

TOWN OF WILSON'S MILLS
SPECIAL MEETING
August 3, 2026
(July 27, 2026 Rescheduled Work Session)

PRESENT: Mayor Fleta Byrd, Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett, Councilmembers Doris Riley, David McGowan, Tim Brown, and Carolyn Dobbins.

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Manager Leighanna Worley and Town Clerk Emily Matthews.

CONVOCATION: Mayor Byrd declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

**Police Department Design
Presentation – Moseley
Architects:**

Josh Bennett of Moseley presented the schematic design for the Police Department. He said the building is a 12,000 square foot building including evidence processing and storage, lockers and shower facilities, physical training spaces, and meeting spaces. There will be secured parking for up to 25 vehicles as well as 10 public parking spaces. Mr. Bennett reviewed the full schematics and layout of the department and reviewed the cost estimate. He said the cost estimate with design contingency is \$10.1 million.

Councilmember David McGowan asked if we have heard from any state representatives about grants and help with the cost of the department. Ms. Worley said she has heard from them but they are unable to help this fiscal year.

Mr. Bennett thanked Council and said he is available for any questions.

Departmental Reports:

Councilmember David McGowan asked if the BLET candidate was hired under the same circumstances BLET cadets have been hired in the past. Ms. Martin said yes. Councilmember David McGowan asked if they are being paid a salary and Ms. Martin said yes but it is a lower salary than officers. Mayor Byrd asked if a SRO has been hired for the High School yet and Ms. Martin said we are in the process of hiring someone and getting everything finalized and we are hoping to hire someone internally. Councilmember Tim Brown asked if the SRO will be in place before school starts and Ms. Martin said yes.

Councilmember David McGowan asked about the dog waste stations in Ives Landing and if they are in all subdivisions in town. Mr. Moore said the stations were purchased by the HOA but the Public Works department installed them. Mayor Byrd asked who will be maintaining the stations and Mr. Moore said the HOA will be maintaining them. Councilmember David McGowan asked about the contractors for the manholes in Ives Landing and Mr. Moore said they will be bringing all streets in Ives Landing up to the manhole level. Councilmember David McGowan asked if the work will be paid for by Powell Bill and Mr. Moore said yes. Councilmember Tim Brown asked if the work will be done on the entire street or just the manholes and Ms. Worley said it will be just on the manholes and it was budgeted for this year as part of Powell Bill.

Councilmember Tim Brown asked Chief if he received good news about the Rural Government Grant when he met with the USDA representative. Chief said no, we qualify for the grant size wise but not income wise. Councilmember Tim Brown asked if the income is based on the budget for the Police Department or the entire budget for the town and Chief said it is

for the overall budget.

Councilmember David McGowan asked if Council can receive a spreadsheet showing the code violations in town so they can see where the letters are going. Mrs. Oldham said since the reports are a month behind most violations would be taken care of by the time Council were to see the report of violations but she will be happy to provide a report so Council can be familiar. Councilmember Tim Brown asked if we have been collecting citation fees and Mrs. Oldham said all fees that have been due have been paid. She said we had to do an abatement recently. The owner was sent a bill which included administrative fees. She said if the bill is not paid, we will contact Attorney Du Sablon to put a lien on the house. Councilmember David McGowan asked if Mrs. Oldham can include the number of offenses on the spreadsheet of violations as well. Mayor Byrd mentioned there might be an issue with sharing personal information if we were to disclose the violations. Mrs. Oldham said she can reach out to Attorney Du Sablon and he can advise. Councilmember Tim Brown expressed concerns about junk vehicles in town and Mrs. Oldham explained the protocol for handling junk vehicles. She said the Code Enforcement Officer can only go into the initial area of a home that goes up to the door in order to collect information. If the junk vehicle is in the back of the home we have no way of identifying the VIN of the vehicle. Councilmember David McGowan said we could contact the owner of the home where the car is located and Mrs. Oldham said that conflicts with North Carolina General Statutes. Councilmember David McGowan asked for information on the General Statute and Mrs. Oldham said she can send it over to all of Council. Councilmember Tim Brown mentioned the Town may have to enforce stricter ordinances at a local level.

Mayor Byrd reminded Council of Founders Day on August 22nd. Councilmember David McGowan asked about the school supply drive and Ms. Worley said we will be collecting school supplies at Founder's Day and there are a couple of churches planning to pass out supplies as well at the event. Councilmember David McGowan asked if we will still be helping with the food drive at the elementary school this year and Ms. Worley said yes. She said at the end of last fiscal year we used the rest of the funds in the budget line to purchase clothes for the school as well.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR-
Connie Lassiter:**

Mrs. Lassiter said the cash and investment report references 4 CDs which came due for renewal on July 28th. She said the S. G. James Endowment funds were in one of the CDs and that CD was pulled out and put into a money market so it is readily available in the event Council decides to dissolve the endowment fund like they talked about previously. Councilmember Tim Brown asked for an update on dissolving the endowment and Ms. Worley said she has not heard from Attorney Du Sablon since Council's last meeting. Councilmember Tim Brown asked why there are 2 Powell Bill lines listed in the financial report and Ms. Worley explained that when we first started to receive Powell Bills funds we didn't receive enough to use for roadwork in town so we put the funds in a CD so it would draw more interest. She said once we started collecting enough funds to use for roads in town, we were banking elsewhere and the Powell Bill funds went into that bank. She said at the time it made sense to have the funds in 2 accounts so it could build interest.

Councilmember David McGowan asked if our main checking account is a percentage based account and Mrs. Lassiter said it is an interest checking

account but the interest is low. She said what is in Council's packets is not up to date due to the beginning of the fiscal year starting at the beginning of July. Councilmember David McGowan asked if the Master Plan checking is also interest bearing and Mrs. Lassiter said all town accounts are interest bearing accounts.

Mrs. Lassiter said she has talked with the auditors and discussed working with them to get things resolved. She said it is likely they will have to do a performance report because of multiple years of errors. She said she will be glad to go into further details with Council in Closed Session. She said there will be no final numbers until the audit is done and there is a possibility of entries changing. She said the new auditor firm is requesting a lot of information. Mayor Byrd said hopefully we can get them all the information they are needing and have a clean audit. Mrs. Lassiter said adjustments will need to be made so there will not a clean audit but we can hopefully have a clean audit opinion. She said the auditors are aware we are trying to make the proper corrections and the main problem is lack of policies. She said Council can send her specific questions if they have any.

**Resolution
Acknowledging
Write-Offs:**

Mrs. Lassiter explained the resolution in Council's packets is to acknowledge write-offs that have already taken place, not to approve the write-offs. She said Council is just acknowledge they were informed of the write-offs.

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to accept the following Resolution Acknowledging Write-Offs. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE WRITE-OFF
OF UNRECONCILED VARIANCES
IN BALANCE SHEET ACCOUNTS**

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Council that the Town of Wilson's Mills maintain accurate financial records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and the regulations of the North Carolina Local Government Commission; and

WHEREAS, diligent efforts have been executed by the current finance officer to analyze accounts from the period of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 when a new accounting software program was implemented through February of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 when the employment of previous finance officer ended; and

WHEREAS, despite findings of software conversion data errors, misapplied payments, overpayments, underpayments and failure to reverse prior year accruals over the span of multiple fiscal years, all accounts could not be reconciled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Wilson's Mills, North Carolina, that:

Section 1. Acknowledges the write-off of accounts as detailed in attached Exhibit A "General Fund Asset Accounts Write-Off", totaling \$18,566.31 from General Fund Balance; and

Section 2. Acknowledges the write-off of accounts as detailed in attached Exhibit B “General Fund Liability Accounts Write-Off”, totaling \$21,077.31 from General Fund Balance; and

Section 3. Acknowledges the write off accounts as detailed in attached Exhibit C “Enterprise Fund Asset Accounts Write-Off”, totaling \$118.55 from Enterprise Fund Balance; and

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect upon approval by the Town Council.

**TOWN MANAGER -
Leighanna Worley:**

**Ratification of
FY26-27 Salary
Grade Scale:**

Ms. Worley said the RFA in Council’s packets is for the Ratification of the FY 2026-2027 Salary Grade Scale. She said it is usually approved through the Budget Ordinance, per our Personnel Policy. She said the ordinance was presented in April and approved in June. After speaking with representatives at the Local Government Commission, Mrs. Lassiter discovered that the salary grade scale needs to be approved separately. She said the numbers that were presented to Council as part of the budget ordinance have not changed.

Councilmember David McGowan said he emailed Ms. Worley about specific salary items and the questions he has and Ms. Worley said she is prepared to discuss those items in the Closed Session later. Councilmember Tim Brown asked if the decision on the salary grade scale can be made after the Closed Session. Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett agreed with Councilmember Tim Brown and said he thinks they need to discuss in Closed Session before making a decision. Councilmember David McGowan said he thinks Council should wait until after Closed Session as well and they can call a special meeting if needed, but he believes this needs to be voted on ASAP due to the employees waiting on the approval.

A motion was made by Councilmember Tim Brown and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to table the discussion of the ratification of the FY 26-27 Salary Grade Scale until after Council can discuss items in Closed Session. Motion carried unanimously.

**Council Education
Budget Line:**

Ms. Worley said Councilmember Doris Riley has requested we increase the budget line for the Council training line. She said as of right now there is only funds in the line for Council to attend CityVision next year. She said Councilmember Doris Riley has looked at classes she would like to take and saw some that the rest of Council might like as well. Mayor Byrd asked if there are any estimates on the cost of trainings and Ms. Worley said it will depend on the class and who is offering the course. She said it would depend on travel and lodging as well as how many members would like to attend. Mayor Byrd asked if a budget amendment would need to be done. Ms. Worley said the funds could be moved within the department and if an amendment is needed it can be brought to Council.

OTHER:

Councilmember David McGowan said prior to the meeting he passed out a Motion for Council regarding leadership. He said the motion is advocating for a leadership trainer to come to Town Hall and work with staff in leadership positions. Mayor Byrd said she thinks it is a good idea and will get all staff on the same page. Ms. Worley said she can do research and find some leadership training opportunities. Councilmember David McGowan asked if there are funds in the budget for the training and Ms. Worley said she will see what the options are and report back to Council.

Ms. Worley said renderings for the new Town Hall sign are in Council's packets. She asked Council to look over the options and they can discuss at their next meeting.

**MOTION TO GO INTO
CLOSED SESSION:**

A motion was made by Councilmember Tim Brown and seconded by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett to go into Closed Session at 6:39pm pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4) "...economic development..." and N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) "...personnel..." Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION TO COME
OUT OF CLOSED
SESSION:**

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to come out of Closed Session at 8:16pm. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Triplett and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to approve the Pay Grade Scale for FY26-27 as presented April 27, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

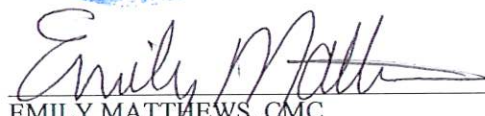
A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Triplett and seconded by Councilmember Carolyn Dobbin to approve the Certification/License/Degree increases for FY26-27 as presented April 27, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

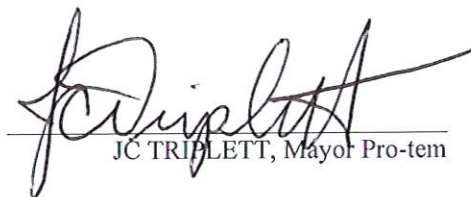
ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Councilmember David McGowan and seconded by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.




EMILY MATTHEWS, CMC
Town Clerk


JC TRIPLETT, Mayor Pro-tem