

MAYOR
Jessie Bellflowers

MAYOR PRO TEM
Hope Page

TOWN MANAGER
Chancer McLaughlin



TOWN BOARD
Cynthia Hamilton
Bryan Marley
Grilley Mitchell
Lisa Tremmel

TOWN CLERK
Ashley Wyatt

TOWN OF HOPE MILLS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting Agenda April 6, 2026
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Jessie Bellflowers

INVOCATION – Pastor Wilbert Harrison

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Jessie Bellflowers

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS.

2. OFFICIAL COMMENTS.

- a. Manager’s Report
- b. Board Member Comments

3. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Proclamation Recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month (**TAB 1**)
- b. Proclamation Recognizing April as Month of the Military Child (**TAB 2**)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each speaker is asked to limit comments to three (3) minutes, and the total comment period will be 30 minutes or less. Citizens should sign up with the Town Clerk to speak prior to the start of the meeting. Please direct comments to the full board, not to an individual board member or staff member. Although the Board is interested in hearing your concerns, speakers should not expect Board action or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the Public Comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate town officials or staff and may be scheduled for a future agenda.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Consideration and approval of the Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes: March 18, 2026 Special Meeting and March 25, 2026 Special Meeting **(TAB 3)**
- b. Consideration and approval of the Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes: March 18, 2026 Closed Session **(No attachments)**
- c. Appointment of Commissioner Lisa Tremmel to the Hope Mills Chamber of Commerce as the Board Liaison **(No attachments)**

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Approval to receive grant funds from AAA and approve corresponding budget amendment #24 in the amount of \$11,700 for the Police Department **(TAB 4)**
- b. Approval of amended bylaws for the Homelessness Advisory Committee **(TAB 5)**

7. CLOSED SESSION CALLED PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (A) (3) ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE and (A) (6) PERSONNEL

8. INFORMATION ITEMS:

- a. Reminders
 - Tuesday, April 7th | Prime Movers Committee| VFW Post 10630, 3226 Davis Street in Hope Mills, NC| 6:00pm
 - Wednesday, April 8th | Historic Preservation Commission| Thomas Campbell Oakman Chapel, 3711 South Main Street, Hope Mills, NC | 6:00pm
 - Thursday, April 9th | Cultural Arts | VFW Post 10630, 3226 Davis Street in Hope Mills, NC |6:30pm
 - Tuesday, April 14th | Homelessness Advisory Committee| VFW Post 10630, 3226 Davis Street in Hope Mills, NC| 6:00pm
 - Monday, Monday April 20th | Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting | Town Hall | 7:00pm
 - Thursday, April 23rd | Veterans Affairs Commission | VFW Post 10630, 3226 Davis Street in Hope Mills, NC | 6:00pm
 - Monday, April 27th | Parks and Recreation | Parks and Recreation Building | 6:30pm
 - Tuesday, April 28th | Appearance Commission | VFW Post 10630, 3226 Davis Street in Hope Mills, NC | 6:30pm
 - Thursday, April 30th | Board of Commissioners Special Meeting | 5770 Rockfish Road | 4:00pm

9. STAFF COMMENTS.

10. ADJOURMENT

TAB 1

TOWN OF HOPE MILLS
PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH – APRIL 2026

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resource and the foundation of our community's future, and every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment free from abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are significant public health issues that have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects on victims, affecting their development and well-being into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention is a community responsibility, and effective prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among families, social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that supporting families through community-based resources—such as quality childcare, mental health services, and economic support—is the most effective way to prevent child maltreatment before it occurs; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Pinwheel serves as the national symbol for child abuse prevention, representing the bright, healthy, and happy childhood that all children deserve;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jessie Bellflowers, Mayor of the Town of Hope Mills, do hereby proclaim April 2026, as **National Child Abuse Prevention Month** in the Town of Hope Mills and I call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families and prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the community in which we live.

This 6th day of April, 2026

JESSIE BELLFLOWERS, MAYOR

TAB 2

TOWN OF HOPE MILLS
PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD – APRIL 2026

WHEREAS, every April, our nation pauses to recognize the more than 1.6 million military-connected children who serve as a vital part of our military community, demonstrating exceptional resilience, courage, and strength; and

WHEREAS, these young heroes face unique challenges, including frequent moves, new schools, and the stress of parent deployments, yet they continue to display an unwavering spirit and a "Strength in Every Story"; and

WHEREAS, military children play an essential role in our national defense by providing the unconditional love and support that allow our service members to focus on their missions around the globe; and

WHEREAS, the color **purple** symbolizes all branches of the military—blending the Air Force, Navy, Space Force, and Coast Guard blues, the Army green, and the Marine Corps red—representing the unity and shared sacrifice of all military families; and

WHEREAS, our schools, businesses, and communities are encouraged to "Purple Up!" and participate in programs that celebrate the achievements and sacrifices of military-connected youth throughout the month; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jessie Bellflowers, Mayor of the Town of Hope Mills, do hereby proclaim April 2026, as **Month of the Military Child** in the Town of Hope Mills and I call upon all citizens to join in recognizing these remarkable children and to participate in **Purple Up! Day** on **April 15, 2026**, as a visible sign of our support and gratitude.

This 6th day of April, 2026

JESSIE BELLFLOWERS, MAYOR

TAB 3

MAYOR

Jessie Bellflowers

MAYOR PRO TEM

Hope Page

TOWN MANAGER

Chancer McLaughlin



TOWN BOARD

Cynthia Hamilton
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Bryan Marley
Lisa Tremmel

TOWN CLERK

Ashley Wyatt

TOWN OF HOPE MILLS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Agenda –March 18, 2026

6:00 p.m. Special Meeting

Mayor Bellflowers called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed those in attendance.

STAFF PRESENT

Town Manager Chancer McLaughlin, Deputy Town Clerk Coronda Regan, Deputy Police Chief Derwin Brayboy, Fire Chief Matt Cain, Planning Director Emily Weidner, Public Works Director Don Sisko, Deputy Public Works Director Bruce Clark, Town Planner Xavier Robinson, Human Resources Director Leeanne Carlucci, Finance Director Drew Holland, Deputy Fire Chief Robert Hurlburt, Parks and Recreation Director Lamarco Morrison, and Town Attorney Dan Hartzog.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bellflowers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Commissioner Hamilton moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Mitchell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS

Town Manager Chancer McLaughlin presented a comprehensive report covering several key items. He announced that the 2026 Juneteenth Liberty and Legacy Celebration which would be held on June 20th and was being moved to the Hive of Hope Mills. He also spoke to the Women Mean Business Seminar conducted by the Hope Mills Chamber, scheduled for the following day, with the town purchasing a table to accommodate eight staff members.

He highlighted that the police department received \$11,704 from the AAA Auto Club Foundation for a traffic alert system to reduce distracted drivers and mentioned the recent ribbon cutting for the new Planet Fitness and reminded residents about fire safety as grilling season approached.

The report concluded with information about the recent budget priorities meeting and the top priorities set by the board and how planning staff attended the North Carolina Main Street Conference in New Bern, which was particularly relevant as the board had identified pursuing a Main Street designation for Trade Street as a priority.

Commissioner Hamilton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Commissioner Mitchell expressed gratitude that the community survived the storm and commended the decision to postpone the Monday meeting as a proactive safety measure.

Mayor Pro Tem Page congratulated Cumberland County school students selected for the 2026 North Carolina Governor School program, specifically highlighting one student from Southview High School who was selected from all applicants.

Mayor Bellflowers provided an extensive summary of the State of the County address. The Mayor noted strong municipal participation within the county. He encouraged citizens to view the address on YouTube and announced the upcoming legislative delegation meeting on Thursday.

PRESENTATIONS

The Proclamation Recognizing National Vietnam Veteran's Day was read into the record.

Human Resources Director Leeanne Carlucci gave a presentation regarding the municipal operations of her department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pastor Jason Tadlock, who lives in Fayetteville but pastors Harbor Baptist Church in Hope Mills, addressed concerns about a permit delay for a 240 square foot storage building addition. He explained that despite his contractor's expectation of a routine approval, they have been waiting four weeks without resolution after being told twice that they would receive a call back.

Mayor Bellflowers assured Pastor Tadlock that the Town Manager would follow up with him.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consideration and approval of the Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes: March 2, 2026 Regular Meeting, March 2, 2026 Special Meeting, and March 6, 2026 Special Meeting

Consideration and approval of the Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes: February 16, 2026 Closed Session

Consideration and Approval of a Proposal from Precision Safe Sidewalks in the Amount of \$16,227 for the Facilities Trip Hazard Removal Project

Consideration and Approval of a Proposal from Precision Infrastructure Management in the Amount of \$18,132 for a Right-of-Way/Sidewalk Conditions Survey

Approval of Resolution R2026-004; Declaring certain property of the town to be surplus and authorizing the disposition of said property

Acceptance of Monthly Financials- February 2026

Removal of Jennifer Privette, Sally Bailey, Kristen Walkinshaw from the Appearance Commission

Nomination and Appointment of Victoria Smith to the Appearance Commission

Commissioner Marley moved to approve items A through H under consent agenda. Commissioner Mitchell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION CALLED PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (A) (3) ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE (A) (5) LAND ACQUISITION and (A) (6) PERSONNEL

The board motioned to enter closed session.

The board returned to open session.

OLD BUSINESS

Overview Of Municipal Bond Process

An overview of the municipal bond referendum process timeline discussed at the recent budget retreat was provided. Staff outlined a detailed schedule that would begin with contacting financial advisors Davenport and Company and bond counsel Bob Jessup, followed by pre-application calls with the Local Government Commission (LGC).

The timeline would progress through April with finalizing capital projects and debt capacity, May with informal notice to the board of elections and preliminary resolutions, June with bond introduction and public hearings, July with formal public hearings and ballot question setting, and conclude with the referendum in November. Mr. McLaughlin emphasized that the process would move quickly once initiated and provided this information for public awareness of the potential timeline.

Consideration And Approval Of Hope Mills Board Of Commissioners Rules And Procedures Recommended Updates

Town Attorney Dan Hartzog presented comprehensive proposed changes to the board's rules and procedures based on commissioner input. The changes addressed several key areas:

Remote Participation: The language was simplified to reference "in accordance with North Carolina law" rather than requiring a separate policy, while maintaining that remote participants can discuss but cannot vote or count toward quorum.

Mayor Pro Tem Selection: The requirement for selecting the highest vote-getter from the preceding election was removed due to staggered terms, allowing the board to elect any member as mayor pro tem at the organizational meeting.

Special Meeting Requirements: Hartzog noted that the statutory requirement for any two commissioners to call a special meeting could not be changed to require a majority, as general statutes supersede local policies.

Agenda Timeline: The deadline for commissioner requests was moved to Tuesday before regular meetings, with draft agendas distributed Wednesday, providing more review time while maintaining board flexibility to modify agendas at meetings.

Committee Reporting: The board agreed to quarterly reports from committee chairs rather than bimonthly, with Commissioner Mitchell noting this aligns with Veterans Affairs Committee practices.

Appearance Commission Removal Language: The language regarding removal of appointed board members was softened while maintaining the board's authority.

The board expressed consensus on all proposed changes, with Mr. Hartzog indicating he would bring a final version for formal adoption at the next meeting.

New Business

Approval Of Revised Guidelines For The Appearance Commission

Commissioner Tremmel explained that the revisions added requirements for agendas and minutes to be available 48 hours before meetings, formal designation of officers (chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer), and quarterly reporting requirements. These changes addressed previous operational issues and aligned with updated procedures.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve the revised guidelines. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tremmel and carried unanimously.

Approval Of Amended Bylaws For The Veterans Affairs Committee

Former Commissioner Joanne Scarola, representing the Veterans Affairs Committee, presented amendments to bylaws last updated in 2022. Changes included updates to the mission statement, clarification of membership structure removing Parks and Recreation liaison, and confirmation that VFW and American Legion representatives have voting privileges while the board liaison does not.

Commissioner Hamilton raised concerns about quorum language stating "50% of authorized strength" and suggested changing to "majority of the committee" for clarity.

After discussion with Town Attorney Hartzog, the group agreed to change the language to "majority of the authorized strength."

Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve the amended bylaws with the agreed-upon quorum language change. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton and carried unanimously.

Approval Of Resolution R2026-005; Resolution Supporting FY2027 Community Project Funding Request For Commerce, Justice, Science, And Related Agencies, COPS Technology And Equipment

Mayor Bellflowers read the resolution supporting a federal funding request for \$115,208 to procure police equipment including 10 mobile data terminals, 12 small desktop PCs, 24 monitors, and 20 body armor sets for the Hope Mills Police Department.

Town Manager Chancer McLaughlin explained this was tied to the town's ongoing grant program and required the resolution for application submission. He noted that Congressman Rouzer's office

had contacted them about project submissions, and while the original deadline was that day, they received approval to submit if the resolution was provided the following day. He emphasized this was a non-matching grant opportunity.

Mayor Bellflowers added that the time-sensitive nature of this resolution was a primary reason for holding the special meeting.

Commissioner Marley moved to approve Resolution R2026-005. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

The board motioned to adjourn the meeting.

ADOPTED this 6th Day of April 2026.

Jessie Bellflowers, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Ashley Wyatt, MMC Town Clerk

MAYOR
Jessie Bellflowers

MAYOR PRO TEM
Hope Page

TOWN MANAGER
Chancer McLaughlin



TOWN BOARD
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Lisa Tremmel

TOWN CLERK
Ashley Wyatt

TOWN OF HOPE MILLS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting Agenda –March 25, 2026
5:00 p.m. Special Meeting

Mayor Bellflowers called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and welcomed those in attendance.

STAFF PRESENT

Town Manager Chancer McLaughlin, Town Clerk Ashley Wyatt, Deputy Town Clerk Coronda Regan, and Finance Director Drew Holland

NOTE: Commissioner Grilley Mitchell arrived at 5:06pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bellflowers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Commissioner Marley moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Page seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION CALLED PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (A) (3) ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE and (A) (6) PERSONNEL

The board motioned to enter closed session.

The board returned to open session at 5:59pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no additional business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

The board motioned to adjourn the meeting.

ADOPTED this 6th Day of April 2026.

Jessie Bellflowers, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Ashley Wyatt, MMC Town Clerk

Special Meeting
March 25, 2026
Vol 34

TAB 4



AGENDA FORM

TO: Chancer McLaughlin, Town Manager
FROM: Drew Holland, Finance Director
SUBJECT: Receipt of Grant Funds

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Town’s Grant program has submitted and received \$11,704.94 from the AAA Grant titled, Implementation of a traffic alert system and program to reduce distracted drivers. These funds will go towards the purchase of a speed sign used to reduce speeding in the Town. A budget amendment for \$11,700 is attached for your approval.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION, IF APPLICABLE

Approval

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Approve Budget Amendment #24 for \$11,700

FISCAL IMPACT:

ATTACHMENTS:

BA #24
Speed Sign picture

This agenda form has been reviewed by:	Initial & Date
Town Manager	
Finance Director	DH 3/24/26
Town Attorney	
Department Head (s)	
Town Clerk-Interim	

SPEED ALERT 18 RADAR MESSAGE TRAILER







**SPEED ALERT 18 RADAR MESSAGE TRAILER WITH RED/BLUE FLASHERS
(OPTIONAL ACCESSORY)**



Town of Hope Mills, North Carolina
Budget Ordinance Amendment
Fiscal Year 2025-2026
Amendment #24

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hope Mills, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the project budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account</u>		<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
C/O - Equipment	10-510-9400	11,700	-
		\$ 11,700	\$ -

This will result in a net increase of \$11,700 in the appropriations of the General Fund. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased.

<u>Account</u>		<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Grant Funds	10-3344	-	11,700
		\$ -	\$ 11,700

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this 6th day of April 2026.

 Jessie Bellflowers, Mayor

Attest:

 Ashley Wyatt, Town Clerk

TAB 5

BY-LAWS
HOPE MILLS
HOMELESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE

THE HOPE MILLS HOMELESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HMHAC) is to promote and stimulate the development of all economic sectors within the Town of Hope Mills and potentially within the Region. The duties and activities of the committee shall include, but are not limited to, the creation of capital investment and employment opportunities through solicitation of new business and industry and expansion of existing business concerns.

ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP

The HMHA Committee will consist of 7 people.

The Hope Mills Board of Commissioners shall appoint seven (7) voting members who shall include the following:

Chair
Co-Chair
Project Manager
Secretary
Treasurer

The seven appointed members shall have one full and equal vote.

The appointed members shall remain until the Board of Commissioner reinstates term limits.

ARTICLE 3: MEETINGS

Meetings of the Committee are public and open. The meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the open meeting laws of the State of North Carolina. The Committee should establish a regular date, time, and place for its meetings. These meetings will be publicized according to North Carolina state laws. At a minimum, these meetings will occur quarterly, one of which will be an annual meeting within the first quarter of each calendar year. The Chairperson, or any of the other six (4) voting members may call special meetings. Prior written notice will be required 48 hours before any special meeting.

Annual Meetings: At the annual meeting, the Committee will elect from the seven appointed members, a Chairman, Vice Chairman, and a Secretary/Treasurer.

Committee members are expected to actively participate in all scheduled meetings and official functions of the Hope Mills Homeless Advisory Committee. Any member who misses more than three (3) consecutive scheduled meetings without providing direct communication or prior notice to the Committee Chair or designated representative shall be subject to review for removal from the Committee.

Failure to maintain consistent participation and communication may result in indefinite removal from Committee membership. The Committee reserves the right to request removal by the Board of Commissioners and fill any vacancy created by such removal in accordance with established appointment procedures.

B. Quorum: A quorum shall consist of at least four (4) of the voting members. All meetings and procedures of the Committee shall be governed by generally accepted principles of parliamentary law according to Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS:

The officers of the Committee shall be a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary/Treasurer. The Committee shall elect the officers annually.

Chairman: The Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Committee and shall preside at all meetings. The Chairman may appoint such committees as the Committee may require and be assigned. They shall perform all duties commonly incident to this position.

Vice-Chairman: The Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties and have powers of the Chairman during the absence or incapacity of the Chairman. They shall perform all the duties commonly incident to this position.

Project Manager

The Project Manager shall oversee the planning, coordination, and execution of committee initiatives, programs, and special projects. The Project Manager is responsible for monitoring project timelines, ensuring goals and deliverables are met, coordinating with community partners and stakeholders, and providing regular progress updates to the Committee. The Project Manager shall also assist in identifying program needs and recommending strategies that support the Committee's mission and objectives.

Secretary/Treasurer: The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for the minutes of all the meetings, financial reporting, and records.

ARTICLE 5: BUDGET

The Committee shall request a budget of \$5000 per annum from the board of Commissioners.

All funds allocated to or expended by the Hope Mills Homeless Advisory Committee shall be utilized exclusively for programs, services, resources, initiatives, or activities that directly benefit individuals and families experiencing homelessness within the Town of Hope Mills. Committee funds shall not be used for services, projects, or expenditures occurring outside the Town of Hope Mills unless such expenditures directly support or serve residents of Hope Mills and receive prior approval in accordance with established committee and municipal financial policies.

The Committee shall maintain transparency and accountability in all financial matters and ensure that all expenditures align with the Committee's mission to serve the homeless population within the Town of Hope Mills.

ARTICLE 6: BY-LAW AMENDMENTS:

Except as otherwise provided by law, these By-Laws may be amended, added to, altered or repealed in whole or in part by the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners

To ensure that the Hope Mills Homeless Advisory Committee maintains a strong connection to and understanding of the community it serves, committee membership shall be limited to individuals who reside within the municipal boundaries of the Town of Hope Mills or within its designated Municipal Influence Area (MIA). Proof of residency may be required and shall be verified in a manner determined by the Committee or the Town of Hope Mills.

Members must remain in good standing by maintaining residency within the Town of Hope Mills or its direct MIA for the duration of their term. Should a member relocate outside of the Town of Hope Mills or its direct MIA, their membership may be subject to review and possible termination in accordance with established committee procedures.