Town of Fletcher
Town Council Agenda Review Meeting
Minutes
April 6, 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 Jim Player
Councilmember Amber McKinney
Planning & Zoning Director Tyler Morrow
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

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

Moment of Silence:

No comments were made at this time.

Pledge of Allegiance:

No comments were made at this time.

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

No comments were made at this time.

Council Updates

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.

Mayor Blakely asked for any comments on the Consent Agenda at this time.

Council had no comments on the Consent Agenda at this time.

Discussion Items

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

Mayor Blakely asked Leslie Cuveas to come up and speak about why she wanted to continue to serve (be reappointed) to the Planning & Zoning Board.

Discussion Followed:

The other candidate, Adam Eberhardt, did not attend this evening.

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

Mayor Blakley stated that Lew Bleiweis will be here next week to give an annual report from Asheville Regional Airport.

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

Mayor Blakely stated that Brittany Brady will be here next week for the public hearing to discuss the incentives for project "Blaze".

Discussion on Resolution in support of HCA Leader Sam Hazen to visit Western NC for a meeting to discuss long-term improvements needed at Mission Health-Preston Blakely, Mayor.

Mayor Blakely went over a suggested resolution for council to support concerning HCA "Mission Hospital", stating that Land of Sky has asked for help with this.

Discussion Followed:

Council is agreeable to supporting this and the resolution will go on the Consent Agenda for approval at next week's meeting.

Resolution opposing state legislation that would place limits on local property tax authority - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that a House Select Committee may be looking at a property tax reduction reform. What they are looking at is essentially changing the laws as to how you all set property taxes and not just setting the rate but any increases from year to year. We have historically never had a cap on it. They are taking a hard serious look at putting some restrictions in place to limit how any property tax increase could happen from year to year. This is a big deal because it is your only local source that you have within your control. Historically, here in Fletcher, we have kept the tax rate very low and still manage to maintain services for our residents. I know we have a budget coming up and there are some things there this year that need to be considered, and the Fire Department has asked for a 1.5 cent increase to get caught up on some things.

Discussion Followed:

Council approves/agrees with this Resolution, and it will be on the Consent Agenda for approval at the regular meeting next week.

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

Town Manager, Mark Bibedorf, stated that he had talked to council about the re-engagement with Lewis Real Estate Group and them asking us to help with the transportation improvements. Tyler and I set up a meeting with the French Broad MPO to talk about transportation improvements and what would be required for development of the town center property. This is so we can get ahead in case Lewis Real Estate Group comes back with an offer on the town center property. You have notes in your packet about what we discussed and the next steps.

Discussion Followed:

Council will approve this plan next week.

Town Manager Report

On our legislative priorities list, I have contacted our state delegation to set up a time to meet with them, but I have not heard back from them as yet. I did submit all the information to them on the congressional side. We did meet last week with Kye Laughter from Senator Bud's office and had a good meeting with him. I am working on getting a meeting set up with Robin Ramsey of Senator Tillis' office and then circling back to Congressman Edwards' office as well.

So an update on the budget as we are now getting into crunch time on our revenue estimates and I should have that roughly by the middle of the month. So, by the middle of April we will

have a balanced revenue projection. On the expense side, we are trying to determine what we will be getting in health insurance, then the COLA and merit in the budget as well. I will have the budget balanced, and then I will have a recommended budget for you at the May 7th meeting.

Just a reminder that our annual Shred/Pill Drop event is set for Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 to noon in the Southside parking lot.

Mayor Blakely mentioned that he was approached by the Love & Respect group, and they would like to set up the shred event and give out information and supplies to the public.

It was mentioned that the individuals coming to this particular event may not need supplies or information. It may be better for them to participate in the fall shred/drop event at First Citizens Bank as more traffic/people come through that area or event.

Mayor Blakely said that he would mention it to them and tell them that they could come if they wanted to.

The last thing I wanted to mention is that we are in the middle of our Spring Litter Sweep and I encourage you to mention this to residents as we will provide the safety vests, trash bags and trash pick-up sticks. I will send out a connect call on this.

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: 6:43 pm

Upcoming Events

Regular Meeting April 13, 2026, at 6:00 pm
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