

April 14, 2026

#### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor LaWanda Tatum called the regular meeting of the Lawrenceville Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 14, 2026.

#### ROLL CALL

Roll was called. Present: Council Members, Jeanette Grimes, Dora Hardy, Scott Martin, Robert F. Pecht, III, Alice Talbert, Teya Whitehead, and Anne Williams.

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, Margaret Cain, Leonard Rose, Michael Tatum, Renee Murphy- Clark, Cynthia Chambers, Timothy Folikwei and citizens.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Tatum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the agenda as presented.

#### RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

##### MARGARET CAIN

Ms. Cain shared an Invitation to the Brunswick County Eco Camp for Kids, Saturday, April 18, 2026; 10am-2pm at the Brunswick County Library, 133 Hick Street, Lawrenceville. The camp will include games, crafts & activities. Lunch and snacks to be provided.

##### LEONARD ROSE

Mr. Rose spoke about social concerns.

##### DR. RENEE MURPHY-CLARK

Ms. Murphy- Clark spoke on her request for a business license to operate counseling and notary services, to include sales of shirts and trinkets in a 24 x 24 Shed on her property 1002 Grove Avenue. Ms. Murphy-Clark paid the business license fee; however, the license was denied by the Town Manager, due to zoning restrictions.

##### CYNTHIA CHAMBERS & TIMOTHY FOLIKWEI

##### BEAUTIFYING LAWRENCEVILLE THROUGH STUDENT ART- BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL

Ms. Chambers & Mr. Folikwei spoke to request approval to create murals within the town limits to enhance community spaces while providing real-world experience for students. Mayor Tatum stated that she and Council will meet on this request for partnership between BHS and the Town of Lawrenceville. Ms. Grimes asked questions of cost and locations. Ms. Chambers stated that funding was through the Perkins Grant. This is federal funding to improve the CTE programs within the public schools.

##### LAWRENCEVILLE EDA

No formal report; Ms. Grimes reported that the group will meet next week.

##### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tatum reported that she has received several calls from concerned citizen in reference to trees on power lines on Third Avenue and concerns about the Adam and Eve Signage board coming into town. Mayor Tatum attended the St. Paul's Groove and spoke on behalf of the Town on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Mayor Tatum says she plans to host a luncheon in appreciation for the local business owners, dates to be determined, May or June. Two homeowners reached out to the Mayor from the Park and High Street areas, interested in the Revitalization Project.

#### COMMUNITY THRIVER AWARDS

Brunswick Health Ambassadors, Inc. was the recipient of the Community Thriver Award, Debbie Burkett accepted the award on behalf of the group. Mayor Tatum thanked the Ambassadors for all they do in the community. She encouraged all to participate and be active with the Brunswick Health Ambassadors.

#### REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Outten reported that the process of redistricting will require a Charter Amendment and the engagement letter from Hefty Wiley & Gore, P.C. is enclosed in the packet, as this Law Firm will provide the legal service agreement process. To include; draft the Charter Amendment, assist in planning and conducting the required public hearing. This agreement has been signed and executed by the Town Manager.

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER

##### CONSIDERATION OF ACCOUNTS

Mrs. Lewis reported the bills total \$106,180.75. On a motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to pay the bills in the amount of \$106,180.75 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. On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to pay \$21,331.00 to RK&K for this project study.

#### 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.

#### TOBACCO HERITAGE TRAIL RAMP PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Lynch reported that Clary Construction has started on this project.

#### COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Southside Planning District has provided the final draft for review.

#### CHILDREN AT PLAY SIGNS REQUEST FOR PARK STREET

Mr. Lynch stated a concerned citizen requested child at play signs be installed on Park Street, the letter of request is in the packet.

#### MAYFIELD WATER TANK PROPERTY

Mr. Lynch stated that he received an email in regards to the neighboring property in reference to the tree removal on the named property, a copy of the email is in the packet.

#### FINANCE

The preliminary draft budget for FY2026-2027 is in the packet, adjustments may be needed. Proposed 10% increase for water and wastewater, garbage rate increase, no tax increase, 3% employee raise, health insurance remains the same, 100% paid for full time employees and 20% paid for dual/ family if elected. Mr. Pecht stated the budget reflects less due to Lawrenceville Correctional Center at lower capacity due to the refurbishing of the center. On motion by Mr. Pecht and seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to advertise FY2026-2027 Budget for Public Hearing.

#### FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

In the month of March 2026, The Lawrenceville Volunteer Fire Department responded to eighteen (18) calls. Of the total, three (3) were in the town limits, fifteen (15) were outside of the town limits. Also of the call total, eleven (11) were within Lawrenceville Fire's 1st Due, with seven (7) being mutual aid to other agencies. Approximately, thirty-five and a half (35.5) man hours were expended. The following is a breakdown of incidents. Gas Smell (1) Disregard (6) Medical Assist (1) MVC w/injuries (1) MVC w/o injuries (2) Power Line Down (1) Rekindle (1) Smoke Detector Activation (1) Structure Fire (2) Tree Down (1) Vehicle Fire (1)

1st Due-11  
Mutual Aid-7  
In Town-3  
Out of Town-15  
Total calls-18  
Total man hours expended-35.5

#### PERSONNEL

Openings are listed in packet.

#### POLICE

Chief Clary's report is in the packet, LPD officers responded to 459 calls for service, issued 69 Virginia uniform traffic summons. Chief Clary attended the Easter Egg Hunt and assisted with traffic control for the Spring Formal on March 27, 2026 at the SPC4LIFE building.

#### 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; committees will meet soon.

#### TOWN DEVELOPMENT

No report.

#### WATER/WASTEWATER

No report.

#### HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT

No report.

#### PARKS/RECREATION

No report.

#### WELLNESS

Ms. Whitehead stated April is stress awareness month, she asked all how everyone deals with stress and paused for a moment to breath.

#### FARMER'S MARKET

No report. Mayor Tatum stated that Alberta's market will start in May.

#### LAWRENCEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

No report.

#### CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virginia Department of Health- Free Community Health Classes

Spring Clean Up Week- April 20-24, 2026

Red White & Blue Parade- Friday, June 26, 2026; 6:30pm

Sparks in the Park- Friday, June 26, 2026; 7-10pm

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

#### NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

#### CLOSED SESSION

#### CLOSED SESSION-MOTION TO ENTER THE CLOSED MEETING

“Madam Mayor, I move the Lawrenceville Town Council enter into a closed meeting pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended for the purpose of discussing contractual matters.” Motion: Mr. Pecht. Second: Ms. Williams. Roll call vote: Ms. Grimes, aye; Ms. Hardy, aye; Mr. Martin, aye; Mr. Pecht, aye; Mrs. Talbert, aye; Ms. Whitehead, aye; Ms. Williams, aye.

#### MOTION TO EXIT A CLOSED MEETING AND RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

“Madam. Mayor, I move the closed meeting be adjourned and the Lawrenceville Town Council convene again in open session.” The motion was made by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Ms. Hardy and carried by all ayes.

#### CERTIFICATION

“Be it resolved to the best of my knowledge (i) only public business matters exempted from open meeting requirements, under Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and (ii) 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.” Motion: Mr. Pecht. Second: Mr. Martin. Roll call vote: Ms. Grimes, aye; Ms. Hardy, aye; Mr. Martin, aye; Mr. Pecht, aye; Mrs. Talbert, aye; Ms. Whitehead, aye; Ms. Williams, aye.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Tatum adjourned the meeting.

LaWanda Tatum, Mayor

Patti Lewis, Clerk