Town of Fletcher
Town Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
April 13, 2026

**Call the meeting to order at: 6:00 PM**

Those who were in attendance are as follows:

Mayor Preston Blakely
Mayor Pro-Tem Trevor Lance
Councilmember Keith Reed
Councilmember Amber McKinney
Councilmember Jim Player
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

**Presentation of Flag Certificate by The Sons of the American Revolution — Michael Mills.**

Mayor Blakely accepted a flag certificate on behalf of the town from the Sons of the American Revolution.

**Presentation of Proclamation in honor of the late Kenneth Youngblood.**

Mayor Blakely read and presented the proclamation to the Youngblood family.

**Moment of Silence:**

Mayor Blakely led the group in a moment of silence.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mayor Blakely led the group in the pledge of allegiance,

**Public Comments:**

No comments were made at this time.

**Approval of minutes - corrections, additions or deletions**

**Agenda Review Meeting March 2, 2026**

**Regular Meeting March 9, 2026**

**Pre-Budget Retreat Meeting March 24, 2026**

**Mayor Blakely** asked if there are any corrections or deletions to the minutes as presented and if not do i have a motion to approve the minutes.

Councilmember Keith Reed made a motion to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Trevor Lance.

Motion all in favor.

**Council Updates**

No comments were made at this time.

**Consent Agenda**

**Tax refunds/releases**

**Setting Public Hearing Date — Standard Rezoning and Special Use Permit Review – Birkshire Trace (26-01-SUP) – Tyler Morrow, Planning & Zoning Director**

**Adding Mars Hill and Marshall to the Asheville Regional Housing Consortium — Tyler Morrow, Planning and Zoning Director**

**Approval of Budget Amendment #5 (0-26-06) to the budget ordinance.**

**Approval of Resolution R-26-05 for HCA Health/Mission Hospital.**

**Approval of Resolution R-26-04 opposing state legislation limiting local property tax authority.**

**Mayor Blakely** asked if there were any comments or questions on the consent agenda from last week since the two items that were added.

There were no comments on the consent agenda at this time.

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to approve the consent agenda, and it was seconded by Councilmember Amber McKinney.

Motion all in favor.

**Discussion Items**

**Selection of an Individual for District 3 seat on the Planning & Zoning Board.**

Mayor Blakely stated last week we heard from Ms. Leslie Cuevas, who has served the last 3 years on this board. This week we have Mr. Adam Eberhardt here who is also interested in serving on the planning board. He then asked Mr. Eberhardt to come to the podium to introduce himself and state as to why he would like to serve on the planning board.

Mr Eberhardt came to the podium, introduced himself to council and answered questions that they had for him.

Discussion Followed:

The town council unanimously selected Leslie Cuevas to serve another term on the Planning Board.

**Presentation and annual report from Asheville Regional Airport—Lew Bleiweis, Executive Director.**

Lew Bleiweis gave an update on Asheville Regional Airport and the progress that they have made over the last year.

Discussion Followed:

**Public Hearing for approval of Economic Incentives for project "Blaze" — Brittany Brady, President of the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development.**

Emily Martin from the Partnership for Economic Development gave a presentation on the Economic Incentives for project "Blaze".

Discussion Followed:

**Mayor Blakely** asked for a motion to go into Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro-Tem Trevor Lance and Councilmember Jim Player motioned to go into public hearing, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

Mayor Blakely asked for comments from the public at this time.

No comments were made at this time.

**Mayor Blakely** asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to close the public hearing, and it was seconded by Councilmember Amber McKinney.

Motion all in favor.

**Mayor Blakely** asked for a motion to either approve or deny economic incentives for project

"Blaze".

Mayor Pro-Tem Trevor Lance motioned to approve economic incentives for project "Blaze" and it was seconded by Councilmember Jim Player.

Motion all in favor.

**Request for express design of key intersections and road extension in support of Town Center development - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager**

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that I talked with you last week about doing some proactive transportation engagement discussion with DOT and also our French Broad MPO. We met with them, and they came back with an update on potential improvements along HWY 25 that would help with traffic flow but also support further development of the Heart of Fletcher project. The express design will allow the MPO to submit this plan on our behalf to DOT to get them to come up with some design options and present an estimated cost. I ask by motion that we start this process and I think it will help us get this work going. Even if we do not reach a deal with Lewis Real Estate, there may be another potential developer that will help get the work going on potential transportation improvements.

Discussion Followed:

**Mayor Blakely** asked for a motion to support a request for the express design of key intersections for the Town Center Development.

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to support the express design of key intersections, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

**Town Manager Report**

Last week I talked to you about our meetings with the legislative delegation, (priorities list) and we recently met with Kye Laughter from Senator Bud's office and next we will try and meet with Robin Ramsey from Senator Tillis's office. I recently submitted all of our information online with Congressman Edwards' office and sent a letter of support about trying to extend sewer to those three streets off of Fanning Bridge Road. I'll follow up to see if they have identified any funding sources for that.

On the Budget update, we are in the throes of the budget process and I mentioned last week we are working to finalize our revenue estimates. Probably by the end of this week or the beginning of next week, we will have a draft of what our revenues are looking like for the

upcoming fiscal year, particularly with putting the final touches on our expense requests. I will then work on a balanced budget to present to you during our May 7th budget workshop.

Our Spring shredding event/pill drop is coming up on Saturday, April 25th, from 9:00 until noon.

We are also in the middle of our spring litter sweep as we are trying to get people to organize a pick-up. I'll put out some additional information on this as well.

I was talking to our Planning & Zoning Director about public hearings. We have always had a practice of putting on the consent agenda to set a public hearing for the following months' meeting (usually land use issues). All require a public hearing, but there is not a requirement that you set a public hearing prior to holding the actual public hearing.

Discussion Followed:

Council agrees to no longer put this on the consent agenda prior to the actual public hearing.

**Department Reports**

**March Reports**

**Adjourn**

**Mayor Blakely** asked for a motion to adjourn

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to adjourn, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

Adjourned at: 6:36 pm

**Upcoming Events**

**LGCCA April 21, 2026, at 3:00 pm "Flat Rock" hosting**
**Shred/Pill Drop event on Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 am to noon.**
**Agenda Review Meeting May 4, 2026 at 6:00 pm**
**Budget Workshop May 7. 2026 at 9:00 am**
**Regular Meeting May 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm**

Approved.

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Date Signed