

TOWN OF WINFALL

TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 10, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Winfall Town Hall

ATTENDEES

Mayor Preston White; Mayor Pro Temp Cynthia Cunningham; Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond; Councilman Ronald Smirlock; Councilman Robert Valentine; Attorney Will Crow; Town Clerk Valerie Jackson; and Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Preston White called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor White led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Town Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Smirlock made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Valentine seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, with all members voting yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Smirlock made a motion to approve the June 13, 2026, Town Council Meeting Minutes and the June 27, 2026, Workshop Minutes. Councilwoman Ormond seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, with all members voting yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ENDING JULY 31, 2026

Councilman Valentine made a motion to approve the financial report with the correction of the Sewer Fund date from **06/30/2026** to **07/31/2026**. Councilwoman Ormond seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, with all members voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- **Stephen McDonald** expressed concerns regarding the dog park and a misunderstanding concerning the upset bid process.

- **Arlene Yates** expressed concerns regarding the sewer rate change and the increase in rates for business owners, stating that the rates had increased three times the original amount.
- **Brenda Leigh** expressed concerns regarding overgrown bushes obstructing visibility of street signs, as well as concerns regarding rate changes for residents.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Credit/Debit Card Services

Town Clerk Valerie Jackson reported that she spoke with a representative from PNC Bank regarding updated merchant services and the possibility of obtaining an updated Clover payment system.

B. Dog Park

Councilman Smirlock provided comments and information regarding the dog park. He stated that, based on the information he has received thus far, he would like to move forward from the dog park at this time and look into it at a later time.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Handrails for Office

Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington, along with Office Assistant Debbie Parker, gathered information regarding companies that provide and install guardrails/handrails at the Town office. Quotes are being sought.

B. Back-to-School Bash

The Back-to-School Bash is scheduled for **August 15, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the Town Building.

Councilman Valentine made a motion for the Town to contribute the same amount that was contributed last year. Mayor Pro Temp Cunningham seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, with all members voting yes.

C. Auditors

The auditors will begin their work on August 10, 2026, and will be in the office on August 18 and 19, 2026.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sewer

Mayor White reported that the pumps for Pumping Station 5 on Creek Drive are not ready. The rail has not yet been installed. Mr. Williams is attempting to have someone come to the site to take additional pictures and determine whether someone from his company can install the rail. The other pumps currently being installed are also not ready.

Police/Public Safety

No major incidents were reported. There was one minor accident on King Avenue. Additional police matters will be discussed in closed session.

Fire

The Fire Department reported six calls over the past month, with nothing major occurring in the Winfall area. The department is waiting for funds from the Town.

The Fire Department also reported that it received a grant for the building and will be obtaining the necessary permits and completing the requirements needed to begin the project.

Administration

There was nothing to report from the Administration Department.

Roads & Grounds

Signs have been installed, and letters have been sent to property owners regarding the need for grass cutting. A report was received concerning high bushes on King Avenue; the bushes had been cut earlier that same day.

Tourism: There was nothing to report.

Zoning: There was nothing to report.

Recreation: There were no meeting reports.

Grants

The final application for the new riverfront project has been submitted. The Town is awaiting a response regarding the application.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Will Crow reported that there was nothing new to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Preston White stated that the Town is looking good and coming along great.

OTHER BUSINESS

Town Clerk Valerie Jackson stated that she will need an invoice from the Fire Department before a check can be issued.

CLOSED SESSION

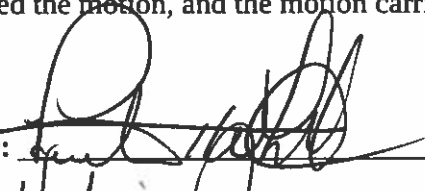
Councilman Smirlock made a motion to enter closed session at **6:45 p.m.** Councilwoman Ormond seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, with all members voting yes.

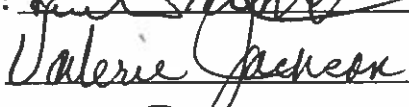
Sheriff's Department Contract Negotiations:

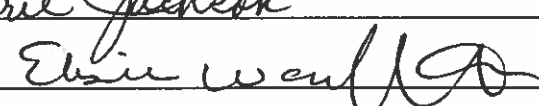
Councilman Smirlock made a motion to enter negotiations with the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department for a month-to-month contract. Councilman Valentine seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, with all members voting in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Valentine made a motion to adjourn the meeting at **6:58 p.m.** Councilman Smirlock seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously, with all members voting yes.

Mayor:  Date: 9-17-2026

Clerk:  Date: 09/14/2026

Deputy Clerk:  Date: 09/14/2026

Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington