

201 West Main Street
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**CITY OF HAMLET SPECIAL MEETING
HAMLET CITY HALL- COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2025
5:00 PM**

Draft Minutes

Governing Body Present:

Mayor	Amy Guinn
Mayor Pro-Tem	Abbie Covington
Council Member	Eddie Martin
Council Member	Tony Clewis
Council Member	Maurice Stuart

Staff Present:

City Manager	John Terziu
Assistant City Mgr.	Mackenzie Webb
Finance Director	Edna Miles
City Clerk	Heather Hawks

1. Call to Order

Mayor Guinn called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Clewis made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda; Mayor Pro-Tem Covington provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Resolution to Provide Temporary Utility Relief for Residents Impacted by the Federal Government Shutdown

City Manager Terziu stated the proposed resolution authorizes the City of Hamlet to provide temporary utility billing relief to residents who can verify they have been financially impacted by the current federal government shutdown. He stated this action will ensure that no resident serving or employed by the federal government will lose access to essential water, sewer, or sanitation services during the period of uncertainty caused by the lapse in federal appropriations.

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He stated for the duration of the federal government shutdown and fourteen days following its conclusion, eligible Hamlet customers will receive temporary protection from disconnection and suspension of billing penalties including: no disconnections or late fees, temporary suspension of payment requirements for water, sewer, and sanitation services, full continuation of essential services without interruption, and 60-day repayment window after the relief period with possible extensions up to six months for demonstrated hardship.

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington inquired about how the City will monitor eligibility for assistance.

City Manager Terziu explained that eligibility applies to active-duty service members, reservists under federal orders, military dependents, furloughed federal civilian employees, and federal contractors experiencing loss of pay due to the shutdown. He noted the Utility Billing Division will administer the program, verify documentation, and flag eligible accounts. He added a public information notice will be issued through the City's website, social media, and billing office to inform residents of eligibility criteria and application process.

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington clarified that the City is not eliminating billing obligations but is instead providing a flexible plan for qualifying residents to pay their bills over time.

Council Member Clewis inquired if residents would be charged late fees.

City Manager Terziu confirmed that residents will have 60 days to pay their bill with no late fees assessed.

Council Member Clewis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-25, providing temporary utility relief for residents of the City of Hamlet who are directly impacted by the current federal government shutdown. Council Member Stuart provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Motion to Adjourn

Council Member Martin motioned, seconded by Council Member Stuart adjourn. The motion passed unanimously at 5:05 pm.