

Town of Winfall

Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: July 13, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Winfall Town Hall

Attendees

- Mayor Preston White
- Mayor Pro Tem Cynthia Cunningham
- Councilman Robert Valentine
- Councilman Ronald Smirlock
- Town Clerk Valerie Jackson
- Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington
- Town Attorney Will Crowe

Call to Order

Mayor Preston White called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilman Valentine delivered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Conflict of Interest: None declared.

Approval of Agenda

Councilman Smirlock made a motion to move the New Business items to the beginning of the meeting, immediately following Public Comments, to allow guest speakers to present before the regular Town business. Councilman Valentine seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pro Tem Cunningham made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilwoman Ormond seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Councilman Smirlock made a motion to approve the Town Council Meeting Minutes and Budget Approval Meeting Minutes as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report Approval (Ending June 30, 2026)

Councilman Valentine made a motion to table the financial report in order to review the updated financial statements. Councilman Smirlock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments

- Eddie Felton addressed the Council.

New Business

- **A. Rehabilitation of the Hertford State Theatre**

Mrs. Janice Cole presented information regarding the rehabilitation efforts for the Hertford State Theatre. She shared the history of the theatre and invited attendees to complete a community survey at <http://bit.ly/4eBOVAy>.

- **B. Perquimans County Sheriff's Department**

Perquimans County Sheriff Shelby White discussed the possibility of assigning an officer to work part-time for the Town of Winfall and reviewed what support would be needed from the Town to make the arrangement possible.

Old Business

A. TextMyGov

Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington presented information regarding the TextMyGov program, including the press release and trial run that will be introduced to the Town.

B. Park Improvements

Councilman Smirlock stated that since the Town was not awarded the park grant, the Town should consider making improvements to existing park amenities rather than completing the entire project at once. He also suggested adding a dog park.

Councilman Valentine made a motion to discuss park improvements and the addition of a dog park during the next workshop. Councilman Smirlock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Credit and Debit Card Charges

Councilman Valentine made a motion to establish a policy to charge processing fees on all credit and debit card transactions. Councilwoman Ormond seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Sealed Bid

The property located on Louise Street received a bid of \$6,450. The property will proceed through another 10-day upset bid period requiring a minimum increase of more than 10% over the previous bid.

Department Reports

Sewer

Pumping Station No. 5 experienced a failure, requiring the bypass to be activated at that location. The Town discussed purchasing a replacement pump and will review quotes during the next workshop.

Police (Public Safety)

There were no calls for service within the Town. One incident occurred at the detention center and was resolved without further issues.

Fire

The department responded to six calls, including several structure fires and mutual aid responses. Discussion also took place regarding when the Fire Department would receive its budgeted funds for the new fiscal year.

Administration

A system error affected the online utility billing system. The issue has been resolved, and all billing errors have been corrected. Updated utility rates will be reflected beginning with the August billing cycle.

Roads & Grounds

The Roads & Grounds Department has begun its summer work schedule, starting at 6:30 a.m. The first shipment of new street signs have arrived, and staff will begin assembling the new poles for installation.

Mayor White also discussed retaining the part-time Roads & Grounds employees beyond the seasonal employment period.

Tourism

Nothing to report. The next quarterly meeting will be held within the next few weeks.

Zoning

Nothing to report.

Recreation

Nothing to report.

Grants

Grant assistance services will conclude in August. Work continues on the trail grant application.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Crowe is reviewing the proposed credit and debit card policy.

Mayor's Report

Mayor White thanked the Council for their continued efforts to improve the Town of Winfall.

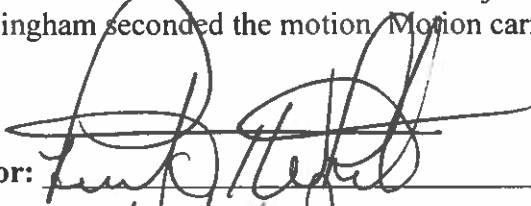
Other Business

The next Town Council Workshop will be held on **July 27, 2026**.

Adjournment

Councilman Smirlock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at **7:05 p.m.** Mayor Pro Tem Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor:



Date:

8-18-26

Town Clerk:

Valerie Jackson

Date:

08-18-26

Deputy Clerk:

Eisha Washington

Date:

8-25-26

Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington.