**MINUTES**
**BREVARD CITY COUNCIL**
**Regular Meeting**
**June 15, 2026 – 5:30 PM**

The Brevard City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Copelof presiding.

**Present –** Mayor Maureen Copelof, Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Baker, and Council Members Gary Daniel, Pamela Holder, Lauren Wise and Dean Lytle

**Staff Present** – City Attorney Mack McKeller, City Manager Wilson Hooper, City Clerk Denise Hodsdon, Assistant City Manager David Todd, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Dean Luebbe, Assistant to the City Manager Shawnee Cummings, Human Resources Director Kelley Craig, Assistant Planning Director Aaron Bland, Police Chief Christy Wentzell, Fire Chief Chase Owen, Public Works Director Wesley Shook, Water Treatment Plant ORC Dennis Richardson, and Wastewater Treatment Plant ORC Aaron Winans

**Guests/Presenters** – Vicki Eastland, Land of Sky and Daniel Sellers, NCDOT

**Press** – Jonathan Rich, Brevard Beagle

**A. Welcome and Call to Order** – Mayor Copelof called the meeting to order and welcomed those present.

**B. Invocation** – Rev. Shelly Webb of Sharing House offered an invocation.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Copelof led the pledge of allegiance.

**D. Certification of Quorum** – City Clerk Denise Hodsdon certified that a quorum was present.

**E. Approval of Agenda** – Mr. Baker requested to move Item M-2 Preparatory Project Amendments to Unfinished Business as Item L-1 and to renumber Item L-1 Approve FY 2026-2027 Budget Ordinance and Fee Schedule as Item L-2. Mr. Baker also requested to add a Resolution Authorizing Submission of an Application for a North Carolina Water Resources Development Grant for the Norton Creek Stream Restoration Project to the Consent Agenda as Item K-9. Mr. Wise moved, seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

**F. Approval of Minutes**

**F-1. June 15, 2026 Regular Meeting** – Ms. Holder moved, seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2026 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**G. Certificates / Awards / Recognition**

**G-1. Proclamation No. 2026-19 Juneteenth** – Mayor Copelof read the proclamation aloud and presented it to Randy Lytle, President of the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center Board of Directors.

**PROCLAMATION N0. 2026-19**
**JUNETEENTH**

**WHEREAS**, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the enslaved people in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one-half years, to June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Emancipation Day observations are held on different days in different states in the South and Southwest, and in other parts of the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, June 19th has a special meaning to African Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African American community for over 150 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual Juneteenth celebration in the City of Brevard this year will include a historical trolley tour on June 19th and 20th; a guest speaker and seafood dinner on Friday evening, June 19th at the Mary C. Jenkins Community & Cultural Center; an afternoon celebration on Saturday, June 20th at Silversteen Memorial Playground; and a joint worship service followed by a Sunday dinner on Sunday, June 21st at Mary C. Jenkins Community & Cultural Center; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is an official City of Brevard holiday and City offices will be closed on June 19th.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Maureen Copelof, Mayor of the City of Brevard, North Carolina, do hereby declare June 19th, 2026, as JUNETEENTH in the City of Brevard, North Carolina, and urge all citizens to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African American History and in the heritage of our nation and City.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Brevard to be affixed on this 15th day of June, 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor

### H. Public Comments

Rodney Locks commented that he has closely followed this year's budget process and commended Council for its thoughtfulness and commitment to maintaining a level of service that people will be happy with. He said during the public hearing it is clear that Council priorities and the citizen's priorities did not line up. I even commend Council for making last minute changes to show Council was paying attention. You know most of us don't have high-paying jobs that will allow us to afford continued property tax increases or higher water and sewer rates. Yet, as hard as you tried, you could not keep from raising property taxes by 2.5 cents and water rates by 4.5 cents, and you even had to increase the municipal service tax by .65 cents. We citizens are already paying 57% of the General Fund budget for personnel and 28% is for operations. If Council does not do anything to make it affordable to live in Brevard, not take care of the homeless, and much less improve our quality of life, we cannot continue to support you and our families. If you think this budget year was challenging, you know next year will be worse. Council needs to look at its own internal health. You need to engage an independent group like you did for the Police Department. I suggest Council needs a total reassessment of its priorities, level of service, healthcare plans, staffing expenditures, and investments. You need to get new money; you cannot keep raising property tax and water rates. The handwriting is on the wall…read it an heed it; you don't have much time.

Randy Austin said my brother and I own the West Main Barber Shop, and I have been working on this Main St. for 38 years. I took this business over from the men that started it in 1957, and they told me when I started that the hardest part about having a business on Main St. was the lack of parking, and this has been so true. I'd like to encourage this council to start the conversations about a parking garage, more parking lots, etc. Please don't wait until the Ecusta Trail is finished before we start the conversation. But, parking is not the main reason I'm here tonight. At the end of the last council meeting, the subject was brought up about reviewing the town's ordinances related to how law enforcement interacts with the homeless population downtown. As someone who has spent decades working on property and paying taxes on Main St., I don't think there is a homeless problem on Main St. What we have is a substance abuse problem. The things I have seen for the last two years would shock most normal people

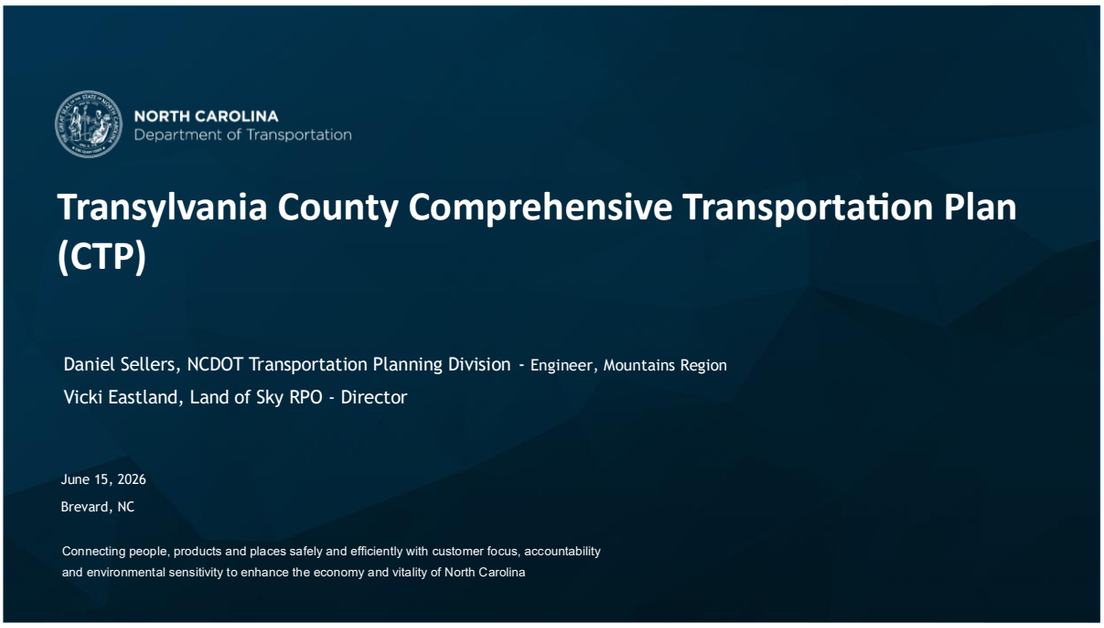
in Brevard, and I have pictures and videos to back it up. Would someone that has become homeless from job loss, medical bills, or fire lay on benches, throw trash, drink straight from liquor bottles, have fornication, and just in general lay drunk from daylight to dark? I think not. I think using the word "homeless" or "unhoused" to describe the people that are causing problems for the police is insulting to a legitimate homeless person. I am here to ask, as a business owner, property owner, and a law-abiding citizen and taxpayer, please give the Police Department all the tools they need to keep the good people in this town to have the community that they deserve—for moms, kids, and everyone to feel safe without seeing some of the behavior that I have seen for the last couple of years. If any of the council members, mayor, or city staff would like to have a conversation, I'm across the street.

Doug Powell said by the time we see each other again in these chambers we will have celebrated our nations 250th birthday of independence. It is prudent to review what we will be celebrating. There are many misconceptions about the founding of this country and those who founded it. Some of these historical inaccuracies have been presented ignorantly and some maliciously. As a city council member, when the things you say or do get filtered too many times by too many people, this presents a window of opportunity for those political decisions to be misinterpreted as well. This is why I commend those citizens who watch here live or online. No better way for a citizen to decide what your intent as a city council member is than by listening to your comments directly and tallying up your votes on each issue. This is our duty in a constitutional republic, and this is the reason why I share what I have learned about the original intent of this nation's founding to you all. As you would not like to be completely miscategorized by a historian 250 years from now, I think it's important to set the record straight about those men we call the founding fathers. We have largely been taught that these 56 men were trying to ensure mostly political and economic advantages when they signed the Declaration of Independence, but this is a relatively recent and incorrect interpretation. I don't have enough time to go over every misconception tonight, but please read the Declaration yourselves so you will know the 27 reasons why they mutually pledged to each other their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. Rarely do people risk death solely for economic reason. Jesus's disciples risked crucifixion and death because they were convicted by a truth greater than themselves. The signers of the Declaration knew that they had everything to lose and the odds of victory against Great Britain was slim to none. At the end of the day these men knew they were signing their death warrants in order to preserve their God-given civil and religious liberties and ultimately handed these down to future generations. Let's tally up the sacrifices these men made on our behalf after the ink dried—7 lost their lives, 2 lost their health, 5 were prisoners of war, 17 lost their estates or fortunes, many burned to the ground, 5 incurred heavy debt, 4 lost their children, and 4 lost their wives. This doesn't include the days, months, and years they were away from their families and their hometowns. They were literally America's most wanted and were hunted down by the king's men every step of the way. So perhaps sometime between our barbecues and fireworks, we can celebrate our independence and give thanks for the enormous sacrifice these men endured for the cause of our civil and religious liberties, freedoms, and honor them by presenting a more accurate view of them to the next generation. He wished everyone a Happy Independence Day and presented flags and 250th wristbands to Council.

Representative Anna Ferguson said I just want to introduce myself as your representative in the North Carolina House. I was appointed back in the spring, roughly less than a week before I had to report to Raleigh to session, which is why this is unfortunately the first opportunity I have had to come meet you in person. I watch your live streams, so I feel like have met you all, but it's different face-to-face than it is watching you over the television. And, I had the honor and pleasure of meeting Mayor Copelof a couple of weeks ago. I look forward to having the opportunity to sit down so we can discuss what we need to do together. The way I see my position is I'm the conduit between you and what you need from the state. So, I'm not here to tell you what you need—you all are the experts. I'm here to have you tell me and for us to work out how we're going to make that happen.

## I. Special Presentations

**I-1. Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan – Vicki Eastland, Land of Sky and Daniel Sellers, NCDOT** – Daniel Sellers of the N.C. Department of Transportation and Vicki Eastland, Land of Sky RPO Director presented an overview of the Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The CTP is a long-range planning document which identifies major transportation improvement needs and develops long-term solutions for the next 20 to 30 years. The study is a joint effort between NCDOT, the Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (RPO), Transylvania County, the City of Brevard, and the Town of Rosman. Council had been provided with hard copies of the CTP and it is available for public viewing on the City's website.






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## What is a CTP?

- Comprehensive Transportation Plan
- Long -range, multi -modal transportation plan
  - 25-to -30 -year planning period
  - Vision Plan
  - System Focused Plan
  - Not Fiscally Constrained
- Incorporates local plans, community, & statewide goals
- Developed cooperatively among local stakeholders, Rural Planning Organization (RPO), and NCDOT

4

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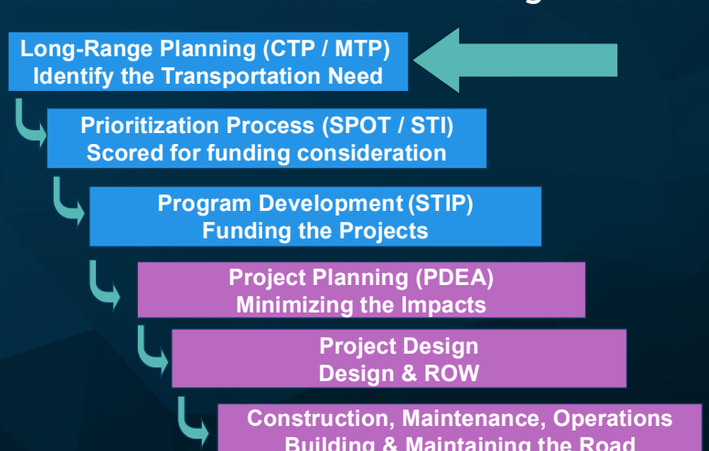
## What is in a CTP?

- Multimodal Maps
  - Highway
  - Public Transportation and Rail
  - Bicycle
  - Pedestrian
- Recommendations
  - Existing
  - Needs Improvement
  - New Location
- Current and Future Conditions
  - Road Characteristics (Lanes, Right -of-Way, Speed Limits)
  - Traffic Information (Volume and Capacity, Crashes)
  - Future Conditions (Development Patterns, Geographic Constraints)

5

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## Where does the CTP fit into the "Big Picture"?




6

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## The purpose of the CTP is to

- Anticipate future deficiencies and provide proposals to address each deficiency
- Establish a common, long -range vision for facilities among local governments, RPO, and NCDOT
- Give due consideration to the human and natural environment
- Be accountable to the public through the formal public involvement process
- Provide for faster project delivery by utilizing project vision, environmental constraints, and public outreach in the project delivery
- Create recommendations that are concepts the design and environmental process can use as a starting point for further alignment or design

7

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## Work to Date

- The planning process brought together a broad range of stakeholders, surveyed the public, and held workshops on the deficiencies and draft proposals to address identified "needs."
- Consensus reached on recommendations
- Now everything has been compiled into a report.
- Adoption is the last remaining step
- The draft plan is available online, along with an extensive appendix which includes maps, tables, and project sheets
  - https://tinyurl.com/2stn3m8e

9

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## Plan Adoption Timeline

- County Transportation Advisory Board
  - Recommended Adoption on May 12th
- Local Adoption
  - Brevard City Council
  - Town of Rosman Board of Alderman
  - Transylvania County Board of Commissioners
- Mutual Adoption
  - Land of Sky RPO
  - NCDOT Board of Transportation

11




During Questions/Comments from Council, Mr. Wise said that Project 17 – The Railroad Avenue Extension raised some alarm bells for him and for other Council-members. He brought it up at the last County Transportation Advisory Committee meeting and they came up with a potential alternate to replace that project. The alternate would take that potential traffic onto Wilson Rd. He suggested removing Project 17 Railroad Avenue Extension from the CTP and replacing it with the Wilson Rd. alternative.

Mr. Wise moved, seconded by Mr. Baker to adopt the Comprehensive Transportation Plan with the exception of replacing the Project 17 Railroad Avenue with a new Project 17 Wilson Road Extension. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-33**
**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2026 TRANSYLVANIA**
**COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Brevard, Town of Rosman, Transylvania County, Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization, and the Transportation Planning Division of the North Carolina Department of Transportation have actively worked to develop a Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) for Transylvania County; and

**WHEREAS**, the CTP outlines the desires and needs of the county's transportation network for the next 50+ years; and

**WHEREAS,** City Council recognizes that the efficient provision of a safe multi-modal transportation system is a necessity in maintaining quality of life, economic development, and orderly growth within and throughout Transylvania County; and

**WHEREAS,** after full explanation of the plan during a presentation at its June 15, 2026 meeting, the Brevard City Council feel it to be in the best interests of the City to adopt the plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA THAT**:

**Section 1**. The Brevard City Council supports and adopts the 2026 Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan as a guide in the development of the transportation system in Brevard and Transylvania County, with the following amendment:

a. Replace Railroad Avenue Extension, R-5743 with Wilson Road (SR1540) Extension proposal.

Adopted and approved this the 15th day of June 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor

**I-2. Summary of Berry Dunn *Needs Assessment Report* and Current Brevard Police Department Organizational Changes** – Chief Wentzell presented an update on the Berry Dunn Organizational Assessment and the progress the Police Department has made since the report was complete:

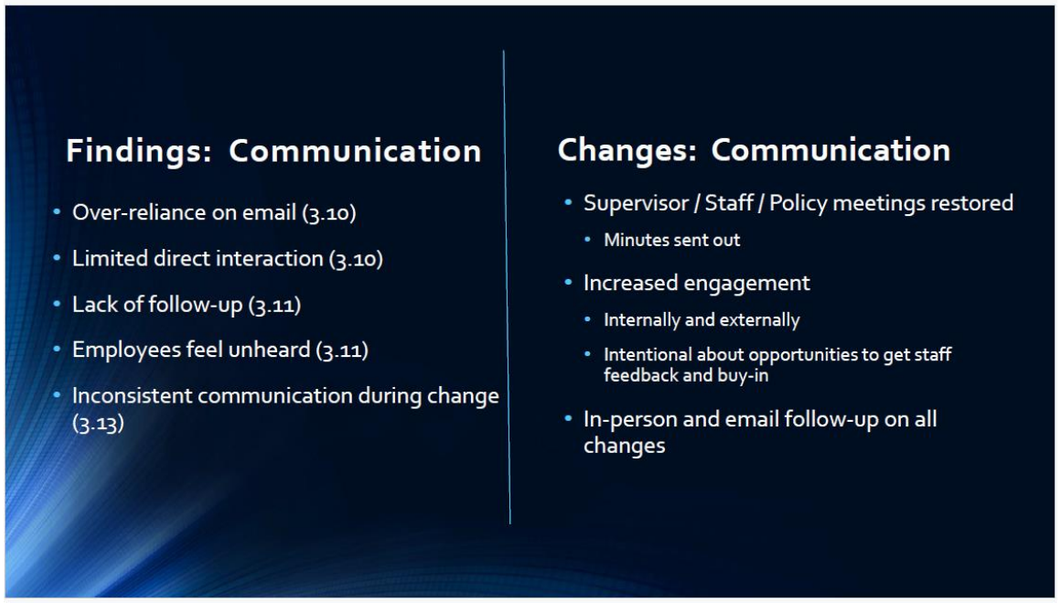


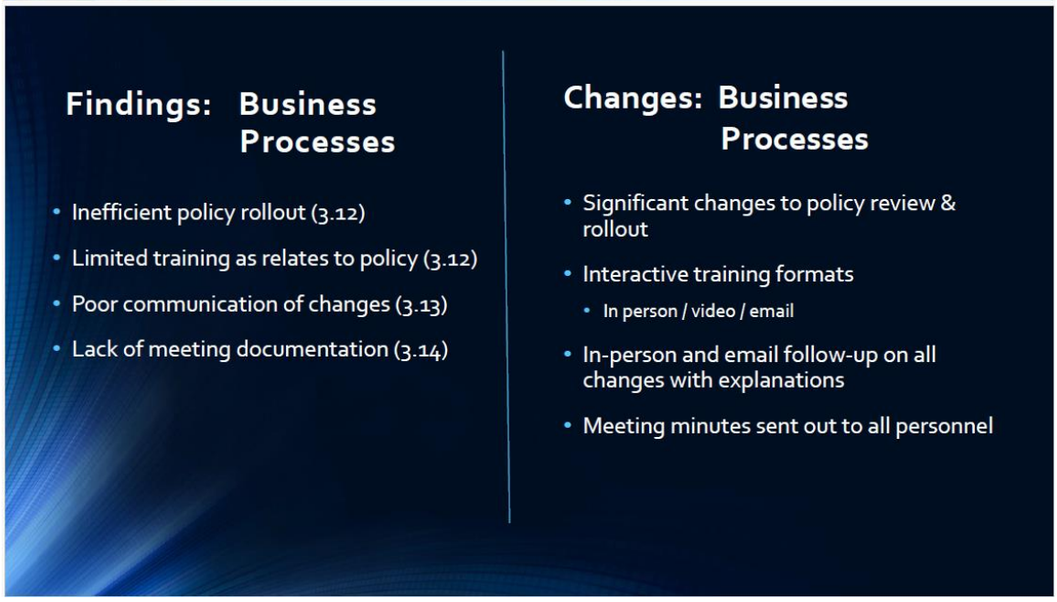






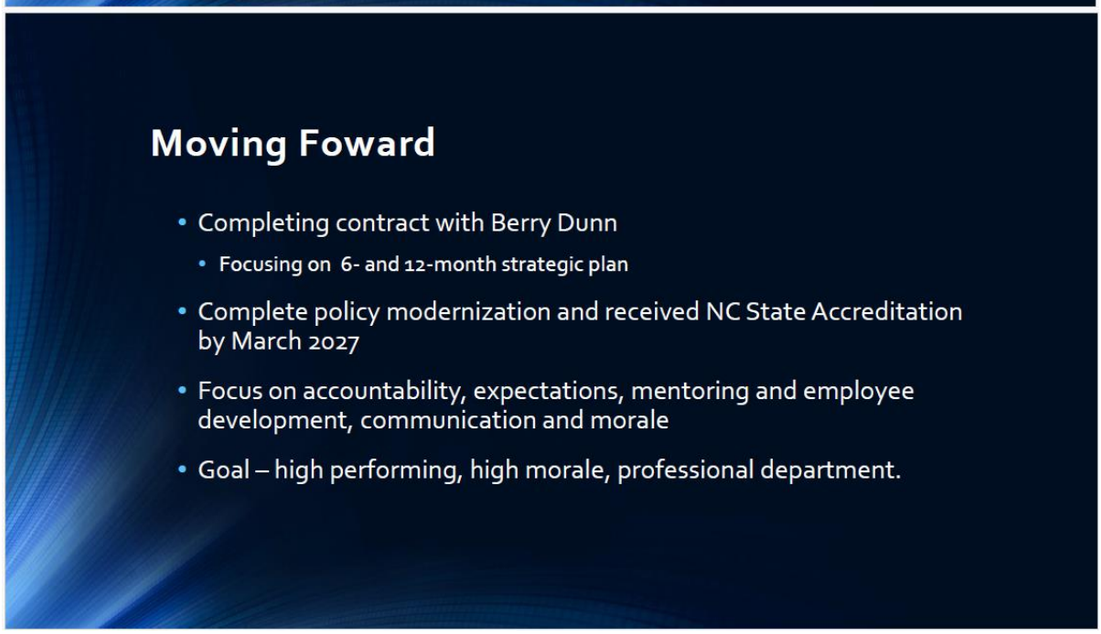

Findings: Leadership
• Inconsistent Accountability (3.1)
• Centralized Decision-Making (3.2)
• Limited Supervisor Empowerment (3.3)
• Role Clarity issues (3.4)
• Chain of command breakdown (3.6)
• Trust concerns (3.7)
Changes: Leadership
• Defined expectations per rank & role
• Delegated responsibilities
• Departmental Restructuring
• Clear primary duties for each job assignment
• Clear "extracurricular" assignments per employee
• Reinforcement of Chain of Command
• One-on-One meetings
• Visibility and accessibility
• Consistent Presence


Findings: Communication
• Over-reliance on email (3.10)
• Limited direct interaction (3.10)
• Lack of follow-up (3.11)
• Employees feel unheard (3.11)
• Inconsistent communication during change (3.13)
Changes: Communication
• Supervisor / Staff / Policy meetings restored
• Minutes sent out
• Increased engagement
• Internally and externally
• Intentional about opportunities to get staff feedback and buy-in
• In-person and email follow-up on all changes


Findings: Business Processes
• Inefficient policy rollout (3.12)
• Limited training as relates to policy (3.12)
• Poor communication of changes (3.13)
• Lack of meeting documentation (3.14)
Changes: Business Processes
• Significant changes to policy review & rollout
• Interactive training formats
• In person / video / email
• In-person and email follow-up on all changes with explanations
• Meeting minutes sent out to all personnel

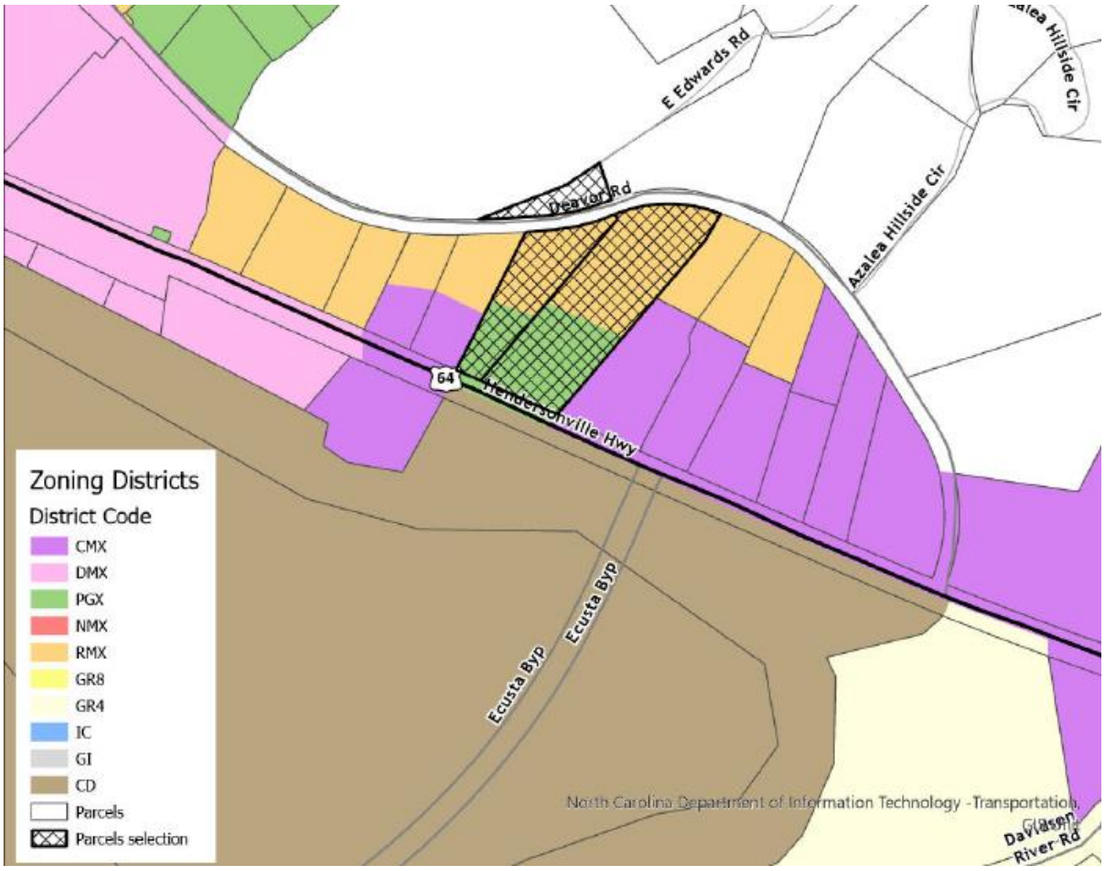

Findings: Operational Processes
• Limited event planning (3.15)
• Staffing shortages (3.16)
• Recruitment challenges (3.16)
• Top-heavy structure (3.17)
Changes: Operational Processes
• Designated event coordinator
• Creating pre-event action plans
• Post event debriefings
• On-going collaboration with Planning & FD
• Increasing Recruitment Efforts
• HR added bonus pays / increasing marketability
• Targeted approach to recruitment / job fairs
• Cadet program Restructuring of department
• Restructuring of department
• Staffing realignment and shared purpose


Findings: Job Satisfaction
• Morale challenges (3.17 / 3.18)
• Trust Concerns (3.7)
• Strong employee commitment (3.18)
Changes: Job Satisfaction
• Leadership visibility
• Direct engagement with staff
• Culture rebuilding
• Setting "BPD Standard" / Esprit de Corps
• Future focus on career development
• Structured development plans
• Future focus on recognition and wellness


Moving Foward
• Completing contract with Berry Dunn
• Focusing on 6- and 12-month strategic plan
• Complete policy modernization and received NC State Accreditation by March 2027
• Focus on accountability, expectations, mentoring and employee development, communication and morale
• Goal – high performing, high morale, professional department.

**J. Public Hearing(s)**

**J-1. Proposed Amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Brevard – 2 Parcels on Deavor Road to PGX** – Aaron Bland explained that the request is to rezone the remainder of a newly recombined parcel to the PGX district. Approximately half of the parcel was rezoned to PGX previously. Since then, property lines have been amended to create one larger undeveloped parcel and one small parcel with the existing house. The request is to rezone the entirety of the larger parcel to PGX, eliminating the previously enacted split zoning, and leave the small house parcel as RMX as it is now. The Planning Board unanimously recommended approval at its May meeting.




At 6:45 p.m. Ms. Holder moved, seconded by Mr. Baker to open the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Participation – None.

At 6:45 p.m. Mr. Baker moved, seconded by Ms. Holder to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

**K. Consent and Information -** Consent Agenda items are considered routine and are enacted by one motion. Mayor Copelof read aloud the items listed and asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Wise moved, seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**K-1. Tax Settlement Report – May 2026**

**K-2. Asset Inventory and Assessment of the Water Distribution System and the Wastewater Collection System**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-34**
**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESULTS OF THE ASSET INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT PROJECTS FOR THE CITY'S DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY SYSTEMS NCDEQ-DWI PROJECT NUMBERS AIA-W-ARP-0106 AND AIA-D-ARP-0124**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Brevard was awarded two Asset Inventory and Assessment Grants to study and report on the City's drinking water and wastewater systems; and

**WHEREAS,** the firm of Summit Engineering has assisted the City in conducting the evaluations and making the reports on the water and sewer assets; and

**WHEREAS,** the results of these efforts establish a roadmap for future investments in maintaining and advancing the utility systems.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:**

1) The City appreciates the investment of State Funds for these purposes and the assistance provided by NCDEQ.
2) The City accepts the plans and reports as tools to guide future investments in the utility systems.
3) These adopted Asset Management Plans supersede all previously adopted similar plans.
4) These adopted Asset Management Plans may be amended by the City Council with budgetary actions or other actions related to the authorization of specific projects and by the adoption of future Asset Management Plans.
5) The City will update and maintain the database systems developed for the assets.
6) The City hereby adopts this Resolution to close the projects.

Adopted and approved this the 15th day of June, 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor

## K-3. Resolution Appointing Friends of the Ecusta Trail Representative to the Ecusta Trail Advisory Board

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-35**
**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRIENDS OF ECUSTA TRAIL AS A MEMBER OF THE BREVARD/TRANSYLVANIA ECUSTA TRAIL ADVISORY BOARD**

**WHEREAS**, on August 5, 2024 City Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-31 Updating the Membership and Charge of the Brevard/Transylvania Ecusta Trail Advisory Board (ETAB); and

**WHEREAS**, the membership of the ETAB was reconstituted to include two members of Brevard City Council, two at-large members, and one representative from each of the following entities, per each entity's recommendation: Transylvania County Tourism Development Authority, Friends of Ecusta Trail, Conserving Carolina, Transylvania Economic Alliance, Heart of Brevard, and Transylvania County; and

**WHEREAS**, the membership terms are indefinite; and

**WHEREAS**, John Ditillo was appointed as the representative from Friends of Ecusta Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, Friends of Ecusta Trail has advised that they wish to make a substitution to their representative and recommend that Mark Tooley, a Transylvania County resident, represent Friends of Ecusta Trail going forward.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:**

The Brevard City Council does hereby appoint Mark Tooley as a member of the Brevard/Transylvania County Ecusta Trail Advisory Board as a representative from Friends of Ecusta Trail.

Adopted and approved this the 15th day of June, 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor

## K-4. Resolution Accepting $8,575,000 Funding Modification for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Phase 1

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-36**
**RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BREVARD ACCEPTING FUNDING OF $8,575,000 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE PHASE 1**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Brevard has received a Directed Projects grant from the 2023

Appropriations Act, Session Law 2023-134, administered through the Drinking Water Reserve and Wastewater Reserve to assist eligible units of government with meeting their water/wastewater infrastructure needs; and

**WHEREAS**, in September 2024 the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality granted permission for the City of Brevard to use $352,000 of the grant balance to hire KCI Engineering to conduct a Preliminary Engineering Report on wastewater treatment plant upgrades. When completed, the report recommended a three-phase approach to upgrade the facility; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2025 the state granted permission to use an additional $878,000 to fund full design and engineering of phase one.

**WHEREAS**, in May 2026 the state granted permission to use $8,575,000 to construct phase one; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Brevard intends to perform the work of said project in accordance with the agreed scope of work.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:**

SECTION 1. That the City of Brevard does hereby accept the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Funding Offer Modification in the amount of $8,575,000

SECTION 2 That the City of Brevard does hereby give assurances to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality that any Conditions or Assurances contained in the Award Offer will be adhered to.

SECTION 3 That the City Manager, or his designee, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as appropriate State agency may request in connection with this project; to make the assurance as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required by the Division of Water Infrastructure.

Adopted and approved this the 15th day of June, 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor

## K-5. Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2026

## K-6. Public Works and Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2026

## K-7. Finance, Human Resources, and Citizen Appointment Committee Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2026

## K-8. Housing Committee Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2026

## K-9. Resolution Authorizing Submission of an Application for a North Carolina Water Resources Development Grant for the Norton Creek Stream Restoration Project

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-37**
**RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF BREVARD CITY COUNCIL**
**SUPPORTING A WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT GRANT**
**FOR THE NORTON CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Brevard supports the Norton Creek Stream Restoration, a project to repair poor conditions of Norton Creek from Silversteen Drive to Rosman Hwy for the purpose of reducing erosion, stabilizing property, reducing flooding, and improving the natural aquatic stream system, and

**WHEREAS,** a highly prioritized goal in the 2030 Comprehensive Land Use Plan is celebrating Brevard's natural resources through conservation of environmentally sensitive areas, improving access to recreation and restoration of native ecosystems, and

**WHEREAS,** the successful planning and implementation of this project will contribute to the long-term safety and well-being of our citizens, and enhance the quality of life in our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Brevard, North Carolina that,

1. Brevard City Council requests the State of North Carolina to provide financial assistance to the City of Brevard for Norton Creek Stream Restoration in the amount of $436,600.
2. City Council assumes full obligation for payment of the balance of project costs.
3. City Council will obtain all necessary State and Federal permits.
4. City Council will comply with all applicable laws governing the award of contracts and the expenditure of public funds by local governments.
5. City Council will supervise construction of the project to assure compliance with permit conditions and to assure safe and proper construction according to approved plans and specifications.
6. City Council will obtain suitable spoil disposal areas as needed and all other easements or rights-of-way that may be necessary for the construction and operation of the project without cost or obligation to the State.
7. City Council will assure that the project is open for use by the public on an equal basis.
8. City Council will hold the State harmless from any damages that may result from the construction, operation and maintenance of the project.
9. City Council accepts responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the completed project.

Adopted and approved this the 15th day of June 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor

~~ At 6:48 p.m. Mayor Copelof called for a 5-minute break. ~~

**L. Unfinished Business**

**L-1. (M-2.) FY 2026-2027 Preparatory Project Amendments** – Mr. Hooper explained that these amendments are designed to tee up the FY27 Budget and to execute some of the instructions Council gave Staff at the budget workshop on June 5th.

**L-1-a. (M-2-a.) Establishment of the Sports Complex Capital Project Fund** – Dean Luebbe explained that this is to set up the capital project fund (Fund 74) for the Sports Complex. The initial needs are focused mainly on the parking lot and restrooms. The Project will be funded by a General Fund transfer of $46,000 and a $11,000 transfer from the Rosenwald Revitalization Fund.

Mr. Baker moved, seconded by Mr. Wise to set up the fund as described.

During discussion Mr. Lytle said what he remembered was that Council had discussed opening a fund that was all-encompassing so it would be there for all of the parks and recreation properties. He asked would it not be better to have a fund for Recreation and within that, have the fund earmarked for the Sports Complex, and funds for other parks would go under the same fund? He said he feels that would be beneficial for future discussion and future planning, as there needs to be a comprehensive plan for all locations, with priority at this time given to the Sports Complex for the parking lot and bathrooms there. He proposed that the fund be named Parks and Recreation Fund.

Following further discussion, Mr. Baker amended his motion to establish a Parks and Recreation Capital Fund and assign $46,000 from the General Fund and a $11,000 transfer from the Rosenwald Revitalization Fund to the Sports Complex Capital Project. Mr. Wise seconded the amended motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-30**
**CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE**
**PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Brevard, North Carolina that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

**Section 1:** The City/County Sports Complex at 824 Ecusta Road has grown increasingly busy in recent years, and improvements are needed on the parking lot and restrooms. The initial scope of the Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Fund will involve professional services and construction

related to the parking lot and bathrooms at the Sports Complex. City Council approval will be required for the scope to change or expand.

**Section 2:** This Project will be recorded in the newly established Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Fund. Initial funding for this fund will come from an $11,000 transfer from the Rosenwald Revitalization Capital Project Fund and a $46,000 transfer from the General Fund in FY27. The City is expecting that the initial project budget of $57,000 will be increased as the specifics of the Sports Complex Project become known. The Project will likely be ongoing for a number of years and require additional grant funding or other outside funding.

**Section 3:** The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

| Account Number | Account Name | Budget Amount |
|---|---|---|
| 74-4900-0925 | Prof Serv – Sports Complex | $57,000 |
| **TOTAL PROJECT APPROPRIATION** | | **$57,000** |

**Section 4:** The following revenues are anticipated to be available for project expenses:

| Account Number | Account Name | Budget Amount |
|---|---|---|
| 74-3333-0000 | Transf from GF – Sports Complex | $46,000 |
| 74-3333-0025 | Transf from 82 – Sports Complex | $11,000 |
| **TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE** | | **$57,000** |

**Section 5:** The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the capital project fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the disclosure requirements of all the contractual agreements, if applicable.

**Section 6:** Funds may be advanced from the General Fund or from any Enterprise Fund as necessary for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursement requests shall be made in an orderly and timely manner.

**Section 7:** The Finance Director is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3 and Section 4.

**Section 8:** The Finance Director is further instructed to include a detailed analysis of past and future revenues and expenses during each annual budget submission made to the Governing Board.

**Section 9:** Copies of this capital project shall be furnished to the City Clerk, Finance Director and City Manager for direction in carrying out this project.

**ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Brevard, North Carolina, on this 15th day of June 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor
Approved as to Form: s/ Mack McKeller, City Attorney

**L-1-b. (M-2-b.) Capital Project Amendment – Rosenwald Revitalization Fund - $11,000** – Dean Luebbe explained that this amendment is to transfer the $11,000 from the Rosenwald Revitalization Fund to the newly established Parks and Recreation Fund for the Sports Complex Capital Project.

Mr. Wise moved, seconded by Ms. Holder to transfer $11,000 from the Rosenwald Revitalization Fund to the newly created Parks and Recreation Capital Fund for the Sports Complex Capital Project. The motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-31**
**CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE**
**NO. 2025-37 ROSENWALD REVITALIZATION FUND**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Brevard, North Carolina that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby amended:

**Section 1:** The budgeted expenditures listed under the ordinance 2025-37 will be reallocated. The City has established a new Capital Project Fund 74 named the Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Fund. The initial Project in this fund will focus on improvements to the Sports Complex, related to restrooms and the parking lot. Initial funding for this Project will come from a FY27 transfer from the General Fund in the amount of $46,000 and an $11,000 transfer from the Rosenwald Revitalization Fund.

**Section 2:** After this transfer, approximately $88,000 in fund balance will be remaining in the Rosenwald Revitalization Fund. Currently, the precise use of these funds is unknown.

**Section 3:** The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

| Account Number | Account Name | Budget Amount |
|---|---|---|
| 82-4100-2920 | Silversteen Park | $1,094,000 |
| **82-4100-2920** | **Silversteen Park** | **($11,000)** |
| **82-4100-6200** | **Transfer to Fund 74 - Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Fund** | **$11,000** |
| | **TOTAL PROJECT APPROPRIATION** | **$1,094,000** |

**Section 4:** The following revenues are anticipated to be available for project expenses:

| Account Number | Account Name | Budget Amount |
|---|---|---|
| 82-3300-0000 | Donations – Silversteen Playground | $27,000 |
| 82-3300-0150 | Donations – Bethel A | $10,200 |
| 82-3250-0000 | Transfer from General Fund | $539,800 |
| 82-3300-0250 | NCDEQ Grant | $167,000 |
| 82-3250-0200 | Transf from 31/ARPA | $200,000 |
| 82-3990-0000 | Fund Balance Approp | 150,000 |
| | **TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE** | **$1,094,000** |

**Section 5:** The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the capital project fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the disclosure requirements of all the contractual agreements, if applicable.

**Section 6:** Funds may be advanced from the General Fund or from any Enterprise Fund as necessary for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursement requests shall be made in an orderly and timely manner.

**Section 7:** The Finance Director is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3 and Section 4.

**Section 8:** The Finance Director is further instructed to include a detailed analysis of past and future revenues and expenses during each annual budget submission made to the Governing Board.

**Section 9:** Copies of this capital project shall be furnished to the City Clerk, Finance Director and City Manager for direction in carrying out this project.

**ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Brevard, North Carolina, on this 15th day of June 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor
Approved as to Form: s/ Mack McKeller, City Attorney

**L-2. (L-1.) Approve FY 2026-2027 Budget Ordinance and Fee Schedule** – Attorney McKeller advised that the Governing Board's Budget would need to be approved separately as state law requires that anyone who sits on the board of directors for a non-profit entity that receives grants or financial support from the local government must recuse themselves from the vote. Mr. Lytle serves on the board of directors for Habitat for Humanity and for Transylvania Economic Alliance; Ms. Holder serves on the board of directors for Rise and Shine; and Mayor Copelof serves on the board of directors for Heart of Brevard.

Mr. Baker moved, seconded by Mr. Wise to recuse Councilmember Lytle, Councilmember Holder and Mayor Copelof from discussion of the Governing Board Budget. The motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Baker moved, seconded by Mr. Wise to approve the Governing Board Budget. The motion carried 3-0.

**Remainder of the FY 2026-2027 Budget** – Mr. Hooper referred to the changes to the FY27 Budget resulting from the June 5, 2026 Council Special-Called Budget Workshop:

**Changes to FY27 Budget from**
**June 5, 2026 Brevard City Council**
**Special-Called Budget Workshop**

*General Fund Changes*

- Reduce Municipal Service District tax increase from 2¢ to 0.65¢; reduce projected revenue from this tax by $11,000
- Remove "tipper carts"
    - Reduce FY27 debt service in GF-Non Departmental by $35,000
    - Redirect $6,200 to GF-Administration-Contracted Svcs for "NEOGOV Perform module"
    - Earmark remaining $28,800 for seed money for future merit compensation pool OR use the savings to bump citywide COLA adjustment from 2.7% to 3.0% (with corresponding adjustments to departmental personnel lines)
- Adopt Commercial Cardboard fees as reflected below; adjust GF revenue by $57,000

| Fee Name | Current | Proposed |
|---|---|---|
| Commercial Recycling Fee | $5.75/mo. | $13.00/mo. |
| Commercial Cardboard Fee | | |
| --Base Fee | --$10.00/mo. | --$20.00/mo. |
| --Smaller User | --$10.00/mo. | --$100.00/mo. |
| --Medium User | --$10.00/mo. | --$150.00/mo. |
| --Large User | --$10.00/mo. | --$200.00/mo. |

- Add GF-Non Departmental-Transfer Out for $46,000 to newly established Fund 74 (Sports Complex Capital Improvement Fund)[1]
- Earmark $84-$87k from Fund 82 (Rosenwald) for a yet-to-be-determined infrastructure project(s) in the Rosenwald neighborhood.[2]

*Fire Fund Changes*

- None; approved as proposed

*Water/Sewer Fund Changes*

- None; approved as proposed

*Stormwater Fund Changes*

- None; approved as proposed

[1] Per Council's direction, $11,000 from Fund 82 (Rosenwald) already transferred to Fund 74 (Sports Complex Capital Improvement Fund)

[2] This direction requires no accounting changes or changes to the proposed budget Ordinance. Council indicated that Caroline Ave. traffic calming should be part of the package.

Mr. Hooper added that there is still one more choice for Council to make regarding what to do with the remaining $28,800 that is left after removing $35,000 for the tipper carts and redirecting $6,200 for a NEOGOV employee performance evaluation program. At the workshop Council had earmarked the remaining $28,000 as seed money for future merit compensation pool. He noted that the CPI has increased significantly since the start of budget discussions and Council could consider using the $28,800 to increase the proposed 2.7% COLA adjustment to 3.0%.

Mr. Baker moved, seconded by Mr. Wise to approve the FY2026-2027 Budget Ordinance with the 3.0% COLA option.

During discussion, Mr. Daniel clarified his objection to the use of the Rosenwald Revitalization Fund. He read the Ordinance Amending the FY2024-2025 Budget Amendment 25-6 which transferred $100,000 from the General Fund to Silversteen Park Norton Creek Streambank Restoration Project Phase 2. The budget offset for the transfer came from Police salaries and if the entire $100,000 was not needed for the project, the unneeded portion could be returned to the General Fund.

Ms. Holder noted that her request to add $300,000 to the City's legislative requests for bathrooms at Silversteen Park was not included in the report from the Budget Workshop. She is requesting that Council update the legislative request to include that. Attorney McKeller advised that this is not part of the budget at this time and it would be something for a later discussion. Mayor Copelof noted that Ms. Holder's comments could be tabled until after the budget discussion. Attorney McKeller advised that the agenda would need to be amended in order add this as a separate item.

Vote on the motion to approve the FY2026-2027 Budget with the 3.0% COLA option was 4 in favor, and 1 opposed (Daniel). The motion carried.

Ms. Holder then moved to amend the agenda to add to New Business as Item M-2 to add to the Legislative Request $300,000 for bathrooms at Silversteen. Mr. Lytle seconded the motion. Vote on the motion was 2 in favor (Holder and Lytle) and 3 opposed (Daniel, Baker and Wise). The motion failed.

## City of Brevard FY2026-2027 Budget Ordinance

### Ordinance No. 2026-26

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA:**

**Section 1. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| AD VALOREM TAXES | $ | 7,793,398 |
| OTHER TAXES | | 2,765,000 |
| UNRESTRICTED REVENUES | | 951,535 |
| RESTRICTED INTERGOVERNMENTAL | | 306,200 |
| SALES AND SERVICES | | 1,736,800 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | 1,408,500 |
| FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED | | - |
| TOTAL | $ | 14,961,433 |

**Section 2. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of the City Government and its activities for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 in accordance with the Chart of Accounts heretofore established for the City of Brevard:**

| EXPENDITURES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| GOVERNING BODY | $ | 266,500 |
| ADMINISTRATIVE | | 1,189,600 |
| FINANCE | | 845,600 |
| PLANNING | | 1,008,700 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| COMMUNITY CENTER | | 174,800 |
| BUILDING AND GROUNDS | | 964,550 |
| POLICE | | 4,349,800 |
| PUBLIC WORKS - ADMINISTRATION | | 745,900 |
| PUBLIC WORKS - GARAGE | | 535,900 |
| PUBLIC WORKS - STREETS - LOCAL | | 1,005,725 |
| PUBLIC WORKS - STREETS - POWELL BILL | | 268,000 |
| RECREATION | | 296,300 |
| SANITATION | | 1,312,200 |
| NON DEPARTMENTAL | | 1,997,858 |
| TOTAL | $ | 14,961,433 |

**Section 3. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Water and Sewer Utility Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| WATER BILLINGS | $ | 3,700,000 |
| SEWER BILLINGS | | 3,375,000 |
| METER FEES | | 186,000 |
| OTHER REVENUES | | 521,900 |
| DEBT PROCEEDS | | - |
| TOTAL | $ | 7,782,900 |

**Section 4. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Water and Sewer Utility Fund for the operation of said utilities for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| WATER TREATMENT | $ | 1,225,100 |
| WASTEWATER TREATMENT | | 1,498,500 |
| WATER AND SEWER MAINTENANCE | | 2,387,200 |
| NON DEPARTMENTAL | | 2,672,100 |
| TOTAL | $ | 7,782,900 |

**Section 5. The following revenues will be available for the Capital Reserve Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED | $ | - |
| SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEES | | 105,000 |
| TOTAL | $ | 105,000 |

**Section 6. The following expenditures will be available for the Capital Reserve Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| INCREASE IN FUND BALANCE | | 105,000 |
| TOTAL | $ | 105,000 |

**Section 7. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Fire District Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND | $ | 995,608 |
| FIRE DISTRICT TAX | | 756,620 |
| OTHER REVENUES | | 10,000 |
| FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED | | - |
| LOAN PROCEEDS | | - |
| TOTAL | $ | 1,762,228 |

**Section 8. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Fire District Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| PERSONNEL, OPERATING, CAPITAL, DEBT | | 1,762,228 |
| TOTAL | $ | 1,762,228 |

**Section 9. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Stormwater Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | BUDGET |
|---|---|
| CHARGES FOR SERVICES | 209,000 |
| TOTAL | $ 209,000 |

**Section 10. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Stormwater Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| OPERATING | | 209,000 |
| TOTAL | $ | 209,000 |

**Section 11. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Bjerg Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | BUDGET |
|---|---|
| INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS | 2,100 |
| TOTAL | $ 2,100 |

**Section 12. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Bjerg Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | BUDGET |
|---|---|
| INCREASE IN FUND BALANCE | 2,100 |
| TOTAL | $ 2,100 |

**Section 13. The following revenue amounts will be available in the Health Insurance Fund for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED | $ | 78,000 |
| TRANSFER FROM OTHER FUNDS | | 1,836,000 |
| DENTAL DEPENDENT PREMIUMS | | 35,000 |
| HEALTH DEPENDENT PREMIUMS | | 127,000 |
| RETIREE PREMIUMS | | 60,000 |
| TOTAL | $ | 2,136,000 |

**Section 14. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Health Insurance Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | BUDGET |
|---|---|
| HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS | 2,136,000 |
| TOTAL | $ 2,136,000 |

**Section 15. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Heart of Brevard Municipal Service District Tax Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| SERVICE DISTRICT TAX - CURRENT AND PRIOR YEARS | $ | 155,500 |
| TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND | | 22,000 |
| TOTAL | $ | 177,500 |

**Section 16. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Heart of Brevard Municipal Service District Tax Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| CONTRACT SERVICES | $ | 166,500 |
| TRANSFER TO DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN | | 11,000 |
| TOTAL | $ | 177,500 |

**Section 17. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Housing Trust Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| REVENUES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND | $ | 235,000 |
| SALE OF CAPITAL ASSETS | | 50,000 |
| OTHER REVENUES | | 1,500 |
| TOTAL | $ | 286,500 |

**Section 18. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Housing Trust Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027:**

| EXPENDITURES | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| OPERATING | $ | 76,500 |
| DEBT PAYMENTS | | 210,000 |
| TOTAL | $ | 286,500 |

**Section 19. The Revenues and Expenditures set forth in Section 1 through Section 18 of this Ordinance are hereby summarized as follows:**

| BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS | | BUDGET |
|---|---|---|
| GENERAL FUND | $ | 14,961,433 |
| STORMWATER FUND | | 209,000 |
| WATER & SEWER FUND | | 7,782,900 |
| FIRE DISTRICT FUND | | 1,762,228 |
| CAPITAL RESERVE FUND | | 105,000 |
| BJERG FUND | | 2,100 |
| HEALTH INSURANCE RESERVE FUND | | 2,136,000 |
| HEART OF BREVARD FUND | | 177,500 |
| HOUSING TRUST FUND | | 286,500 |
| TOTAL | $ | 27,422,661 |

**Section 20. There is here hereby levied a tax at the rate of thirty eight and one quarter cents ($0.3825) per one hundred dollars ($100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2026 for the purpose of raising the revenue listed as Taxes in the General Fund in Section 1 of this Ordinance. This rate is based on an estimated total valuation of property for the purposes of taxation of $2,051,000,000 and an estimated collection rate of 98.5%.**

**Section 21. There is hereby further levied a tax at the rate of eighteen and nineteen tenth cents $0.1819 cents per one hundred dollars ($100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2026 within the boundaries of the Heart of Brevard Municipal Service District for the purpose of raising the revenue listed as Taxes in the Heart of Brevard Municipal Service District Tax Fund in Section 15 of this Ordinance. This rate is based on an estimated total valuation of property for the purposes of taxation of $91,900,000 and an estimated collection rate of 87.00%.**

**Section 22. There is hereby further attached (Exhibit A) to said Ordinance a schedule of taxes, fees, and charges for the General and Utility Funds.**

**Section 23. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to reallocate departmental appropriations among the various line item expenditures of that department, as said officer believes necessary. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to effect interdepartmental transfers, in the same fund, provided that no departmental budget shall be reduced by more than ten percent without the prior approval of the City Council. Any such transfers shall be reported to the City Council at its next regular meeting and shall be entered in the minutes.**

**Section 24. Copies of the Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to the Budget Officer and Finance Officer of the City to be kept on file by them for their direction in the collection and disbursement of funds. Said officials are hereby authorized to receive and expend funds as herein set forth in accordance with the Brevard City Code and the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina.**

**Adopted and approved this the 15th day of June, 2026.**

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor
Approved as to Form: s/ Mack McKeller, City Attorney

## M. New Business

### M-1. FY 2025-2026 Wrap-up Budget Amendments

**M-1-a. Budget Amendment, Stormwater Utility Fund, $60,000, Budget Amendment 26-07** – Dean Luebbe reviewed the details of the proposed amendment. Mr. Wise moved, seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the ordinance amending the budget for the $60,000 increase to the Stormwater Utility Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-27**
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY2025-2026 BUDGET.**
**BUDGET AMENDMENT NUMBER 26-07**

**SUBJECT:** Budget Amendment to increase Stormwater Utility Fund budget by $60,000

**AGENDA INFORMATION**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Agenda Location** | **Consent** |
| **Department:** | **Finance** |
| **Contact:** | **Dean Luebbe, Assistant City Manager and Finance Director** |

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** In September of 2025, the City signed an agreement in the amount of $435,000 with the John McAdams Company for the Stormwater Master Plan. At that time, it was intended that the project would be split equally over FY26 and FY27, and a total of $219,000 was budgeted in FY26. The project is moving faster than anticipated and the City has already paid $264,037.81 of the total project cost

The budget offset to this entry will come from fund balance in the Stormwater Utility Fund. The Stormwater Utility Fund typically receives close to $200,000 annually from stormwater fees, and even with this budget entry, is expected to have a fund balance of over $100,000 at June 30, 2026.

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** To approve Budget Amendment 26-07, as submitted, increasing the budget in expenditure account:

| | |
|---|---|
| 21-8500-4500 (Contracted Services) | $60,000 |
| **TOTAL** | **$60,000** |

And increasing the budget in the revenue account:

| | |
|---|---|
| 21-2990-0000 (Fund Balance) | $60,000 |
| **TOTAL** | **$60,000** |

**ATTACHMENTS:** None.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:** Approve budget amendment 26-07 as presented.

Approved and adopted this 15th day of June, 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor
Approved as to Form: s/ Mack McKeller, City Attorney

**M-1-b. Budget Amendment, Water and Sewer Utility Fund, $240,000, Budget Amendment 26-08** – Dean Luebbe reviewed the details of the proposed amendment. Mr. Baker moved, seconded by Mr. Lytle to approve Budget Amendment 26-08 in the Water and Sewer Utility Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-28**
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY2025-2026 BUDGET.**
**BUDGET AMENDMENT NUMBER 26-08**

**SUBJECT:** Budget Amendment to increase Water and Sewer Fund budget by $240,000

**AGENDA INFORMATION**

**Agenda Location** **Consent**
**Department:** **Finance**
**Contact:** **Dean Luebbe, Assistant City Manager and Finance Director**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Water and Sewer Fund requires a $240,000 budget amendment. Expenses related to the RBC Shaft Replacement ($100,000), SCADA improvements ($90,000) and higher than expected overtime costs in the Water and Sewer Maintenance Department ($40,000) make up the bulk of this increase.

The budget offset to this entry will come from higher than expected revenue in the High Strength Waste Charge of $60,000, and in the Septage Digester Fee of $50,000, and FEMA revenues of nearly $130,000.

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** To approve Budget Amendment 26-08, as submitted, increasing the budget in expenditure accounts:

| | |
|---|---|
| 30-8220-7400 (Capital Outlay) | $100,000 |
| 30-8140-7400 (Capital Outlay) | $90,000 |
| 30-8140-0210 (Overtime) | $40,000 |
| 30-6600-5800 (Banking Fees) | $10,000 |
| **TOTAL** | **$240,000** |

And increasing the budget in the revenue accounts:

| | |
|---|---|
| 30-3940-0200 (FEMA Reimb) | $130,000 |
| 30-3710-0500 (High Strength Waste Charge) | $60,000 |
| 30-3760-0000 (Septage-Digester Fees) | $50,000 |
| **TOTAL** | **$240,000** |

**ATTACHMENTS:** None.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:** Approve budget amendment 26-08 as presented.

Approved and adopted this 15th day of June, 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor
Approved as to Form: s/ Mack McKeller, City Attorney

**M-1-c. Budget Amendment, General Fund, $525,000, Budget Amendment 26-09** – Dean Luebbe reviewed the details of the proposed amendment, noting that the offset to the budgetary increases will be FEMA reimbursements. Mr. Baker moved, seconded by Mr. Wise to approve Budget Amendment 26-09 to increase the General Fund by $525,000. The motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-29**
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY2025-2026 BUDGET.**
**BUDGET AMENDMENT NUMBER 26-09**

**SUBJECT:** Budget Amendment to increase the General Fund budget by $525,000

**AGENDA INFORMATION**

**Agenda Location** **Consent**

**Department:** **Finance**
**Contact:** **Dean Luebbe, Assistant City Manager and Finance Director**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Many departments within the General Fund are requiring budget amendments to ensure that actual expenditures do not exceed budgeted amounts at fiscal year end.

The Finance Department salary accounts are expected to be nearly $25,000 over budget due to overtime costs and the vacation payout of a retiring employee. The City budgets Citywide IT replacement and upgrades from the contracted services line item. In FY26, the City budgeted $20,000 for this purpose, but actual costs were nearly double that amount, due largely to a upgrade from Windows 10, which affected fifteen users.

The Police Department will require a $65,000 budget amendment. In the last three fiscal years, the City has purchased four Police vehicles. The Police Department has a total of thirty vehicles. Eighteen are considered pursuit vehicles. Even if the City is able to replace two vehicles a year, the oldest pursuit vehicles would still be nine years old. Additionally, a 2022 Ford Explorer was totaled during Hurricane Helene when a tree fell on it. The City did receive insurance proceeds for the vehicle.

The Building and Grounds Department will require a $120,000 budget amendment. Full time salary and overtime accounts amount to $50,000 of this need and $70,000 has been spent on studies and overdue building maintenance of City Hall. The City Hall building originally constructed in the 1960s is currently experiencing poor indoor air quality issues related to a leaky building envelope due in part to old windows, leaky fenestrations, poor flashing, and an air conditioning retrofit that is creating moisture issues due to condensation. Clean up and repairs are underway on the ground floor of City Hall and building envelope repairs have been designed and will be going out for bid soon. Currently the FY27 Recommended Budget includes two new positions in this department, which should greatly reduce the overtime being paid, and $150,000 has been budgeted for building maintenance as the City continues to correct longstanding issues related to moisture and air flow..

Public Works Administration requires a $25,000 budget amendment as overtime will exceed budgeted amounts and Maintenance and Repair – Building has exceeded budget, in large part because of a $15,000 needed for door replacements leading into the building.

Public Works Garage requires a $50,000 budget amendment. Salaries and overtime costs are expected to exceed budget by $10,000, and the City paid $15,000 for a diagnostic scanner for large trucks during the fiscal year. Additionally, maintenance and repair on Transylvania County vehicles is expected to exceed budget. The budget overage on Transylvania County vehicle expense will increase related revenues.

Public Works Streets requires a budget amendment in the amount of $70,000. The Maintenance and Repair – Vehicle line is expected to be $15,000 over budget. This line item can vary annually more than other operating line items due to the type of vehicle repairs needed, and the department incurred many higher expenses in FY26. The Supplies line item is expected to end the fiscal year $35,000 over budget. Higher than expected stone and asphalt costs are the primary drivers. In July of 2025, the City Council approved budget amendment 26-01 in the amount of $150,000 for the purchase of a new Bucket Truck. The City received three bids and the bid was awarded to Global Rental Company in the amount of $169,201, so the Capital Outlay line item also needs to be increased by $20,000.

The Public Works Sanitation Department requires a $150,000 budget amendment. The Maintenance and Repair – Vehicle line item is expected to exceed budget by $40,000. As noted earlier, these type of line items often do not have consistent year to year costs associated with them. In FY26, sanitation trucks have required a $10,000 high end fuel pump and a $10,000 transmission as well as numerous charges in the $2,000 to $5,000 range. The contracted services line item is expected to end the fiscal year nearly $110,000 over budget. Because of maintenance issues with sanitation trucks, the City needed to rent a Sanitation Truck for five months at a cost of $35,000. The City also budgeted $32,400 under this line item for brush grindings and disposal. In FY26 the City has spent $109,800 for this purpose. The budgeted amount was fairly accurate, based on the last four years of activity ($116,000 spent over the last four fiscal years), but FY26 amounts are much higher than expected in large part because of the grinding and removal of brush from Hurricane Helene.

The budget offset to this entry will come from FEMA reimbursement related to Hurricane Helene.

**MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:** To approve Budget Amendment 26-09, as submitted, increasing the budget in expenditure accounts:

| | |
|---|---|
| 10-4400-0200 (Salaries) | $15,000 |
| 10-4400-0210 (Overtime) | $10,000 |
| 10-4400-4500 (Contracted Services) | $20,000 |

| | |
|---|---|
| 10-5100-7400 (Capital Outlay) | $65,000 |
| | |
| 10-5000-0200 (Salaries) | $25,000 |
| 10-5000-0210 (Overtime) | $25,000 |
| 10-5000-7400 (Capital Outlay) | $70,000 |
| | |
| 10-5450-0210 (Overtime) | $10,000 |
| 10-5450-1500 (Maint & Repair – Building) | $15,000 |
| | |
| 10-5550-0200 (Salaries) | $5,000 |
| 10-5550-0210 (Overtime) | $5,000 |
| 10-5550-3120 (M & R County) | $20,000 |
| 10-5550-3300 (Supplies) | $20,000 |
| | |
| 10-5600-1700 (M & R Vehicles) | $15,000 |
| 10-5600-3300 (Supplies) | $35,000 |
| 10-5600-7400 (Capital Outlay) | $20,000 |
| | |
| 10-5800-1700 (M & R Vehicles) | $40,000 |
| 10-5800-4500 (Contracted Serv) | $110,000 |
| | |
| **TOTAL** | **$525,000** |

And increasing the budget in the revenue accounts:

| | |
|---|---|
| 10-3940-0200 (FEMA Reimb) | $525,000 |
| | |
| **TOTAL** | **$525,000** |

**ATTACHMENTS:** None.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:** Approve budget amendment 26-09 as presented.

Approved and adopted this 15th day of June, 2026.

Attest: s/ Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk s/ Maureen Copelof, Mayor
Approved as to Form: s/ Mack McKeller, City Attorney

### N. Remarks/Future Agenda Considerations.

Mr. Lytle thanked staff for their hard work on the budget, and his colleagues and the public for their engagement and feedback.

Mr. Daniel thanked staff for his birthday card.

Mr. Baker said I'm fine with reopening a discussion of the legislative request on a future agenda and adding potential projects to that list. I don't think we should open it just for a discussion of a singular project, especially since we are just about a month out from when we discussed that. I would be open to discussing the entire request, which I think has already been submitted and would need to be amended.

Ms. Holder said I want to bring transparency regarding the incident at the Sports Complex where a child was hit by a car. She said the information I understood, and I think we all understood, was that it happened because of the lack of traffic markings in the parking lot and the way the parking lot is situated. But, now I understand from the report that it was actually a person who was intoxicated that hit this child. She said that is very unfortunate and I don't know that lines would have helped. I also understood that the emergency vehicles had a difficult time getting through, but the emergency vehicles were not impeded by that, and I wanted to bring clarity and full transparency to myself and to everyone about what happened on that night. I still agree that there does need to be parking, and that's why we talked about the $11,000 to fix the parking situation, but I think we need to know the full disclosure about what actually happened on that awful day. She hoped that everyone would join in the Juneteenth celebrations and she was glad to be in a community where we can celebrate each other for who and what we are.

Mr. Wise thanked everyone for all the hard work on the budget. He encouraged everyone to come hear Council read the Declaration of Independence on the Fourth of July, noting it is more important now than ever that we all understand what the tenets of the foundation of the country are all about.

Mr. Hooper noted that Council will need to hold a meeting on July 20th.

Mr. Hooper asked David Todd to share the latest on the Hillview Ave. culvert replacement. Mr. Todd said the contractor will be mobilizing this week and start construction on Monday of next week. During construction there will be times when roads will need to be closed and the contractor will update us as to which road will be closed when and for how long. The project is scheduled to be completed by mid-to-late August.

Mr. Hooper then asked Chief Wentzell to share information on the new Deputy Chief. Chief Wentzell announced that Alan Bonanno will be the Deputy Chief, and he will be sworn in at the July 20th Council meeting. She shared his background and experience and noted that he distinguished himself throughout the Deputy Chief process.

Mayor Copelof also thanked the staff, the public, and the elected officials who have wrestled with a very tough budget year and trying to balance all the different needs we have across the city. She said I think we have come up with a pretty good, fair, balanced budget that listened to the public and I appreciate all of the public input. I also want to thank the public for our town hall meeting last week at the Rosenwald information and listening session. We went through a lot of the different projects that are happening and we had a great attendance. For a small community of 8000 people we have an incredible amount going on, most of it funded with state and federal grants and FEMA. Partnering with our State is so important and I want to thank Rep. Ferguson for sitting here through our entire meeting. I am really looking forward to having her come spend a full day with us. She reminded everyone about the 3-day Juneteenth celebration and the 2-day Fourth of July/America's 250th Birthday celebration.

**O. Closed Sessions** – None.

**P. Adjourn –** There being no further business, at 8:11 p.m. Ms. Holder moved, seconded by Mr. Baker, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

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|---|---|
| Maureen Copelof | Denise Hodsdon, CMC |
| Mayor | City Clerk |

Minutes Approved: July 20, 2026