Council's consideration at the May 4 meeting. In addition to the agreement, a budget amendment will be needed.

Council Member Dellinger requested the funding carried through end of fiscal year.

Council consensus to discuss at the May 4 meeting.

MANAGER REPORTS

- Staff reviewed the proposed budget calendar. Final adoption of the budget is scheduled for the June 16, 2020 regular Council meeting. Additional work sessions may be needed to allow sufficient time to review the proposed budget.
- Reported the Police department successfully completed the 3-year C.A.L.E.A. Accreditation review. The assessor was complimentary of our department and stated some of the materials and planning were among the best he'd seen. He asked if they could be shared as models for struggling agencies.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Behringer

- Requested the Police department place a radar trailer on Garner Road.
- Tractor trailer parking on right-of-way near church.
- Property at 106 W Garner Road needs mowing again.
- Confirmed the crepe myrtles will be left intact when the fencing is put up in the railroad right-of-way.

Singleton

- Thanked staff for clearing brush on Garner Road.

Vance

- Thanked public officials for their hard work.

Dellinger

- Stated some inspections departments are performing inspections virtually and asked if the Town was doing that. Mr. Dickerson advised the Town is doing some of that.
- Asked about PPE and location of COVID cases. Town Manager Dickerson responded that 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. Garner had 14 positive COVID-19 cases at this time; however, the Town is not considered a hot spot. The State will start releasing detailed information based on municipal boundaries.

Marshburn

- The Wake County State of Emergency will expire April 30, however a new iteration of that may occur.
- Encouraged citizens to read the Garner Area Historical Society's newsletter.
- Reminded citizens to complete the Census data.

Matthews

- Council Member Matthews had nothing to report.

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to N.C. General Statutes Section 143-318-11(a)(6) to discuss the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, or conditions of appointment of an individual public officer or employee.

Pursuant to N.C. General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with the Town Attorney regarding litigation.

Council met to discuss potential litigation and provided guidance to staff. Council also discussed a personnel matter. No action was taken.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AND ADJOURN: 9:35 p.m.