



**Town of Stantonburg
Special Called Council Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2026**

Attendance

Present: Mayor Coley Rhodes, Mayor Pro Tem Powell Dew, Councilperson Jackie Grice, Councilperson Eartha Butler, Councilperson Carla Davis, Councilperson Skip Covert, Town Manager Brian Hawley, and Town Clerk Christie Cobb.

No members of the public were in attendance.

Call to Order

Mayor Coley Rhodes called the special called meeting of the Stantonburg Town Council to order on June 29, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Rhodes led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation.

Motion to Approve Agenda

Upon motion by Councilperson Jackie Grice and second by Councilperson Skip Covert, the Council unanimously approved the agenda.

Motion to Approve Minutes

Upon motion by Councilperson Eartha Butler and second by Councilperson Carla Davis, the Council approved the open-session minutes from the prior meeting.

Upon separate motion by Councilperson Jackie Grice and second by Mayor Pro Tem Powell Dew, the Council approved the closed session minutes from the prior meeting.

New Business

General Fund Budget Amendment No. 1026

Town Manager Brian Hawley presented Budget Amendment No. 1026 and explained that the amendment was needed to move funds primarily from police salaries and certain smaller departmental line items to cover end-of-year obligations, including camera costs, election expenses, attorney fees, and audit-related expenses. During discussion, Council questioned the original classification of the camera purchase under General Fund professional services and asked that the camera expenditure instead be placed in the Town's IT services line item. Mr. Hawley advised that the amendment could be revised accordingly before signature. Upon motion by Councilperson Jackie Grice and second by Mayor Pro Tem

Powell Dew, the Council unanimously approved Budget Amendment No. 1026 with the modification that the camera purchase be moved to the IT category rather than professional services.

CDBG Budget Amendment No. 1126

Mr. Hawley next presented Budget Amendment No. 1126 for the CDBG fund. He explained that the amendment would move received CDBG revenues to the expenditure side so that the accounts would balance and no deficit would appear in the fund. He further advised that staff intended to restructure the fund as a multi-year grant-type project beginning July 1, if approved through the appropriate process. Upon motion by Mayor Pro Tem Powell Dew and second by Councilperson Eartha Butler, the Council unanimously approved Budget Amendment No. 1126.

History Museum Fund Capital Project Ordinance

Mr. Hawley then presented the proposed multi-year capital project ordinance for the History Museum Fund. He explained that the ordinance would preserve remaining grant proceeds for the project so the funds would not revert back into the general fund at year-end. He further noted that if the Council later chose not to continue the project, the remaining funds could be reallocated by future council action. Upon motion by Councilperson Skip Covert and second by Councilperson Jackie Grice, the Council unanimously approved the History Museum Fund Capital Project Ordinance.

Beverly Stroud, CPA June Invoice

The Council next considered the June invoice from Beverly Stroud, CPA, for bookkeeping consultant services and preparation of the Town's Fiscal Year 2024 financial statements. Mr. Hawley advised that the invoice amount was \$8,750.00 and stated that he believed this would be the final invoice related to Fiscal Year 2024. Discussion also included the status of the audit submission to the Local Government Commission and a request that Council be updated once the audit was formally accepted. Upon motion by Councilperson Eartha Butler and second by Mayor Pro Tem Powell Dew, the Council unanimously approved the Beverly Stroud invoice in the amount of \$8,750.00.

Danna Layne, CPA for FY 2025 Audit

Mr. Hawley then presented the engagement letter and contract from Danna Layne, CPA, for the Town's Fiscal Year 2025 audit. He noted that the proposed contract amount had increased by approximately \$1,000 over the prior year, from roughly \$22,000 to approximately \$23,500. Upon motion by Councilperson Jackie Grice and second by Councilperson Skip Covert, the Council unanimously approved the engagement of Danna Layne, CPA, for the Fiscal Year 2025 audit and authorized execution of the contract.

Council Comments

Following completion of the listed agenda items, Mayor Pro Tem Powell Dew presented a letter to inform the Council that he and his wife were moving to Greenville, North Carolina. He further advised that, as a result, his resignation from the Council would occur in the future. He shared this information in order to

give the Council advance notice and allow time to consider the process for filling his seat. The Council discussed residency requirements, timing, and whether he might be able to continue serving until his residence officially changed. Because the matter was not included on the special meeting agenda and did not require action at that meeting, no formal action was taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm upon motion by Councilperson Eartha Butler and second by Councilperson Jackie Grice. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved by:

Coley Rhodes, Mayor

Christie Cobb, Town Clerk