
June 2026

Attendees: Mayor Benita England; Council Members: Harry Baughn, Joe Slaton, Lauren Tiger; Planning & Zoning Administrator: April England; Town Clerk: Suzanne Hedden. Others: Crystal Bryson (Town of Hayesville Attorney), Lorraine Bennett (Clay County Progress), Sandy Zimmerman (HHI), Austin Hedden (former Council member).

Mayor England led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and offered a prayer. She then called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm. Before requesting approval of the agenda, Mayor England explained the need for an amended agenda to delete item 7a (Name road on Robin Bryan property). Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the amended agenda; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.

MINUTES

Ms. Tiger made a motion to approve the May 2026 Town Council minutes as written; Mr. Slaton seconded the motion; motion approved.

FINANCE REPORTS

May 2026 Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement – reports are attached.

- Mrs. Hedden presented financial information. Ms. Tiger asked if we are receiving any revenue from EV Station usage to which Mayor England answered “no, to be a member of Charge Point is more expensive than we would earn by charging for usage”. Ms. Tiger suggested we place a donation box near the stations. With no more comments or questions, Ms. Tiger made a motion to approve the Profit and Loss report; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved. Mr. Slaton made a motion to approve the Balance Sheet; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mayor England stated that she hopes to have information concerning the Brunch Bill in time for the July council meeting.
- In providing an update for the Legislative Grant, Mayor England stated that we will have money to carry over to next year.
- Mayor England reported that the Mill Street grant is not looking very promising. Mr. Baughn stated that if the grant must be cancelled, Town of Hayesville can fund the project. We are working with DEQ and DWI to find out the best way to handle this.

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- We have no new information concerning the wayfinding signs.

NEW BUSINESS

- Proposed budget proposal information was presented to council members. Mayor England answered budget questions presented by Ms. Tiger. Mr. Baughn made a motion to move the proposed draft budget to a public hearing on June 22nd; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved. The budget ordinance will be signed at that meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Benita England's report is attached. Mr. Baughn commended Mayor England for reaching out to many people for answers to questions for which she needed explanations.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Mrs. April England's report is attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ms. Zimmerman provided an updated report on her recent happenings. She also advised that the banners celebrating America's 250th year will be installed on the square soon; the yearly stat report for Main Street is due the end of July – this will probably be the last year with Main Street – next year will mark fourteen (14) years; she hopes to receive cohort money again this year; she is continuing work on the back of the garage; Trash to Treasures has raised almost \$10,000.00.

CLOSED SESSION

- At 7:11 pm, Mr. Baughn made a motion to enter Closed Session to discuss legal matters; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved. Council members, Mayor England, Crystal Bryson, Town Attorney, Austin Hedden and Suzanne Hedden met with legal counsel to discuss an issue involving all.
- At 7:45 pm, Ms. Tiger made a motion to return to open session; Mr. Slaton seconded the motion; motion approved. Council members returned to open session.
- Statement from Closed Session: "We are navigating a legal issue and have no comment at this time".

At 8:00 pm Ms. Tiger made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

Mayor England announced the next Council meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, July 13th.

ATTEST: Suzanne G. Hedden
Suzanne G. Hedden, Town Clerk

Benita C. England
Benita C. England, Mayor