

**Town of Garner
Council Work Session Minutes
July 31, 2018**

The Council met in a Work Session at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 900 7th Avenue.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Mayor Ronnie Williams

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

Staff Present: Rodney Dickerson-Town Manager, John Hodges-Asst. Town Manager- Development Services, Matt Roylance-Asst. Town Manager-Operations, Pam Wortham-Finance Director, Joe Stallings Economic Development Director, Thad Anderson-Interim Town Attorney, Rick Mercier-Communications Manager, Brandon Zuidema-Police Chief, Mari Howe-Downtown Development Manager and Rebecca Schlichter-Deputy Town Clerk.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Kennedy
Second: Johns
Vote: 5:0

REPORTS/DISCUSSION

Update on Reuse of 120 East Main Street

Presenter: Joe Stallings, Economic Development Director & Mari Howe, Downtown Development Manager

Mr. Stallings and Ms. Howe updated Council on plans for co-working spaces in the reuse of the 120 East Main Street Building. Town currently has a tenant in the tech field which will leave two full office spaces available. The target opening date is August 15th.

Update of Fire Station 5 Discussions

Presenter: Rodney Dickerson, Town Manager

Mr. Dickerson provided an update from the Fire Commission meeting he and Mr. Hodges attended on July 19th. The Town and the Garner Volunteer Rescue Department discussed the need for another fire station in the 401 and Ten Ten corridor. The siting of that station could have implications on the Wake County Fire Service District. The Fire Commission will vote whether to close Fairview Fire station 2 and consolidate Fairview with Station 1 which will then be voted on by the County Commissioners.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Presenter: Thad Anderson, Interim Town Attorney

Mr. Anderson reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy and how they particularly relate to contracting, purchasing, and self-dealing. The Town of Garner will be required to have one prior to entering into a local funding agreement with NCDOT.

Action: Council Consensus to put on August 6th consent agenda

MANAGER REPORTS

- Bond Upgrade – Moody's upgraded the Town of Garner to a AAA
- Connect Conference - August 2nd at the Grand Marquis Ballroom
- Recreation Center update – Current project completion date is October 31, 2018
- Community Appearance Group – August 7th at 9:00 a.m. is the first meeting
- NCDOT Public meeting on 401 improvements – August 16th
- Town Engineer recruitment process will get started soon and will use the assessment center format

Chief Zuidema reported National Night Out is next Tuesday from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Marshburn

- Reported recent experience with Garner Info was very positive.
- Reported concern regarding the playground equipment at White Deer Park.
- Attended the annual volunteer advisory committee dinner and would like to encourage better attendance.
- Received call concerning the development of a thru street on Curtis Drive.

Behringer

- Reported flooding on West Garner Road just past Vandora Springs where the drainage pipe is not large enough. Railroad has not responded to this issue. Mr. Dickerson said we will send official letter to railroad on this issue.
- Stated a resident expressed concern regarding the natural landscaping areas at Garner High School the possibility of students planting illegal plants.
- Received call concerning the development of a through street on Curtiss Drive.

Johns

- Reported grass on back side of Town Hall is not coming in. Mr. Roylance reported that Public Works is working on improving this coverage.

Singleton

- Reported he sent a link to Rick to share concerning the appearance problems Raleigh is having. He thought Council and staff would see that are having some of the same problems the Town of Garner is having.

Kennedy

- Requested if staff hears of tours inside the new Garner Magnet High School he would like to attend. Mr. Marshburn voiced that he would like to attend as well.
- Reported a group interested in preserving Garner History was meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:00 p.m.

Motion: Singleton
Second: Behringer
Vote: 5:0