TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN
APPLICATION TO FILL VACANT TOWN COUNCIL SEAT

Appointment Period: Through December 2028

Application Deadline: Friday, July 10, 2026 at 12:00 PM

Scheduled Appointment Date: July 13, 2026 Regular Monthly Council Meeting*

Applicant Information

Legal First Name: Paul Legal Last Name: Haynes

Residential Address: 106 Joy Ridge Drive

City: Black Mountain State: NC Zip Code: 28711

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Primary Phone: (770) 265-6767

Other Phone: _____

Email Address: haynes.paul@gmail.com

Eligibility (Check Yes or No)

1. Are you a registered voter in Buncombe County? ☒ Yes ☐ No
2. Do you live within the municipal limits of Black Mountain? ☒ Yes ☐ No
3. Are you 21 years of age or older? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Application Questions

1. What motivates you to serve as a member of the Black Mountain Town Council?

Black Mountain has a strong sense of place, history, and community that deserves thoughtful stewardship. I want to serve because local government should be transparent, fiscally responsible, and responsive to residents. My goal is to preserve the Town's character while strengthening infrastructure, resilience, local business, and responsible planning for future generations.

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2. Describe any relevant experience you may have and why you should be selected to fill this vacancy?

I bring more than twenty years of experience leading strategy, finance, operations, and governance in complex organizations. My work has required facts, accountability, calm judgment, and consensus across diverse stakeholders. I have also owned and managed residential properties and understand the concerns of homeowners, businesses, and neighborhoods. I would bring practical leadership, financial discipline, and a long-term community focus to the Council.

Throughout my career, I have helped organizations simplify complex problems, build trust among diverse stakeholders, and create transparent processes that lead to better long-term decisions.

3. Describe your understanding of the Council-Manager form of government.

The Council sets policy, establishes priorities, adopts the budget, and represents the community, while the Town Manager implements those policies and directs daily operations. Effective council members provide strategic oversight, ask thoughtful questions, respect professional staff, and remain accountable to residents without managing day-to-day administration.

4. What are the most important elements in developing a municipal budget?

A responsible municipal budget should reflect community priorities and long-term financial health. It should balance core services, public safety, infrastructure, parks, resilience, and economic vitality with realistic revenue forecasts, healthy reserves, and capital planning. Every dollar should have a clear purpose, measurable value, and transparent public explanation.

5. How would you ensure all voices in the community are represented?

Representation begins before a vote is taken. I would meet people where they are and seek input from residents, business owners, nonprofits, educators, seniors, young families, and people who rarely attend meetings. I would listen respectfully, communicate openly, and weigh differing perspectives fairly while making decisions for the long-term good of the whole community.

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Certification

I certify that the information provided is true and complete. I further understand that if appointed, I will abide by the local governing board's code of ethics and rules of procedure, https://tinyurl.com/tobmethics, which is pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-86.

Signature: _____ Date: July 9, 2026

Submission Information

To be considered for appointment at the July 13, 2026 Council meeting, applications must be received by Town Clerk Wesley Barker **by 12:00 pm on Friday, July 10, 2026** in the following ways:

1) In person at Town Hall, 160 Midland Ave., Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

2) Via email: wesley.barker@tobm.org and/or town.clerk@tobm.org

3) Via USPS: Town of Black Mountain, Attn: Town Clerk, 160 Midland Ave., Black Mountain, NC 28711

Contact Information for Questions:
Wesley M. Barker, Town Clerk
160 Midland Ave., Black Mountain, NC 28711
(828) 419-9310
wesley.barker@tobm.org, or town.clerk@tobm.org

**Town Council will review the applications and will vote via ballot method at the beginning of the July 13, 2026 regular monthly Town Council meeting, which will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Black Mountain Town Hall. At that time, following the ballot voting, the Council will formally vote to appoint the member to the Council, and they will subsequently be sworn in and participate in that meeting, if in attendance.*