

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE  
TOWN OF STALLINGS, NORTH CAROLINA**

The Town Council of the Town of Stallings met for a special meeting on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Stallings Government Center, 321 Stallings Road, Stallings, North Carolina.

Those present were: Mayor Pro Tempore Brad Richardson; Council Members Steven Ayers, Mike Couzens, and Graham Hall.

Those absent were: Mayor David Scholl; Council Members Jon Van de Riet and Laurie Wojtowicz.

Staff present were: Alex Sewell, Town Manager; Erinn Nichols, Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk; Town Attorney Melanie Cox; Max Hsiang, Planning Director; and Kevin Parker, Engineering Director; Jessie Williams, Finance Officer; Karen Reid, Human Resources Director; Eunice Donnelly, Parks and Recreation Director; and Chief Dennis Franks.

1. Call the meeting to order

Mayor Pro Tem Richardson called the meeting to order.

2. 2026-2027 Budget Discussions

Town Manager Sewell gave an overview of current proposed budget and reminded the Council of the budget decision making process. Mr. Sewell noted the following:

- The Council had received the recommended budget from the Manager.
- General Fund was balanced at approximately \$14 million.
- The current tax rate balanced the FY27 budget but did not place the Town on a sustainable long-term path.
- Core costs were:
  - Personnel – 45.3%
  - Police – 32.9%
  - Solid Waste Collection – 10.8%
  - Street Maintenance – 10%

Staff discussed with Council the effects of different tax rates. Staff recommended an increase in the tax rate from 18.9 cents to 20.9 cents in order to not decrease current services. That increase would result in an average impact of approximately \$7.44/month.

Finance Officer Jessie Williams then reviewed details with the Council regarding the General Fund. That presentation is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

Council held a discussion on using fund balance in the next several budget years to cover any gap or implement a tax increase.

3. Adjournment

Council Member Hall moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Ayers, and the motion received unanimous support. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Approved on June 8, 2026.

*s/David Scholl*

David Scholl, Mayor

*s/Erinn Nichols*

Erinn E. Nichols, Town Clerk

Approved as to form:

*s/Cox Law Firm, PLLC*

Cox Law Firm, PLLC