
March 2026

Attendees: Mayor Benita England; Council Members: Harry Baughn, Joe Slaton, Lauren Tiger; Planning & Zoning Administrator: April England; Town Clerk: Suzanne Hedden; Town of Hayesville Attorney: Crystal Bryson.

Others: Lorraine Bennett (Clay County Progress)

Mayor England called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. (Late start due to Public Hearing)

Ms. Tiger made a motion to approve the agenda; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

MINUTES

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

FINANCE REPORTS

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

- Mrs. Hedden presented financial information; there being no questions, Ms. Tiger made a motion to approve the Profit and Loss Report, along with the Balance sheet, as written; Mr. Slaton seconded the motion; motion approved.
- Mrs. Hedden also mentioned that it is almost time to renew the insurance policy for the HHI building. Sandy Zimmerman has volunteered to research information concerning the renewal.
- We were recently informed by Regina Mathis (NCLM) that line item #54801 (ARP Expenditures) in our budget should be changed to a different line item and renamed; she also advised there is no stipulation concerning spending the remaining funds. Mr. Baughn made a motion to make the necessary changes; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.
- Our line item (#57120) for Seminar Expenses and line item (#57280) for Travel Expenses is almost depleted. In consideration of future classes and travel for Town of Hayesville staff and Council members, and, Small Town Main Street meetings, an increase of \$1,200.00 for each account seems to be in order. Ms. Tiger made a motion to increase the items; Mr. Slaton seconded the motion; motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- In discussing the Data Processing Center ordinance, Attorney Bryson asked if there has been an issue with processing centers coming to Clay County. Mayor England stated the closest one is in Cherokee County, and, discussion of a new transmission line in Clay County has initiated questions about future Data Processing Centers. Ms. Tiger made a motion to accept the ordinance; Mr. Slaton seconded the motion; motion approved.
- Mayor England has recently checked the street curbs and found they are not painted. Attorney Bryson interjected that painting them can possibly prevent law suits in case of an accident (fall, etc.). Mayor England suggested we amend our scope of work for the Legislative grant to include this in our plan. Mr. Baughn made a motion to proceed with the work; Mr. Slaton seconded the motion; motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- Attorney Bryson had no comments to add.
- In a recent meeting discussing budget procedures with Bob Scott (NCLM), he stated that we should appoint a Budget Officer. Mayor England suggested Mrs. Hedden be appointed. Mr. Slaton made a motion to proceed with her recommendation; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.
- Carol Sutton (Nantahala Regional Library) did not attend the meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Benita England's report is attached.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Mrs. April England's report is attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no public comment.

CLOSED SESSION

- Ms. Tiger made a motion at 7:27 pm for Council members to enter Closed Session to discuss a real estate matter; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

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- Mr. Baughn made a motion at 7:37 to adjourn the Closed Session and enter Open Session; Mr. Slaton seconded the motion; motion approved.
 - In Open Session, Mr. Slaton made a motion for the Town of Hayesville to contract John Henning as a consulting attorney regarding real estate questions. Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

Mr. Baughn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


Suzanne G. Hedden, Town Clerk


Benita C. England, Mayor