TOWN OF WINFALL

TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 14, 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 Valentine made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Item C under New Business regarding the Dog Park. Councilman Smirlock seconded the motion. The motion carried, all voting yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Smirlock made a motion to approve the Town Council Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes from August 10, 2026. Councilwoman Ormond seconded the motion. The motion carried, all voting yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT ENDING AUGUST 31, 2026

Councilman Smirlock made a motion to table the Financial Report pending updates to Account 856.02 (Sewer Telephone) and Account 866.02 (Sewer Treatment). Councilman Valentine seconded the motion. The motion carried, all voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathy Stewart: Expressed concerns regarding the work on River Street, the railroad tracks on Catherine Street, and water overflow from the drain on Main Street.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Credit/Debit Card Charges

Clerk Valerie Jackson reported on the new Clover system that can be purchased to allow the Town to accept debit and credit card payments.

Councilman Valentine made a motion to approve the three-year contract in the amount of $1,018.00. Councilman Smirlock seconded the motion. The motion carried, all voting yes.

B. Sewer Issues

Pump Station 2 (Bembury) would not start. It was reported that the coolant level was low and that the alarm was not activated. The pump that was previously sent out for repairs has not yet been returned.

The compressor is also out. Electric Rewind stated that they would come out and show Chris Garrett how to make the necessary repairs for future issues.

Mayor White spoke with Xylem regarding the possibility of purchasing the pumps currently being rented for Pump Station 1 at the middle school and Pump Station 2. Councilman Valentine stated that he had also spoken with a representative from Xylem regarding the possibility of purchasing the pumps, as the Town is currently renting them, potentially at a lower overall cost or as another available option.

C. Dog Park

Councilman Smirlock presented the Town Council with a Resolution in support of the development and fundraising efforts for a Town dog park.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Perquimans Art League Sponsorship

Councilman Valentine made a motion to donate and help sponsor the event in the amount of $100 from the Town of Winfall, Councilwoman Ormond seconded the motion. The motion carried, all voting yes.

B. PCSO (Perquimans County Sheriff's Office) Agreement

Councilman Valentine made a motion to table the agreement until further review at a workshop meeting. Councilman Smirlock seconded the motion. The motion carried, all voting yes.

C. Christmas Parade: The Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Councilman Smirlock will collect all necessary permits and handle the items needed for the Town to move forward with the parade.

D. HGAC Buy Approval

Clerk Valerie Jackson presented a contract with a company that will assist the Town with purchasing items needed for the municipality at potentially better rates.

Councilman Valentine made a motion to approve the application to participate with the company. Councilman Smirlock seconded the motion. The motion carried, all voting yes.

E. Sealed Bids

The Town Clerk informed the Council that the sealed bid process would close on September 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

F. Mayor/Sewer

Mayor White requested an increase in pay due to the additional work he has been performing in the Sewer Department and the use of personal items and equipment to complete sewer-related work.

The Council agreed to table the matter until the next workshop meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sewer Department: Already discussed under Old Business.

Police/Public Safety: New stop signs have arrived, and the posts are expected to be installed next week.

Fire Department: There were 11 calls, with nothing major occurring within the Town. National Night Out will be held on October 6, 2026.

Administration: Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington reported speaking with TextMyGov by phone regarding obtaining a mobile login for emergency notifications. It was suggested that Mayor White also have a mobile login available for emergency use.

Clerk Valerie Jackson also provided administrative updates.

Roads & Grounds: Nothing major to report. The department continues to keep the grass cut and will install the new signs once the posts arrive.

Tourism: Nothing to report.

Zoning: Nothing to report.

Recreation: No meetings have been scheduled at this time. Nothing further to report.

Grants: Councilman Smirlock discussed looking into a planning grant for a trail connecting Creek Drive to the S-Bridge project being completed by the State.

Councilman Smirlock proposed extending the trail into a sidewalk along Winfall Boulevard and down to the park.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Nothing to report. Contracts reviewed appear to be in order.

Mayor White requested that the Town Attorney attend the Dog Ordinance meeting with residents.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Preston White: Reported that the School Supply Drive was a success, with more than 200 complete bookbags distributed. Food, entertainment, and gift cards were also provided.

Mayor: _____ **Date:** 10-22-2026

Clerk: Valerie Jackson **Date:** 10-22-2026

Deputy Clerk: _____ **Date:** 10/22/26

Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington