

**Minutes**  
**Forsyth City Council Meeting**  
**Monday, March 16, 2026**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Goolsby called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, and Roll Call**

Mayor Goolsby led the pledge of allegiance. The invocation was led by Mr. Matthew Bishop . Roll call was led by Mrs. Shayla Furlow, the City Clerk. In attendance for the meeting was Mayor Goolsby, Councilmembers Josh Hill, Walter Goodson, Lois Allen, Glynn Holmes, Charles Wilder, and Mike Dodd. Also in attendance at the meeting was the City Manager, Craig Mims, Assistant City Manager, Regina Ivie, and City Attorney, Brian Causey. Six members of the council were in attendance for the meeting; therefore, all unanimous votes will be six votes (Hill, Goodson, Allen, Holmes, Wilder and Dodd).

**Approval of the agenda.**

Mr. Hill offered a motion to amend the agenda to include the appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission, which had previously been tabled until April 1, 2026, as item 5B. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the minutes from the council meeting held on March 2, 2026.**

Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the minutes from the council meeting held on March 2, 2026 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation of the Extraordinary Action Medals.**

Mayor Goolsby stated that he mentioned in prior mayor's report about the apartment fire that took place on February 18, 2026 and how he was impressed with the first responders from the city and the county. He stated that there are other people in the community that go above and beyond and there were people that stood out at that situation. They physically caught a person jumping from a window, that's a step above sitting back and watching the fire. As a result, the Extraordinary Action Medal was created and will continue to be awarded to individuals who demonstrate strong character through their actions in our community. A display with the recipient's name and date of the award will be displayed in the lobby of City Hall.

Mayor Goolsby, City Manager Craig Mims, and the Councilmembers recognized and thanked the recipients of the Extraordinary Action Medal: Kendreith Bowden, Kendrial Brantley, Shertrailer Brantley, Lashayla Battle, Davissiar Brantley, Quin King, and Cedric Bentley.

**Tabled agenda item.**

- **Appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission**

Mr. Hill offered a motion to remove the appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission from the table. Seconded by Mr. Goodson.

Mr. Hill stated that there is a opening on the Planning and Zoning Committee that was vacated by Kathy Rowland and several of them nominated Ms. Sue Patel. He stated that the first time that Ms. Patel was nominated she wanted to make sure that she understood what she would be getting into and so she asked if it could be tabled so that she could attend the meeting. Ms. Patel attended that meeting and at the following meeting it was brought up once again. Mr. Hill stated that there was a little misunderstanding, and they were told at the time that she still wasn't prepared to accept and come and speak to the council about being on the Planning & Zoning. He stated that he spoke to her, and she said that she was ready to be nominated and that she had done her work here. Mr. Hill stated that Ms. Sue Patel has lived in Monroe County for over twenty-nine years and owns several businesses. She loves being a resident of Forsyth.

Ms. Sue Patel stated that she has been living in this town for almost thirty years and she loves living in this town. She stated that she has two kids that graduated from school, one is going to be doctor and the other a lawyer. She stated that she is proud to serve the city to help anyway she can. That is the reason she applied for Planning and Zoning.

Mr. Holmes questioned Ms. Patel as to what she brings to the table concerning Planning and Zoning.

Ms. Sue Patel stated that she loved the city. She comes from New Jersey and it's a small town. The city is careful, everybody knows each other, and it's small a small town. She stated that she wants to keep the town as it is, we don't want it to grow but want to grow big with limited people and more businesses.

Mr. Hill stated that he has known Ms. Patel and her husband for quite some time, and he believes she would be a great asset to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Hill nominated Ms. Sue Patel.

Mr. Dodd seconded the nomination.

Mr. Wilder questioned if the floor was open for nominations.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Wilder nominated Mr. John Howard.

Mr. Craig Mims, the City Manager, advised the mayor that a third applicant, Mr. Aubrey Stewart, had submitted an application for consideration.

Mr. Wilder offered a motion that Ms. Sue Patel, Mr. John Howard, and Mr. Aubrey Stewart be nominees for the vacant seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

Votes were taken for each nominee. Ms. Sue Patel received two votes (Hill and Dodd), Mr. John Howard received four votes (Goodson, Allen, Holmes, and Wilder), and Mr. Aubrey Stewart received zero votes. Mr. John Howard was appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

### **Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Forsyth and the Historical Society.**

Mayor Goolsby stated that the chair of the Historical Society requested an written agreement for the existing arrangement with the city, under which the city pays the utilities in exchange for services they provide.

Mr. Brian Causey, the City Attorney, stated that the Memorandum of Understanding the Historical Society recognizes the current and past activities and services that the Historical Society provides. It creates an in-kind exchange for what they do for the city.

Mr. Goodson offered a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Forsyth and the Historical Society. Seconded by Mr. Holmes.

Mayor Goolsby stated that some cities fund their Historical Society through hotel-motel tax, like the Convention and Visitors Bureau and suggested that this may be something that could be considered in the future.

Mr. Hill stated that he had the opportunity to visit with the Leadership Monroe Class and they are doing aa amazing job.

Mr. Wilder requested that the funding be explored and report back to the council with a definite answer. He stated that if there are funds available, they want to make sure that they receive them so that they can grow and expand the organization.

Mayor Goolsby called the vote to motion offered to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Forsyth and the Historical Society. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of a bid award to Dixie Lawn & Landscaping for downtown landscaping.**

Mr. Will Campbell, the Project Manager, stated that the City of Forsyth put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for downtown landscaping services to include the City Hall, the Public Safety facilities, Lee Street Park, and landscaped beds throughout the downtown area. Six responses were received and five were considered. The scoring committee decided that Dixie Lawn & Landscaping was the highest scoring respondent.

After a brief discussion Mr. Goodson offered a motion to approve the bid award to Dixie Lawn & Landscaping for downtown landscaping. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of additional funding for the Public Works/Utilities Facility Project**

Mr. Mike Batchelor, the Utilities Director, requested \$64,250 in additional funding plus a 10% contingency to complete the remaining site work, including asphalt paving for the Public Works Utilities administrative office parking area and installation of asphalt millings for the operations and fleet maintenance side of the property.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve additional funding for the Public Works/Utilities Facility Project. Seconded by Mr. Wilder; the motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of FY2025 Budget Adjustments**

Mrs. Regina Ivie, the Assistant City Manager, stated that she was requesting approval for the budget adjustments for the general fund and the special revenue funds for fiscal year

2025. She stated that the numbers that will be presented are preliminary figures because audit pre-work has just begun. These adjustments are part of the normal year-end processes. The fiscal year ended on 12/31/2025, and the financial system must be closed within 90 days, which places the deadline at March 31, 2026. Before the fiscal year can be officially closed, any necessary budget amendments must be approved by Council and subsequently processed in Incode. She reviewed the General Funds, Fund 202- The Tourism Product Development, and Fund 210- Police Department Federal, State, and Local Special Revenue Fund.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the FY2025 Budget Adjustments. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Approval of Requisitions Greater than \$6,000**

- **Calibration Controls Automation, Inc.- \$11,769.96**
- **Davis Plumbing Co.- \$11,494.00**
- **Roberts Hauling and Pipeline Construction, Inc.- \$13,500.00**

Mrs. Allen offered a motion to approve the requisitions greater than \$6000 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

#### **City Manager's Report**

Mr. Craig Mims, the City Manager, thanked the Forsyth-Monroe County Chamber of Commerce and the city staff for another great Forsythia Festival. He stated that the ribbon cutting for Kynette Park will be held on April 1, 2026 at 4:00p.m.

#### **City Attorney Report**

Mr. Brian Causey, the City Attorney, had no business to report.

#### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Goolsby stated that the Forsythia Festival went well. He stated that the council retreat was great and that he assigned an Ad Hoc committee consisting of Councilwoman Allen, Councilman Holmes and Councilman Wilder to work with the Convention & Visitors Bureau. He thanked Mr. Craig Mims, the City Manager, and the department heads for doing a great job.

#### **Additional Business**

Mrs. Allen stated that the Hubbard Alumni Annual Banquet will be held on April 18, 2026 at the Monroe County Conference Center. The Convention & Visitors Bureau covered two major events.

Mr. Hill stated that vendors are raving about the festival and how wonderful it is. He thanked everyone involved in getting the city back together during recent weather events.

Mr. Holmes commended city staff that worked the recent storm for doing a good job.

Mr. Wilder thanked the City of Lagrange for their assistance and the City Manager for coordinating with them.

## **Public Comments**

Ms. Linda Hampton at 419 MLK Jr. Drive stated that she wanted to know if the RFP that was put out required the landscaper to do soil testing, when and how to prune the trees, when to plant certain plants. She stated that we need to keep our city beautiful. Ms. Hampton stated that the trees on Kynette Street have roots showing and that's dangerous. She stated that she is not sure if it is a city problem or property owner problem. She stated that they should consider where to put money in the budget for services. She stated that the sprinkler system has not functioned in years and they need to look into that.

Mr. Rob Law at Lassiter Road stated that he recommended the data center called the Forsyth Technology Center. He stated that his recommendation included a number of conditions and one was that the power consumers of the city be protected from the supply of power to the proposed data center. It is a national problem where everyone says that their power bill is going up because of data centers. Mr. Law stated that he would like a proclamation that will protect the citizens from power increases.

Mr. Bo Drinkard at Johnstonville Road with the Monroe County Reporter stated that he wanted to introduce himself and that he would be filling in for Ms. Diane.

## **PFAS Class Action litigation**

Mr. Brian Causey, the City Attorney, stated it relates to a resolution along with a proposed contract for PFAS Class Action litigation legal services.

## **Executive Session (litigation)**

Mr. Wilder offered a motion to enter executive session for the PFAS Class Action litigation at 7:03p.m. Seconded by; Mr. Goodson: the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to end executive session at 7:13p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Goolsby called the meeting back to regular session.

Mr. Holmes offered a motion to approve the PFAS Class Action Litigation Resolution. Seconded by Mr. Goodson; the motion carried unanimously.

## **Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss Mayor Goolsby adjourned the meeting at 7:15p.m.