

March 10, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor LaWanda Tatum called the regular meeting of the Lawrenceville Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 10, 2026.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called. Present: Council Members, Jeanette Grimes, Scott Martin, Teya Whitehead, and Anne Williams.

Absent; Council Members, Dora Hardy, Robert F. Pecht, III, and Alice Talbert.

Also present: Town Attorney, W. C. Outten, Jr., Town Manager, Randy Lynch, Town Clerk, Patti Lewis, Special Projects Coordinator, Kimberly Martin, Police Chief, Clay Clary, Leonard Rose, Sherri Bagley, Pansy Barner, Leslie Weddington, Michelle Bell, Justin Thomas, citizens, and press.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Tatum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Ms. Williams and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 10, 2026, as received, suspend the reading and file.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Ms. Williams and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the agenda as presented.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

LEONARD ROSE

Mr. Rose spoke about security and social concerns.

LESLIE WEDDINGTON-DELTA SIGMA THETA, NPHC

Madame President Leslie Weddington spoke on behalf of the Lawrenceville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the National Pan-Hellenic Council Organizations, together they collaborate for public service, improvement of community by service projects and providing scholarships. Members also present, Soror Sherri Bagley, Soror Pansy Barner, Soror & Council Member Teya J. Whitehead. Mayor Tatum added that she hopes to have a Wellness Workshop, to provide Hope, Healing & Restoration possibly in June or in the Fall, more information to come.

LAWRENCEVILLE EDA

No formal report; Ms. Grimes reported that the group met last month.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tatum thanked all for a Great Retreat that was held at the Kennon House Restaurant on February 26, 2026. She stated Council planned and made it happen. Mayor Tatum announced she is the recipient of the Annual Women's Empowerment, "We Got Your Back" for 2026, this is to be held March 14, 2026 from 2-5 p.m. in Emporia, she invited all to attend. Mayor Tatum also said while walking through town she noticed 6 new businesses within the town limits; she encouraged all to support and be committed to local businesses.

COMMUNITY THRIVER AWARDS

Michelle Bell is the recipient of the Community Thrivers Award. Mayor Tatum stated Ms. Bell is always working and willing to help where she can and feeds everyone. She helps at the monthly food bank at Lawrenceville Methodist Church, through Feed More. She was recommended as a recipient by Lawrenceville Methodist Church and Council member Alice Talbert. Mayor Tatum thanked Ms. Bell and stated she is a "Community Hero." Ms. Bell Thanked everyone for the recognition and says "she loves what she does."

REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Outten reported that the process of redistricting will require a Charter Amendment and time will not permit this year, the Town can pass a resolution next year at the proper timing and begin the process of the Charter change to move from a two-voting district to one at-large voting district.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER
CONSIDERATION OF ACCOUNTS

Mrs. Lewis reported the bills total \$110,654.92. On a motion by Ms. Grimes, seconded by Mr. Martin and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to pay the bills in the amount of \$110, 654.92 and post to the proper accounts.

REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER
WWTP PER/ER SEARCH GRANT MUSSEL SURVEY CONTRACT

Mr. Lynch stated the contract was in the packet and asked for a motion to execute the contract and begin services relevant to project study. Ms. Williams opposed, stated she did not want to pay for the study, in the amount is \$21,331.00 and asked if the town had the option to appeal. Mr. Lynch stated that this was not an option and he would look further into, however the Town would be responsible to repay the \$30,000.00 Search Grant, that was previously awarded. No motion was taken.

SHARP STREET PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Lynch shared the update that the design is 100% complete and right of ways and easements are in the process of being obtained.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Mr. Lynch presented the Commonwealth of Virginia and Brunswick County holiday calendar and asked Council to approve two additional days in April. Friday the 3rd, and Monday the 6th of April, 2026. On motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Ms. Grimes and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the additional holidays presented.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Local Choice Health Renewal is in the packet for 2026-2027. The renewal rate increased by 7%, the Town will continue to cover the single employee at 100% and pay additional 20% of dual or family coverage if elected. On motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Ms. Grimes and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve The Local Choice Health Insurance Renewal for FY26/27.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

In the month of February 2026, The Lawrenceville Volunteer Fire Department responded to twenty-six (26) calls. Of the total, four (4) were in the town limits, twenty-two (22) were outside of the town limits.

Also of the call total, twenty-one (21) were within Lawrenceville Fire's 1st Due, with five (5) being mutual aid to other agencies. Approximately, thirty-six and a half (36.5) man hours were expended. The following is a breakdown of incidents. Brush Fire (3) Gas Leak (1) Gas Smell (1) Disregard (5) Landing Zone (1) Medical Assist (1) MCV w/Entrapment (1) MVC w/injuries (8) MVC w/o injuries (2) Structure Fire (2) Smoke Scare (1)

1st Due-21
Mutual Aid-5
In Town-4
Out of Town-22
Total calls-26
Total man hours expended-36.5

PERSONNEL

Openings are listed in packet.

POLICE

Chief Clary's report is in the packet, LPD officers responded to 437 calls for service, issued 30 Virginia uniform traffic summons. Chief Clary attended the BCSO Discovery Camp meeting.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

No report.

STREETS, LIGHTS & CEMETERY

Public Works Director, Mr. Michael Brown provided a detailed report in reference works and duties completed since last council meeting.

No formal report for lights and cemetery; per Ms. Grimes committees met last month.

TOWN DEVELOPMENT

No report. Ms. Williams asked if High School students or the local 4H group could volunteer with the Garden on High Street.

WATER/WASTEWATER

No report.

HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT

No report.

PARKS/RECREATION

No report.

WELLNESS

Ms. Whitehead provided an informational video and handout on Colorectal Cancer, March is awareness month. Mayor Tatum added it was also Multiple Sclerosis (MS) month.

FARMER'S MARKET

No report.

LAWRENCEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

No report.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Egg Hunt-Saturday, March 28, 2026; 11am

Spring Clean Up Week- April 20-24, 2026

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Tatum adjourned the meeting.

LaWanda Tatum, Mayor

Patti Lewis, Clerk