

**TOWN OF HILDEBRAN
COUNCIL'S CHAMBER
ALBERT PARKHURST
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

**February 4, 2026
5:30 PM**

**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER	Mayor Hildebrand called the special meeting of the Town Council to order at 5:30 p.m.
COUNCIL PRESENT	The following members of the Board were present: Mayor Wendell Hildebrand and Council Members, Mike Smith, Mike Stroupe, and Jody York. Council Members Ben Honeycutt and Terry Weaver were absent.
STAFF PRESENT	The following staff members were present: Town Clerk Alice Sanders, Finance Officer Fredrick Rankins, Events Coordinator Haven Ward, Building and Grounds Maintenance Worker Gary Towery, and Town Attorney Jared Amos. Town Manager Logan Shook called in via telephone.
CITIZENS & MEDIA	See attached sheet.
INVOCATION	A moment of silence was observed.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Deputy Buchanan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Mayor Hildebrand stated that a second quote for item 7d was added to the agenda packet. Council Member Stroupe made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. All voted in favor.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the December 15, 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor.
PUBLIC COMMENTS	Bill Jones, HHDA member, stated that he would like for the dehumidifiers that were placed in the basement of the auditorium after the flood to stay longer. He stated his displeasure that he did not get a call sooner than he did from the Town when the flood occurred. He addressed the museum's plan for cleanup and asked for any help that the Town may provide.
OLD BUSINESS: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF QUOTE FROM STAGE RAGE TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL PROJECTOR	Town Manager Shook stated that he reached out to six different audio/video suppliers to obtain quotes for a projector and two screens to be installed in the auditorium and the Town only received one quote from

AND SCREENS IN
AUDITORIUM

Stage Rage. He stated that Council had previously approved up to \$32,000 for this purchase. The quote was over that price due to added taxes.

Council Member Smith asked about the upcoming expenses after the pipe burst and flooding in the basement of the auditorium. Town Manager Shook stated that the Town will have to pay for the expenses upfront, and then the Town's insurance provider will reimburse those expenses.

There being no other discussion, Council Member Stroupe made a motion to approve the quote from Stage Rage as presented to purchase and install a Vivitek Laser Projector, roll down 106" x 188" screen, a white cyc drop screen, and all necessary equipment not to exceed \$33,435.10. All voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF
QUOTE TO INSTALL
CARPET OR LAMINATE
FLOORING IN THE BURKE
COUNTY DEPUTIES
OFFICE

Town Clerk Sanders stated that there were two quotes to replace the flooring in the Burke County deputies' office in the Municipal Complex. One quote was to install laminate flooring and the other was to install carpet. The two quotes and pricing for each option were reviewed. It was clarified that the deputies would be responsible for moving the furniture out for the flooring replacement. Replacing the flooring in the Hildebran deputy's office was also considered. Deputy Buchanan and Mr. Towery stated that the existing floor in the Hildebran deputy's office was fine and did not need replacing.

There being no other discussion, Council Member Stroupe made a motion to approve the quote with H&A Carpet of Hickory, Inc. as presented to replace the flooring with carpet in the Burke County deputies' office in the Municipal Complex in the amount of \$4,490.00. All voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF
QUOTE TO INSTALL
FENCING AROUND THE
BACK OF THE
AUDITORIUM

Mr. Towery stated that there were two quotes to provide fencing at the back of the auditorium as discussed at the last meeting. Fence Pro and Fister Fence provided quotes. The specifications of each quote were reviewed, including reasoning of purchasing 8' fencing over 6' fencing. It was noted that the existing fencing left over from securing the tower would not work for this project and is on the agenda to surplus and sell.

After discussion, Council Member Stroupe made a motion to approve the quote from Fister Fence of

Hickory as presented to purchase and install 62' of 8' gauge core black vinyl coated chain link fence not to exceed \$8,256.00. All voted in favor.

The quote from Fence Pro was \$11,995 plus additional costs. The quote provided was reduced to account for the vendor to purchase the existing fencing.

**NEW BUSINESS:
CONSIDER APPROVAL OF
RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE
DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN
PERSONAL PROPERTY BY
PRIVATE SALE**

Clerk Sanders stated that the resolution provided to surplus and sale was for the existing fencing and that the date of the resolution should be revised to February 4th if approved. There being no discussion, Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the disposition of certain personal property by private sale with the amended date. The property consists of a chain link fence: 13) twelve-foot sections that are 6' in height and 11) stands. All voted in favor. A copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment A).

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF
BUDGET AMENDMENT
FOR TOWN EVENTS
THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026**

Town Manager Shook reviewed the listing of suggested Town events and each event's budget through the end of the fiscal year. He stated that the July 4th event included pricing for fireworks based on the amount the Town currently pays for the Cruise In fireworks, around \$6,400. However, Ms. Ward has been obtaining quotes that are closer to \$15,000-\$25,000, if there is still availability. He stated that the Town could still do an event focused on opening the time capsule with speakers during the morning, or the Town could offer a full day event with a band and food trucks. Town Clerk Sanders stated that another option would be to move the date and the Town could offer fireworks more in the \$6,400 range. She also stated that since this year is the celebration of 250 years since the signing of the declaration, that Burke County wants all the municipalities to hold an event.

After more discussions, and a suggestion from Council to move the July 4th celebration to the May Cruise In, staff will discuss with the events committee and bring back a more viable option, with a suggested budget amendment, at the next meeting. No action was taken.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF
QUOTE TO REMOVE**

Town Manager Shook stated that a quote from BlueSky was provided to remove the estimated 220,000 gallons

WATER FROM THE AUDITORIUM BASEMENT AND DEHUMIDIFY THE AREA

of water that flooded the auditorium basement due to a busted pipe as well as to dehumidify the area. The equipment was turned off once the power was cut off for safety reasons, but the power has now been restored. It was clarified that the Town's insurance should reimburse this expense. Council Member Stroupe made a motion to approve the quote from BlueSky as presented to remove the water and dehumidify the auditorium basement after the flooding in the amount of \$5,587.34. All voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF QUOTE TO PROVIDE RESTORATION AND MITIGATION TO AUDITORIUM BASEMENT

Town Manager Shook stated that there are two quotes to provide restoration and mitigation to the auditorium basement after the flooding. The providers had different opinions on what work they would provide. One quote was from BlueSky and the other from ServPro. Mr. Shook provided detailed information about the quotes, with the most significant difference being that ServPro does not plan to replace flooring and BlueSky does. After a lengthy discussion, Council Member Stroupe made a motion to approve the quote from BlueSky for restoration and mitigation, including replacing the floors, in the auditorium basement in the amount of \$33,056.20. All voted in favor.

The quote provided by ServPro that did not include replacing the flooring was \$20,042.40.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF QUOTE TO CHANGE THE LIGHTING IN THE AUDITORIUM BASEMENT

Town Manager Shook stated that a quote to replace the lighting in the auditorium basement to LED lights is presented. Bill Jones provided the quote from Innovation Control Solutions, Inc. He explained that Duke Energy is currently doing rebates for replacing old lighting with LED lighting. Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the second option with Innovative Control Solutions, Inc. as presented to swap 57 lights in the auditorium basement with new LED lamps in the amount of \$6,456. All voted in favor. The Duke Energy rebate amount will be \$2,534.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR MAINTENANCE

Finance Officer Rankins stated that the current maintenance line item has been reduced from \$89,000 to \$12,000. He is suggesting to add an additional \$50,000 for general maintenance and \$150,000 for mitigation of the auditorium basement after the flooding. Council Member Stroupe made a motion to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$200,000 for the maintenance line item to cover general repairs and

auditorium basement repairs. All voted in favor. A copy of the budget amendment is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment B).

FACILITIES REPORT

The January facilities report was provided for review.

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT

Tax Collector Sanders provided the December tax report. A copy of the report is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes (Attachment C).

DEPUTY REPORT

The December deputy report was provided for review.

EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Events Committee report was provided for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) – Town Manager Shook stated that he will email the agenda from the last meeting

WPCOG Policy Board – No report.

Burke Development Inc. – Town Manager Shook stated that he would email the agenda from the last meeting.

Recreation and Tourism Committee – No report.

Water Resource Committee – No report.

VEDIC – No report.

Library Board – No report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

CLOSED SESSION:

Council Member York made a motion at 6:50 p.m. to enter into closed session according to NCGS 143-318.11 (4) To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations, or to discuss matters relating to military installation closure or realignment. Any action approving the signing of an economic development contract or commitment, or the action authorizing the payment of economic development

expenditures, shall be taken in an open session. All voted in favor.

Council Member York made a motion to return to open session at 7:05 p.m. All voted in favor.

Council Member York made a motion to direct the Planner to research and provide a ZTA that would expand existing language to regulate high-energy computer operations that include data centers, bit coin, and AI companies, and to report her findings to Council in a proposed ZTA. All voted in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURN

All business being concluded, Council Member Stroupe made a motion at 7:08 p.m. to adjourn. All voted in favor.

I attest these are the approved minutes of the Board.

Alice Sanders, Town Clerk

Wendell Hildebrand, Mayor