

September 9, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor LaWanda Tatum called the regular meeting of the Lawrenceville Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 9, 2025.

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, Officer Everette Gibson, James Wesson, Public Works Director, Mike Brown, Leonard Rose, Keyonna Mangrum-Tatum, Chris Brown, citizens, and press.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Tatum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

402 W CHURCH STREET

Chris Brown, Builder asked Council for a special exception to build a 1300 square foot, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath house on the corner lot. The special exception request is needed due to the town ordinance; his existing corner lot does not meet the current ordinance. He is asking to waive the corner lot requirements and reconstruct to original ordinance. On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Ms. Hardy and carried by all ayes to approve the special exception request.

401 BELT ROAD

Keyonna Mangrum-Tatum asked Council for a special exception to expand her in-home child-care business from 4 children to increase to 10 children. She explained that funding is available to assist with the cost of child care. She stated that she follows State guidelines, with curriculum, PALS program, and early learning. The Planning commission recommends allowing the special exception for more area footage for the in-home occupation to increase from 4 to 10 children, to provide the play enclosure on tax parcel 52A9-1-63-, requiring all daycare traffic to Maria Street, no off-street parking at Belt Road. On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes to approve the special exception request.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Pecht and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 12, 2025, 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

LEONARD ROSE

Mr. Rose spoke about religion, social concerns, domestic violence, and child safety.

LAWRENCEVILLE EDA

No report; appointment is needed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tatum stated that she received the Legislative Advocate of the Year award from the Cancer Action Coalition of Virginia in Richmond on September 11, 2025. Congratulations to Mayor Tatum in receiving this award. Also, she along with council members Ms. Hardy and Ms. Whitehead were at a celebration with Governor Youngkin two weeks ago. She expressed her appreciation for council always showing up.

COMMUNITY THRIVERS AWARD

Ms. Sylvia Allen is the recipient this month, she has been with Brunswick Times since July 1997. She was presented with a gift and flowers.

REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY

No formal report.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

CONSIDERATION OF ACCOUNTS

Mrs. Lewis reported the bills total \$90,227.37. 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 \$90,227.37 and post to the proper accounts.

REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

WASTEWATER REISSUANCE VPDES PERMIT UPDATE

DEQ has approved the discharge limitations and monitoring requirements.

WWTP PRE-TREATMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC HEARING UPDATE

A called meeting will be held on September 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

FY 2024-2025 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER

On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes to sign the audit engagement letter from Creedle, Jones, and Associates.

CDBG #24-03 TOWN OF LAWRENCEVILLE PARK STREET COMMUNITY PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Lynch requested that the mayor sign the Programmatic Agreement.

TOBACCO HERITAGE TRAIL RAMP PROJECT UPDATE

Clary Construction Company was the low bidder of this project, \$1,005,692.99. This bid is \$135,614 above the Town commitment. The Town, SPDC and engineers are negotiating with the contractor and VDOT for additional funds. Council member Williams asked was it an option to abandon this project? Mr. Lynch explained it would cost more to repay the engineering, than abandon. Mr. Pecht added this project began 30 years ago.

NOVEMBER TOWN COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Then original council meeting date of November 11, 2025, is the Veterans Holiday, Mr. Lynch asked if Council would move the date to Wednesday, November 12, 2025. On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert, and a carried by all ayes, the November meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Columbus Day- 8 hours worked by employees, will split 4 hours for the Thanksgiving Holiday on Wednesday November 26, 2025 and 4 hours for Wednesday Christmas Eve. The Town office will be closed Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, on these weeks.

LAWRENCEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT

September 29, 2025 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Kennon House Restaurant, Gasburg, Virginia

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Adoption of 2025 PPTRA Tax Relief Resolution

On motion by Mr. Pecht and seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, to adopt the resolution. Mr. Pecht added that intown fire and rescue volunteers would continue with the relief as in prior years.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

In the month of August 2025, The Lawrenceville Volunteer Fire Department responded to twenty-one (21) calls. Of the total, four (4) were in the town limits, seventeen (17) were outside of the town limits.

Also of the call total, sixteen (16) were within Lawrenceville Fire's 1st Due, with five (5) being mutual aid to other agencies. Approximately, seventy (70) man hours were expended. The following is a breakdown of incidents. Arcing Electrical Equipment (1), Brush Fire (2), Disregard (8), False Alarm (2), MVC w/extrication (1), MVC w/o injuries (1), Smoke Detector Activation (No Fire) (4), Smoke Scare/Odor (1), Power Line Down (1)

1st Due-16

Mutual Aid-5

In Town-4

Out of Town-17

Total calls-21

Total man hours expended-70

Chief Justin Thomas and Volunteer Dalton Arthur were present to request to surplus Engine 7, Chief Thomas stated that this unit was 20 years old and the funds would be used to purchase apparatus. On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mr. Martin and carried by all ayes to surplus Engine 7. Chief Thomas also stated that the Fire Department will participate in Fire Prevention week October 5-11, 2025.

PERSONNEL

Openings are listed in packet; Ms. Hardy asked about trainee positions. Mr. Lynch explained trainee positions are available, once trained in the field, trainee can test for license. The Street and WWTP departments are short staffed. Mr. Lynch introduced and welcomed Mike Brown, Director of Public Works. Mr. Martin, along with council welcomed Mr. Brown.

POLICE

Chief Clary stated that the police department has purchased digital sound meters and officers will be utilizing these instruments to comply within the noise ordinance. Warnings will be given. Chief Clary also stated that CSF (calls for service) is enclosed in the packet, this is record of person and business checks that are performed by LPD. Ms. Williams asked the dollar amount of the fines for noise, Chief Clary advised this is set by the court system. Mayor Tatum asked if signage could be added to the ally way near the playground area, near Church Streets and Sharp, Chief Clary advised he will add signage.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

No report.

STREETS, LIGHTS & CEMETERY

Mrs. Talbert reported that the Cemetery Committee met on August 27, 2025. The committee made the decision to utilize the existing wastebaskets, to match the current baskets. Five replacement baskets will be relocated for easier access. The Town will start public notices utilizing multiple media sources for ordinance compliance. Mrs. Talbert also stated that volunteers have offered assistance to help cleanup designated areas.

TOWN DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Williams reported that she will get assistance from the BCSO to clean up 313 High Street Garden after September 15, 2025.

WATER/WASTEWATER

Per Mr. Pecht, permit reissuance, increased capacity from 1.25 MGD to 1.45 MGD, this is good. Quarterly test will be performed. Mr. Pecht stated that an article in the Richmond newspaper, reported Lawrenceville Correctional Center had upgrades performed and were at half the capacity of inmates, in turn this is a decrease in consumption. Ms. Williams asked about rate increase, Mr. Pecht advised he will keep an eye on to see if a rate increase is needed.

HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT

No report.

PARKS/RECREATION

No report.

WELLNESS

Ms. Whitehead shared several flyers, in reference to selfcare, adult education, Family and Farm Day and Cash Crop, September 20, 2025 in Richmond.

FARMER’S MARKET

Several flyers were handed out in reference to markets and events as noted in wellness.

LAWRENCEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

No report.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trunk or Treat October 31, 2025 5:30 p.m.- N Main Street

The Fifth Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony December 3, 2025 7:00 p.m.- Municipal Building

Employee Christmas Luncheon December 17, 2025- Elm Acres

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Williams provided a list of unfinished business;

1. Caboose- Insurance proceeds, strategic plan?
2. The LOVE SIGN status?
3. Southern Stated Building, can a sign be added, for sale and/or lease?

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Tatum adjourned the meeting.

LaWanda Tatum, Mayor

Patti Lewis, Clerk