



## **SOUTH HILL TOWN COUNCIL**

### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026, 7:00 P.M.**

The regular monthly meeting of the South Hill Town Council was held on Monday, March 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  
Gavin Honeycutt  
Michael Smith

Jenifer Freeman-Hite  
Delores Luster

Ashley Hardee  
Carl Sasser, Jr.

Lillie Feggins-Boone was absent.

##### **B. Staff in Attendance**

Keli Reekes, Town Manager  
Leanne Feather, Admin. Asst./Clerk  
Dahlis Morrow, Dir. of Fin. and Admin.

Ryan Durham, Chief of Police  
David Hash, Code Compliance Official

#### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

#### **III. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: FY25 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

Taylor Stover of Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates presented Council with the FY25 Financial Report and reported that the audit resulted in no findings.

**A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Hardee,** to approve the FY25 Financial Report as presented. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Councilor Crocker – Aye  
Councilor Hardee – Aye  
Councilor Luster – Aye  
Councilor Smith – Aye

Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye  
Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye  
Councilor Sasser – Aye

#### IV. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

At this time, the following citizen addressed Council:

- **Wade Crowder** commented on his interactions with Town staff, the dog park, concerns regarding trash pickup, and road conditions within Town limits..
- **Paul Duffer** commented on road conditions within Town limits, the dog park, the timeline for Town Hall renovations, and trash pickup.
- **Karissa Phillips** encouraged Council to work together in unity and commented on road conditions within Town limits.

#### V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

##### A. Rezoning Case #2026-1 *withdrawn*

Rezoning Case #2026-1, a request to rezone property located at 627 Burnt Store Road, was withdrawn by the property owner, and no comments were heard.

##### B. Special Exception #2026-1

Code Compliance Official David Hash reported that a Notice of Public Hearing had been advertised requesting public comment on a request for a Special Exception Permit to allow the property located at 306 N. Mecklenburg Avenue to be utilized as a bed and breakfast or other compatible commercial use.

Mr. Hash opened the Public Hearing:

- Wade Crowder inquired about parking at the property.

Mr. Hash closed the Public Hearing.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Hardee,** to approve the request for a Special Exception Permit to allow the property located at 306 N. Mecklenburg Avenue to be utilized as a bed and breakfast or other compatible commercial use. The motion carried unanimously.

##### C. Golf Carts & Low-Speed Vehicles

Town Manager Keli Reekes reported that a Notice of Public Hearing had been advertised requesting public comment on proposed amendments to the Town Code regulating the operation of golf carts and low-speed vehicles on highways within the Town.

Mrs. Reekes opened the Public Hearing:

- Perry Templin expressed concerns regarding the additional burden this may place on law enforcement and the potential for discrimination lawsuits.
- Wade Crowder expressed concerns that allowing golf carts within Town limits may primarily benefit wealthier residents.
- Paul Duffer expressed concerns regarding the safety of golf carts and their accessibility to children.

Mrs. Reekes closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion included concerns regarding the potential burden this could place on first responders. Chief of Police Ryan Durham stated that the Police Department will enforce any regulations Council decides to implement. Additional topics included applying similar restrictions to both golf carts and low-speed vehicles, designating approved thoroughfares and crossing locations, and overall safety considerations.

**A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Crocker, to defer action on the proposed amendments to the Town Code regulating the operation of golf carts on public highways within the Town to a later date. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:**

Councilor Crocker – Aye  
Councilor Hardee – Aye  
Councilor Luster – Aye  
Councilor Smith – Aye

Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye  
Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye  
Councilor Sasser – Aye

**A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Smith, to adopt the ordinance regulating the operation of low-speed vehicles on highways within the Town.**

**The motion was amended by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Sasser, to prohibit low-speed vehicles from crossing roadways with speed limits above 25 miles per hour.**

**The motion was further amended by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Sasser, to prohibit low-speed vehicles from crossing Highways 1, 47, and 58. The amended motion carried unanimously.**

## **VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### **A. Consent Agenda**

#### **1. Minutes**

- a. February 4, 2026 Special Meeting**
- b. February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting**

#### **2. Monthly Financial Report**

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

|                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Petty Cash                 | \$700.00        |
| Checking Accounts          | \$5,157,288.89  |
| Investments                | \$35,567,714.57 |
| Restricted/Committed Funds | \$1,417,489.52  |
| Total of all Funds         | \$42,143,192.98 |

**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. FY26 Additional Appropriation**

Mrs. Reekes requested that Council appropriate \$4,511,000 in additional real estate and personal property tax revenue collected from Microsoft during the current fiscal year.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster** to appropriate \$4,511,000 in additional real estate and personal property revenue from Microsoft to the FY26 General Fund budget. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Councilor Crocker – Aye  
Councilor Hardee – Aye  
Councilor Luster – Aye  
Councilor Smith – Aye

Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye  
Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye  
Councilor Sasser – Aye

**b. Town Hall Renovation Project Bids**

Mrs. Reekes reported that, with the assistance of Moseley Design and B&B Consultants, Town staff solicited bids through a formal Invitation for Bids process for restoration work at Town Hall. The scope of work includes restoring the interior following mold remediation, renovating employee restrooms and storage areas, and making façade improvements.

Discussion included updates on the data cabling installation schedule and the next steps in the Town Hall renovation process.

**A motion was made by Councilor Sasser, second by Vice Mayor Honeycutt** to award the bid in the amount of \$779,191 to R.F. Howerton, Inc., and to authorize the Town Manager or her designee to execute all necessary forms and contracts. The motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Councilor Crocker – Aye  
Councilor Hardee – Aye  
Councilor Luster – Aye  
Councilor Smith – Aye

Councilor Freeman-Hite – Aye  
Vice Mayor Honeycutt – Aye  
Councilor Sasser – Aye

**C. Reports to Accept as Presented**

For efficiency, the following reports for February 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 203 Activity incidents, 44 reportable criminal offenses, 683 calls for service, and \$2,111 in property recovered. Administrative news was shared.

## **2. Municipal Services Report**

C.J. Dean submitted the Municipal Services report, providing updates on water and sewer issues, 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 lighting and dugout projects, Town Hall renovation progress, handrail and step improvements at Centennial Park, and Shalag lighting repairs.

## **4. Code Compliance Report**

### **a. Report of Activity**

David Hash submitted the report of activity as follows:

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Inspections Completed | 57           |
| Permits Issued        | 16           |
| Fees Collected        | \$94,338.19  |
| UEZ Exemption         | \$0          |
| Rehab Exemption       | \$0          |
| General Exemption     | \$326.40     |
| Work Value            | \$18,494,353 |

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

|                      |                           |                    |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Velvet Paws by Venus | 1361/1363 W. Danville St. | Pet Grooming       |
| Vita Collect, LLC    | 913 W. Danville St.       | DNA/VDOT Test Site |

### **c. 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 efforts to recruit prospective businesses to downtown, identifying potential locations for an interested company, and opportunities with a restaurant developer.

## **6. Human Resources Report**

Kristine Martin submitted the Human Resources report, providing updates on the annual employee evaluation process, preparations for the upcoming benefits renewal, recruitment for open positions, and employee work anniversaries.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster to approve the reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

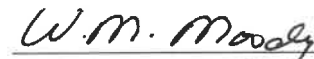
## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business matters before the South Hill Town Council, Mayor Moody adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

## VALIDATION

Minutes approved this 13<sup>th</sup> day of APRIL, 2026.

  
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Leanne Feather, Clerk of Council

  
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W.M. Moody, Mayor

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE OPERATION OF LOW-SPEED VEHICLES  
WITHIN THE TOWN OF SOUTH HILL**

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Code § 46.2-908.3 authorizes the Town of South Hill, Virginia (**the “Town”**) to prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles on certain highways within their jurisdiction; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Town Council of the Town of South Hill, Virginia, that Chapter 82 – Traffic and Vehicles be amended to add the headings Article I. – Traffic Regulations, Article II. – Inoperable Vehicles, and full text of Article III. – Low-Speed Vehicles. Added language is included below in italics and underline; removed language is in red and strikethrough. The text of Section 82-1 and Section 82-2 (now 82-11) remain unchanged.

**ARTICLE I. – TRAFFIC REGULATIONS**

**Sec. 82-1. Adoption of state traffic regulations.**

**Secs. 82-2—82.10. – Reserved.**

**ARTICLE II. – INOPERABLE VEHICLES**

**~~Sec. 82-2~~ Sec. 82-11. Restrictions on keeping of inoperable motor vehicles on residential or commercial property; removal of such vehicles.**

**Secs. 82-12—82.20. – Reserved.**

**ARTICLE III. – LOW-SPEED VEHICLES**

**Sec. 82-21. Authority to Regulate**

*This ordinance is enacted pursuant to the authority granted to municipalities by the Code of Virginia, including §46.2-908.3, which authorize local governing bodies to prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles on certain highways within their jurisdiction.*

**Sec. 82-22. Definitions**

*For the purposes of this ordinance:*

- (a) Low-Speed Vehicle (LSV) shall mean any four-wheeled electrically powered or gasoline-powered vehicle whose speed attainable in one mile is more than twenty (20) miles per hour but not more than twenty-five (25) miles per hour, and which is manufactured to comply with safety standards for low-speed vehicles as set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 571.500, as defined in § 46.2-100 of the Code of Virginia.*
- (b) Public Highway shall mean the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel, within the Town of South Hill.*

**Sec. 82-23. Insurance Required**

Every low-speed vehicle and driver thereof shall be covered by an insurance policy. Such policy shall meet the minimum liability amounts contained in Code of Virginia, § 46.2-472, as amended, and provide coverage during the operation of the low-speed vehicle upon public highways.

**Sec. 82-24. Operation of Low-Speed Vehicles on Public Highways**

- (c) Low-speed vehicles may be operated only upon public highways within the corporate limits of the Town of South Hill where the posted speed limit is twenty-five (25) miles per hour or less.
- (d) No person shall operate a low-speed vehicle on or across any highway with a posted speed limit greater than twenty-five (25) miles per hour.
- (e) No person shall operate a low-speed vehicle on Route 1, Highway 58, or Route 47—also known as North and South Mecklenburg Avenue, East and West Danville Street, and East and West Atlantic Street—within the corporate limits of the Town.
- (f) All low-speed vehicles operated on public highways within the Town shall be titled, registered, and insured in accordance with Virginia law, and shall be equipped as required by § 46.2-908.2 of the Code of Virginia. Operators shall possess a valid driver's license, or operator's license for full authorization to drive independently.

**Sec. 82-25. Penalties**

Any person violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a traffic infraction punishable as provided by law.

**Sec. 82-26. Severability**

If any section, subsection, provision, or portion of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

**Secs. 82-27—82-50. Reserved.**

Done in the Town of South Hill, Virginia, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

Town of South Hill, Virginia

By: W. M. Moody  
W. M. Moody, Mayor

ATTEST:

Leanne Feather

Leanne Feather, Clerk of Council