



**SOUTH HILL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026, 7:00 P.M.**

The regular monthly meeting of the South Hill Town Council was held on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the temporary Council Chambers of the South Hill Town Hall located at 111 E. Danville Street, South Hill, Virginia 23970.

I. OPENING

Honorable Mayor Mike Moody called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Moody called upon Clerk of Council Leanne Feather to call the roll, which was as follows:

A. Council Members

Randy Crocker	Jenifer Freeman-Hite	Ashley Hardee
Gavin Honeycutt	Delores Luster	Carl Sasser, Jr.
Michael Smith		

Lillie Feggins-Boone was absent.

B. Staff in Attendance

Keli Reekes, Town Manager	Ryan Durham, Chief of Police
Leanne Feather, Admin. Asst./Clerk	Kristine Martin, Human Resources Mgr.
Dahlis Morrow, Dir. of Fin. and Admin.	Brentley Morris, Business Dev. Mgr.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster, to approve the agenda for February 9, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: FOUNDERS' DAY PROCLAMATION

Mayor Moody read a Proclamation declaring February 16, 2026, as Founders' Day in commemoration of the Town's 125th anniversary.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Freeman-Hite to approve the Proclamation declaring February 16, 2026, as Founders' Day. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

At this time, the following citizen addressed Council:

- **Wade Crowder** commented on the cost of Christmas lights in Centennial Park, local gas prices, and the cost of audio-visual equipment at Town Hall.

- **Paul Duffer** thanked Mayor Moody for his comments at the previous meeting regarding allowing citizens to complete their remarks even after their allotted three minutes had expired and commented on the importance of considering consequences before taking action.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes

a. January 12, 2026 Regular Meeting

2. Monthly Financial Report

Director of Finance and Administration Dahlis Morrow submitted the financial report as follows:

Petty Cash	\$700
Checking Accounts	\$10,590,239.47
Investments	\$29,141,432.74
Restricted/Committed Funds	\$2,598,803.24
Total of all Funds	\$42,331,275.45

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Hardee, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Items for Approval

1. Town Manager Report

a. Golf Carts and Low-Speed Vehicles

Town Manager Keli Reekes provided Council with options for consideration based on prior discussions regarding the operation of golf carts and low-speed vehicles (LSVs) within Town limits.

Discussion included Mayor Moody encouraging Council members to speak with their constituents to gauge community sentiment. Additional topics included safety requirements such as headlights and brake lights for golf carts similar to those on LSVs, administrative and law enforcement impacts, appropriate signage in permitted areas, and the anticipated timeline for approval. Mayor Moody asked Council to consider holding a Public Hearing at the March 9, 2026, regular Town Council meeting to receive citizen comments regarding the operation of golf carts and LSVs within Town limits.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster to schedule a Public Hearing at the March 9, 2026, regular Town Council meeting to receive citizen input regarding the operation of golf carts and LSVs within Town limits. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Human Resources Manager Report

a. Employee Handbook Updates

Human Resources Manager Kristine Martin presented updates to the current Controlled Substance and Alcohol Testing Policy to include employees in safety-sensitive positions. She also presented a new Employee Referral Program to support recruitment efforts.

Discussion included clarification of the random selection process for employees subject to drug testing, review of certain policy language with legal counsel, and the timeframe within which an employee must undergo testing following an incident.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Hardee to approve the updates and changes to the Town of South Hill Employment Policy Handbook for the effective date of February 10, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Reports to Accept as Presented

For efficiency, the following reports for January 2026 were presented as a group to accept as presented.

1. Police Report

Chief of Police Ryan Durham submitted the monthly police report. He reported there were 137 Activity incidents, 30 reportable criminal offenses, 787 calls for service, and \$15,370 in property recovered. Administrative news was shared.

2. Municipal Services Report

C.J. Dean submitted the Municipal Services report, providing updates on winter weather operations, water leaks, the transition to a new trash and recycling provider, ongoing utility projects, and easement acquisitions.

3. Parks, Facilities and Grounds

Jason Houchins submitted the Parks, Facilities and Grounds report, providing updates on the Parker Park basketball court light installation, Town Hall renovation process, Parker Park baseball field preparation for spring, and Shalag Industry light repairs.

4. Code Compliance Report

a. Report of Activity

David Hash submitted the report of activity as follows:

Inspections Completed	35
Permits Issued	21
Fees Collected	\$13,181.97
UEZ Exemption	\$0
Rehab Exemption	\$0
General Exemption	\$660.82
Work Value	\$2,640,371

New business licenses in the Town of South Hill in January 2026:

J & S Retail	935 W. Atlantic St.	Flea Market Vendor
Amissa Riley	935 W. Atlantic St.	Flea Market Vendor

The Backyard Brews & Bites	1391 W. Danville St.	Restaurant
El Samalayuca Mexican	300 W. Atlantic St.	Restaurant
Javet Financial Services	935 W. Atlantic St.	Real Estate Service/Insurance

b. Dilapidated Properties

Along with the list of completed dilapidated properties, a report on the status of approximately 45 dilapidated properties was also presented.

5. Business Development Report

Brent Morris submitted the Business Development report, providing updates on industry and small business recruitment, RIFA infrastructure plan progress, and the Town’s incentive programs.

6. Human Resources Report

Kristine Martin submitted the Human Resources report, providing details on OSHA compliance and Affordable Care Act reporting, congratulating Fleet Supervisor Lee Pegram on five years of service, and welcoming Aubrey Wallace as a Maintenance Operator in the Parks Department.

A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Luster to approve the reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion included Councilor Hardee reading a letter addressed to the citizens of the Town regarding misinformation she has observed online concerning Council and staff. She encouraged citizens to speak directly with Mayor Moody and the Town Manager when questions arise to help prevent the spread of misinformation and invited residents to attend meetings and share their concerns in a respectful manner. Councilor Luster stated that while she took issue with the use of the word “hate,” she agreed with the overall message expressed by Councilor Hardee.

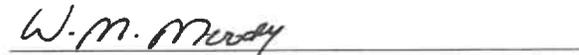
VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business matters before the South Hill Town Council, Mayor Moody adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

VALIDATION

Minutes approved this 9th day of March, 20 ~~Feb~~^{26th}


 Leanne Feather, Clerk of Council


 W.M. Moody, Mayor



Established 1901

Proclamation

Founders' Day 2026

WHEREAS, the Town of South Hill, Virginia, was officially incorporated on February 16, 1901, and in 2026 proudly commemorates the 125th anniversary of its founding; and

WHEREAS, South Hill was established through the vision, determination, and cooperation of its founders and early citizens, whose efforts laid the foundation for a thriving community grounded in resilience, civic pride, and shared purpose; and

WHEREAS, for 125 years, the Town of South Hill has served as a vital center for commerce, culture, and community life in Mecklenburg County and the greater region, evolving while honoring its rich history and traditions; and

WHEREAS, the Town's continued success is a testament to the dedication of generations of residents, elected officials, employees, businesses, volunteers, and community partners who have worked to preserve its heritage while shaping a vibrant future; and

WHEREAS, recognizing Founders' Day provides an opportunity to reflect upon South Hill's history, celebrate its achievements, and reaffirm a commitment to the values that have guided the Town for more than a century;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Town Council of the Town of South Hill, Virginia, that February 16, 2026, is hereby proclaimed as "FOUNDERS' DAY" in the Town of South Hill, and all citizens are encouraged to observe this day by honoring the Town's history, celebrating its 125 years of progress, and participating in activities that promote community pride and civic engagement.

ADOPTED this 9th day of February, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. M. Moody".

Mayor W. M. "Mike" Moody, Town of South Hill, Virginia

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leanne Feather".

Leanne Feather, Clerk of Council