BLACK MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

May 1, 2025 | Special Called Meeting | Time: 8:00 A.M.

Town Hall Council Chambers | 160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711

The Black Mountain Town Council held a meeting on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711. The purpose of this meeting was to hold a FY 2025-26 Budget Work Session.

Mayor C. Michael Sobol called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with the following members in attendance: Mayor C. Michael Sobol, Vice Mayor Archie Pertiller, Council Member Alice Berry, Council Member Doug Hay, Council Member Pam King, and Council Member Ryan Stone.

The following staff members were present: Josh Harrold, Town Manager; Jessica Trotman, Assistant Town Manager; Wesley Barker, Town Clerk; Tammy Holland, Finance Director; Josh Henderson, Recreation & Parks Director; John Coffey, Fire Chief; Jamey Matthews, Public Works Director; Steve Parker, Police Chief; Angela Reece, Project & Facilities Manager. Several other staff members were also present.

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FY 2025-26 Budget Work Session.

Town Manager Josh Harrold reviewed additional budget items with the Town Council, including a comparison of requested budget items and proposed revenues. Some noteworthy items included the following:

- A correction of the proposed water rate increases as mentioned at the last budget meeting, which would be an estimated $3.20 increase on average, a 5% increase over projected rate originally presented.
- A proposed increase to the garbage fee to $10 from $5.
- The water bond payment of $2.82 on customer's bills would be coming off of the water bills over the next year.
- Stormwater fees would remain the same at $72 per year.
- Funding for the public safety building needs study is still included in the proposed budget at $28,000 to address how the building should be used but would not address the structure itself and damages.

Some discussions took place regarding the meter reader position, the public safety building and facilities needs study, the school resource officer position, and customer service employee needs. Council Member Doug Hay stated he would like to see the fireworks be kept within the budget; Council Member Alice Berry proposed another community event in lieu of fireworks during July 4th.

Town Manager Josh Harrold reviewed requested new staff positions that have been recommended to be cut from the proposed budget. These include the Public Information Officer, Training Officer with BMFD and Finance Department positions.

The next FY 2024-25 budget workshop will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall before the monthly agenda work session meeting.

There being no further business, Mayor C. Michael Sobol adjourned the meeting at 9:17 a.m.

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C. Michael Sobol, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Wesley M. Barker, Town Clerk