



**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**March 10, 2025
6:00 p.m.**

The following members
of Council were present:

Mayor C. Holland Perdue III
Council Member A. Ralph Casey
Council Member David K. Clements
Council Member J. Tyler Lee
Council Member Mark H. Newbill
Council Member Lucas A. Tuning

Vice Mayor Benjamin K. Mullins was unable to attend the meeting in person but participated by telephone.

The following staff
members were also
present:

John T. Boitnott, Town Attorney
Robert J. Wood, Town Manager
Rebecca H. Dillon, Town Clerk/Executive Admin. Assistant
Mark W. Moore, Assistant Town Manager
Vincent Copenhaver, Finance Director
Michael "Kevin" Adkins, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent
Daniel Pinard, Economic & Cultural Development Director
Dennis "Moe" Potter, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent
Brian Schofield, Public Works Superintendent
Jessica Angle, Town Planner
Mark Lovern, Captain, RMPD
Brad Basham, Assistant Fire Chief
Phillip Young, Chief of Police, RMPD
Shawn Richardson, Lieutenant of Investigations, RMPD
Boreika Burwell, Sergeant, RMPD
Ryan King, Community Resource Sergeant, RMPD
Charles J. "C.J." Police,

The Regular Council Meeting of the Rocky Mount Town Council (hereafter referred to as "Council") was held in the Council Chambers of the Rocky Mount Municipal Building located at 345 Donald Avenue, Rocky Mount, Virginia, with Mayor C. Holland Perdue III presiding.

1. **Roll Call**

The Town Clerk called each member of the Rocky Mount Town Council by name to account for all the members that were present.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Perdue led in the pledge of allegiance.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Prior to the meeting, Council received the agenda for review and consideration.

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented

Motion By: Council Member Lee

Seconded: Council Member Casey

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: (5): Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Lee, Council Member Newbill, and Council Member Tuning

Approved (5 to 0)

Now therefore a quorum of the Rocky Mount Town Council had assembled for this meeting, at Town Attorney Boitnott's direction, a vote was taken to allow Vice Mayor Mullins to participate in this meeting by conference telephone due to work duties out of town. The policy to allow remote participation in the meeting was approved at the Regular Council Meeting on December 12, 2022. It was passed by a unanimous vote.

Motion: To allow Vice Mayor Mullins to participate remotely in this Town Council Regular Meeting as presented by Mayor Perdue.

Motion By: Council Member Lee

Second: Council Member Casey

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: (5): Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Lee, Council Member Newbill, and Council Member Tuning

Approved (5 to 0)

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

4.1 Miscellaneous Action

Kingdom Run 5K

Johnny CASA 5 Miler 5K Run Walk

Eagle Strut 5K Fundraiser

Miracle Hope 5K Event

Family Resource Center – 5K Race

4.2 Miscellaneous Resolutions/Proclamations

4.3 Approval of Draft Minutes

Rocky Mount Town Council Meeting Draft Minutes – February 10, 2025

4.4 Departmental Monthly Reports

Community Development Department

Finance Department

Fire Department

Police Department

Public Works Department

Wastewater Department

Water Department

Motion: To approve the consent agenda

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Council Member Casey

Motion Discussion: None

**Ayes: (5): Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Lee,
Council Member Newbill, and Council Member Tuning**

Approved (5 to 0)

5. Hearing of Citizens

Aleigh Police, (no address given) spoke about FCCLA at the Franklin County High School where she serves as the first ever Virginia FCCLA State Officer from Franklin County and as the club's Vice President of competitive events. FCCLA stands for Family Career and Community Leaders of America. The club empowers young men and women to become leaders and agents in their community while teaching them how to develop life skills, practicing leadership, or take on community issues through service projects. The club equips students with the tools to excel both personally and professionally.

Brenda Muse of 145 Perdue Lane, Rocky Mount, VA, spoke to Council urging action and advocating for the cleanup and restoration of the apartments on Perdue Lane that are located near her home that negatively impact her neighborhood. The conditions of the apartment are an eyesore and a hazard to the community. Town Manager Wood shared with Council that Town Attorney Boitnott and the attorney for the property owner have been negotiating to come to an agreement so the work can be completed.

Glenna Hawkins Moore of 45 Scenic River Drive, Rocky Mount, VA. The NAACP, raising the shade project has a soldier research team made up of volunteers and Virginia Tech professors. Ms. Moore shared the history of several men and women who were members of or married to members of the U.S. Colored Troops.

6. New Business

6.1 Recognize Officers Boreika Burwell and Ryan King for being promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the Rocky Mount Police Department.

Boreika Burwell, a patrol officer with 10 years of service in law enforcement, was promoted to being a Sergeant of the Rocky Mount Police Department.

Ryan King, with 18 years of service in law enforcement, was promoted to the rank of Sergeant as a Community Resource Officer.

No Action Was Needed

6.2 Jessica Dillon with Department of Social Services regarding April being Child Abuse Prevention Month and special event on April 19, 2025

Jessica Dillon is a senior CPS worker with the Department of Social Services who shared April is Child Abuse Prevention month and to bring awareness to the cause. There will be a Family Fun Day held at the Franklin County High School with vendors selling food items and carnival-style games for the children. She also brought a pinwheel lapel pin to all of the Council members to wear during the month.

No Action Was Needed

6.3 Farmers Market Annual Report

The Farmers Market was awarded a gold certification by the Virginia Farmers Market Association which is a certification given to Farmers Markets that meet and exceed industry best practices with 11 categories including food safety, professional development, food origin, food access, non-discrimination, consumer education, marketing and outreach, public agencies, and data. The Farmers Market is hopeful to receive the same award this year.

The market participates in the fresh match program doubles EBT benefits that can be used on fresh fruits and vegetables, and snap which allows customers to use EBT benefits at the Farmers Market just like at the grocery store.

Cultural and Economic Development Director Pinard wished to recognize the Market Manager, Amanda Holland, who is very instrumental in the Market receiving such high praise. Ms. Holland is the point of contact for vendors and makes sure everyone is complying with all the rules that helped the market receive the certification.

The vendors are the backbone of the market. The vendors spend time growing, baking, crafting their products, and preparing their products for sale.

The market runs from April through December.

No action was needed.

Vice Mayor Benjamin K. Mullins just joined the meeting by conference phone.

6.4 Discuss Draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2026-2030

Council was given a draft Capital Improvement Plan to review that is traditionally given to Council at the end of the month of March.

When Town Manager Wood reminded Council that budget worksessions were coming up, he asked if they had any questions and hearing none, Mayor Perdue continued.

No action was needed.

6.5 Discussion regarding Special Events in Town

The Town has been contacted by private event coordinators many times seeking to hold events that are open to the public with admission. At this time, there is not an ordinance or a permit for these types of events should one be held and a complaint of, for example noise be made against the event, so town staff are asking for direction from Council regarding what they would like staff to do.

Motion: To research Special Events in Town to make sure everyone is safe, and the town has all necessary documentation that is needed.

Motion By: Council Member Lee

Second: Council Member Tuning

Motion Discussion: Mayor Perdue clarified the motion and second made was to allow the government to govern when they are planning to have an event at their house. Planning and Zoning Administrator Angle stated that a special event would be determined by what other localities do. Vice Mayor Mullins shared that what citizens do on their own property is their business, however they plan to have or not have security is their business.

Mayor Perdue asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

MEMBERS	ATTENDANCE	VOTE
Benjamin K. Mullins	Present by Conference Phone	NO
A. Ralph Casey	Present	NO
David K. Clements	Present	NO
J. Tyler Lee	Present	YES
Mark H. Newbill	Present	NO
Lucas A. Tuning	Present	NO
C. Holland Perdue III	Present	NO

Ayes: (1): Council Member Lee

Nayes: (6): Vice Mayor Mullins, Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Newbill, and Council Member Tuning

Denied on a Vote of (6 to 1) therefore, the Motion Does Not Pass.

Mayor Perdue asked if there were any other motions, there were not, therefore there will be No Action.

7. Closed Meeting and Action

Motion: To go into closed session under the Virginia Code Section cited below.

Time: 6:39 p.m.

Virginia Code Section:

Section 2.2-3711(a).1 Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body. Nothing in this subdivision, however, shall be constructed to authorize a closed meeting by a local governing body or an elected school board to discuss compensation matters that affect the membership of such body or board collectively.

Section 2.2-3711(a).5 Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

Section 2.2-3711(a).3 Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Motion: To go into closed session

Motion By: Council Member Lee

Second: Council Member Casey

Motion Discussion: None

Action: To go into a closed meeting

Ayes: (6): Vice Mayor Mullins, Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Lee, Council Member Newbill, and Council Member Tuning

Approved (6 – 0)

Going Into Closed Session

Returning from Closed Session

Town Clerk Dillon Stated the Recording had Resumed.

Time: 7:21 p.m.

Mayor Perdue Called for a Roll Call Vote for each Council Member to Certify Discussion During the Closed Meeting.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS REQUIRED:

MEMBERS	ATTENDANCE	VOTE
Vice Mayor Mullins	Present	Certify
A. Ralph Casey	Present	Certify
David K. Clements	Present	Certify
J. Tyler Lee	Present	Certify
Mark H. Newbill	Present	Certify
Lucas A. Tuning	Present	Certify
Mayor, C. Holland Perdue III	Present	Certify

Certified: (7): Vice Mayor Mullins, Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Lee, Council Member Newbill, Council Member Tuning, and Mayor C. Holland Perdue III

Certificate of Closed Meeting Discussion:

Council certified unanimously that nothing was discussed in the closed meeting other than what was stated in the motion to enter the closed meeting. No action was taken during the closed meeting.

Whereas, the Rocky Mount Town Council has convened a closed meeting on Monday, March 10, 2025, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Whereas, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, requires certification by this Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved that the Rocky Mount Town Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each members' knowledge: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the public body.

C. Holland Perdue III, Mayor

Motion: To come out of closed session

Motion By: Council Member Lee

Second: Council Member Tuning

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: (6): Vice Mayor Mullins, Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Lee, Council Member Newbill, and Council Member Tuning

Approved (6 – 0)

8. **Adjournment**

Motion: To adjourn

Time: 7:23 p.m.

Motion By: Council Member Lee

Seconded By: Council Member Casey

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: (6): Vice Mayor Mullins, Council Member Casey, Council Member Clements, Council Member Lee, Council Member Newbill, and Council Member Tuning

Approved (6 – 0)

Action: Meeting was adjourned

C. Holland Perdue III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca H. Dillon, Town Clerk