



SOUTH HILL TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026, 7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Hill Town Council was held on Monday, March 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the temporary Council Chambers of the South Hill Town Hall located at 111 E. Danville Street, South Hill, Virginia 23970.

I. OPENING

Honorable Mayor Mike Moody called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Moody called upon Clerk of Council Leanne Feather to call the roll, which was as follows:

A. Council Members

Randy Crocker
Gavin Honeycutt
Michael Smith

Jenifer Freeman-Hite
Delores Luster

Ashley Hardee
Carl Sasser, Jr.

Lillie Feggins-Boone was absent.

B. Staff in Attendance

Keli Reekes, Town Manager
Leanne Feather, Admin. Asst./Clerk
Dahlis Morrow, Dir. of Fin. and Admin.

Ryan Durham, Chief of Police
David Hash, Code Compliance Official

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster, to approve the agenda for March 9, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: FY25 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Taylor Stover of Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates presented Council with the FY25 Financial Report and reported that the audit resulted in no findings.

A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Hardee, to approve the FY25 Financial Report as presented. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Councilor Crocker – Aye
Councilor Hardee – Aye
Councilor Luster – Aye
Councilor Smith – Aye

Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye
Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye
Councilor Sasser – Aye

IV. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

At this time, the following citizen addressed Council:

- **Wade Crowder** commented on his interactions with Town staff, the dog park, concerns regarding trash pickup, and road conditions within Town limits..
- **Paul Duffer** commented on road conditions within Town limits, the dog park, the timeline for Town Hall renovations, and trash pickup.
- **Karissa Phillips** encouraged Council to work together in unity and commented on road conditions within Town limits.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Rezoning Case #2026-1 *withdrawn*

Rezoning Case #2026-1, a request to rezone property located at 627 Burnt Store Road, was withdrawn by the property owner, and no comments were heard.

B. Special Exception #2026-1

Code Compliance Official David Hash reported that a Notice of Public Hearing had been advertised requesting public comment on a request for a Special Exception Permit to allow the property located at 306 N. Mecklenburg Avenue to be utilized as a bed and breakfast or other compatible commercial use.

Mr. Hash opened the Public Hearing:

- Wade Crowder inquired about parking at the property.

Mr. Hash closed the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Hardee, to approve the request for a Special Exception Permit to allow the property located at 306 N. Mecklenburg Avenue to be utilized as a bed and breakfast or other compatible commercial use. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Golf Carts & Low-Speed Vehicles

Town Manager Keli Reekes reported that a Notice of Public Hearing had been advertised requesting public comment on proposed amendments to the Town Code regulating the operation of golf carts and low-speed vehicles on highways within the Town.

Mrs. Reekes opened the Public Hearing:

- Perry Templin expressed concerns regarding the additional burden this may place on law enforcement and the potential for discrimination lawsuits.
- Wade Crowder expressed concerns that allowing golf carts within Town limits may primarily benefit wealthier residents.
- Paul Duffer expressed concerns regarding the safety of golf carts and their accessibility to children.

Mrs. Reekes closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion included concerns regarding the potential burden this could place on first responders. Chief of Police Ryan Durham stated that the Police Department will enforce any regulations Council decides to implement. Additional topics included applying similar restrictions to both golf carts and low-speed vehicles, designating approved thoroughfares and crossing locations, and overall safety considerations.

A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Crocker, to defer action on the proposed amendments to the Town Code regulating the operation of golf carts on public highways within the Town to a later date. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Councilor Crocker – Aye	Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye
Councilor Hardee – Aye	Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye
Councilor Luster – Aye	Councilor Sasser – Aye
Councilor Smith – Aye	

A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Smith, to adopt the ordinance regulating the operation of low-speed vehicles on highways within the Town.

The motion was amended by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Sasser, to prohibit low-speed vehicles from crossing roadways with speed limits above 25 miles per hour.

The motion was further amended by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Sasser, to prohibit low-speed vehicles from crossing Highways 1, 47, and 58. The amended motion carried unanimously.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes

- a. February 4, 2026 Special Meeting**
- b. February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting**

2. Monthly Financial Report

Director of Finance and Administration Dahlis Morrow submitted the financial report as follows:

Petty Cash	\$700.00
Checking Accounts	\$5,157,288.89
Investments	\$35,567,714.57
Restricted/Committed Funds	\$1,417,489.52
Total of all Funds	\$42,143,192.98

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Hardee, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Items for Approval

1. Town Manager Report

a. FY26 Additional Appropriation

Mrs. Reekes requested that Council appropriate \$4,511,000 in additional real estate and personal property tax revenue collected from Microsoft during the current fiscal year.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster to appropriate \$4,511,000 in additional real estate and personal property revenue from Microsoft to the FY26 General Fund budget. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Councilor Crocker – Aye
Councilor Hardee – Aye
Councilor Luster – Aye
Councilor Smith – Aye

Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye
Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye
Councilor Sasser – Aye

b. Town Hall Renovation Project Bids

Mrs. Reekes reported that, with the assistance of Moseley Design and B&B Consultants, Town staff solicited bids through a formal Invitation for Bids process for restoration work at Town Hall. The scope of work includes restoring the interior following mold remediation, renovating employee restrooms and storage areas, and making façade improvements.

Discussion included updates on the data cabling installation schedule and the next steps in the Town Hall renovation process.

A motion was made by Councilor Sasser, second by Vice Mayor Honeycutt to award the bid in the amount of \$779,191 to R.F. Howerton, Inc., and to authorize the Town Manager or her designee to execute all necessary forms and contracts. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Councilor Crocker – Aye
Councilor Hardee – Aye
Councilor Luster – Aye
Councilor Smith – Aye

Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye
Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye
Councilor Sasser – Aye

C. Reports to Accept as Presented

For efficiency, the following reports for February 2026 were presented as a group to accept as presented.

1. Police Report

Chief of Police Ryan Durham submitted the monthly police report. He reported there were 203 Activity incidents, 44 reportable criminal offenses, 683 calls for service, and \$2,111 in property recovered. Administrative news was shared.

2. Municipal Services Report

C.J. Dean submitted the Municipal Services report, providing updates on water and sewer issues, ongoing utility projects, and easement acquisitions.

3. Parks, Facilities and Grounds

Jason Houchins submitted the Parks, Facilities and Grounds report, providing updates on the Parker Park basketball court lighting and dugout projects, Town Hall renovation progress, handrail and step improvements at Centennial Park, and Shalag lighting repairs.

4. Code Compliance Report

a. Report of Activity

David Hash submitted the report of activity as follows:

Inspections Completed	57
Permits Issued	16
Fees Collected	\$94,338.19
UEZ Exemption	\$0
Rehab Exemption	\$0
General Exemption	\$326.40
Work Value	\$18,494,353

New business licenses in the Town of South Hill in February 2026:

Velvet Paws by Venus	1361/1363 W. Danville St.	Pet Grooming
Vita Collect, LLC	913 W. Danville St.	DNA/VDOT Test Site

c. Dilapidated Properties

Along with the list of completed dilapidated properties, a report on the status of approximately 45 dilapidated properties was also presented.

5. Business Development Report

Brent Morris submitted the Business Development report, providing updates on efforts to recruit prospective businesses to downtown, identifying potential locations for an interested company, and opportunities with a restaurant developer.

6. Human Resources Report

Kristine Martin submitted the Human Resources report, providing updates on the annual employee evaluation process, preparations for the upcoming benefits renewal, recruitment for open positions, and employee work anniversaries.


A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster to approve the reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

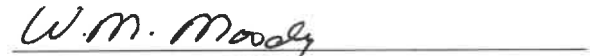
There being no further business matters before the South Hill Town Council, Mayor Moody adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

VALIDATION

Minutes approved this 13th day of APRIL, 2026.



Leanne Feather, Clerk of Council



W.M. Moody, Mayor