A = Approved, A1 = Approved First Reading, A2 = Approved Second Reading, D = Deferred, NA = No Action, PH = Authorized Public Hearing, AD = Approval Denied

ACTION AGENDA

Hickory City Council
76 North Center Street

June 2, 2026
6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Invocation by Reverend Steve Caldwell, Mt. Zion Baptist Church

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Special Presentations

Mayor Guess recognized Miss Zoe Charles and her mother Melissa Johnson. Zoe is the current Miss Carolina Foothills, and she will soon be competing in the Miss North Carolina pageant in June.

V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

VI. Approval of Minutes

A A. Regular Meeting of May 19, 2026. **(Exhibit VI.A.)**

VII. Reaffirmation and Ratification of Second Readings. Votes recorded on first reading will be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading unless Council Members change their votes and so indicate on second reading.

A2 A. Budget Revision Number 19. **(First Reading Vote: Unanimous)**

A2 B. Budget Revision Number 20. **(First Reading Vote: Unanimous)**

VIII. Consent Agenda: All items below will be enacted by vote of City Council. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests. In which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered under Item IX.

A A. Approval of the Installation of Speed Tables along 2nd Avenue SE from 5th Street SE to Lenoir-Rhyne Boulevard SE. **(Exhibit VIII.A.)**

Staff requests Council's approval to install speed tables along 2nd Avenue SE from 5th Street SE to Lenoir-Rhyne Boulevard SE. City Council implemented a Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program that enables citizens to request measures to improve traffic safety in the area where they own property. The traffic division staff received a completed petition from property owners along 2nd Avenue SE for the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program and found the property owners to be compliant with the guidelines. The petition qualified for the installation of speed tables. The Fire Department has indicated that the proposed speed tables will not hinder emergency response times for the area. Thirty-eight properties were included in the petition and thirty-three properties signed in favor of implementation. This represents at least 75% approval, which meets the requirement. The necessary modifications along the roadway can be performed as a normal part of the Street Division's operations. Staff recommends Council's approval of the installation of speed tables along 2nd Avenue SE from 5th Street SE to Lenoir-Rhyne Boulevard SE.

A B. Approval of a Resolution to Direct the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds. **(Exhibit VIII.B.)**

The City of Hickory joined national settlement agreements with companies engaged in the manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids. The City of Hickory has received Opioid Settlement Funds pursuant to these national settlement agreements and deposited the Opioid Settlement Funds in a separate special revenue fund as required. Before spending opioid settlement funds, the local government's governing body must adopt a resolution authorizing the expenditures of opioid settlement funds; states the specific strategy or strategies the municipality intends to fund; and states the amount dedicated to each strategy for a specific period of time. The total dollar amount of Opioid Settlement Funds appropriated and authorized strategies is $100,000. Staff recommends approval of the Resolution.

PH/A C. Call for a Public Hearing to Consider the Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation of Property Located at 3440 Eller Drive, Newton, Containing Approximately 5.56-Acres, Identified as PIN 3711-15-52-8710, Owned by Gregory Raniszewski. (Authorize the Public Hearing for June 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building. **(Exhibit VIII.C.)**

A D. Approval to Apply for the North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) Aerial Asset Accessibility Grant in the Amount of $5,000,000. **(Exhibit VIII.D.)**

Staff requests Council's approval to apply for the NCEM Aerial Asset and Accessibility Grant to construct a new dual Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Station (ARFF) Station 4 at Hickory Regional Airport in conjunction with the City of Hickory Fire Department. Aerial asset operations in rescue and recovery involve using aircraft, such as helicopters, fixed-wing planes, and drones, to locate survivors, assess damage, and deliver aid. These operations are critical in disaster zones, remote wilderness areas, or regions cut off by compromised infrastructure. The purpose of the program is to disburse grants to local airports in the affected area to repair, replace, and restore infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Helene and build and improve capacity for emergency preparedness and disaster response for future natural disaster and emergencies. On June 26, 2025, the North Carolina General Assembly passed House Bill 1012, the Disaster Recovery Act of 2025. This act included funding for the Aerial Asset Accessibility Grant Program to be managed by the North Carolina Emergency Management. Staff recommend Council's approval of the application for the NCEM Aerial Asset Accessibility Grant in the amount of $5,000,000 to construct a new joint Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Station 4 at the Hickory Regional Airport. There is no local match requirement, and selected projects will be funded in total by NCEM.

A E. Acceptance of the Bid and Award the Contract to Chatham Civil Contracting, LLC, in the Amount of $2.6 Million Dollars Contingent Upon North Carolina Department of Transportation Concurrence, for the Aviation Walk Connector Multi-Use Trail and the Aviation Museum Connector Multi-Use Trail. **(Exhibit VIII.E.)**

Staff requests Council's acceptance of the bid and award the contract to Chatham Civil Contracting, LLC, in the amount of $2.6 million dollars contingent upon the North Carolina Department of Transportation concurrence, for the Aviation Walk connector multi-use trail (BL-0067) and the Aviation Museum connector multi-use trail (BL-0115). Bids were advertised for the project resulting in three bids being received and opened and one non-responsive bid was received. The bids were submitted by Chatham Civil Contracting, LLC - $2,600,000; Kemp Sigmon Construction Company, Inc. - $3,095,855.70; Neill Grading and Construction Company, Inc. - $3,362,199.35; and Cardinal Civil Contracting - $3,144,701.74 (non-responsive). The City applied for and received State Transportation Block Grant funding approval for BL-0067 in the amount of $1,600,000 with a 20 percent match and BL-0115 in the amount of $2,400,000 with a 20 percent match of $600,000. The contractor is needed for the construction of the connector trails. Staff recommends Council's acceptance of the bid, award of the contract, and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract with Chatham Civil Contracting, LLC.

A1 F. Budget Revision Number 21. **(Exhibit VIII.F.)**

1. *To appropriate $95,100 in solid waste fee revenues for additional rollout bins.*
2. *To appropriate $44,982 in insurance reimbursement to repair a Parks and Public Properties vehicle.*
3. *To appropriate $300,000 in Capital Reserve investment earnings to be used for additional sidewalk expansion and repair.*
4. *To appropriate $350,000 in additional investment earnings towards increased streetlighting costs due to Hickory Trail system.*
5. *To properly account for revenues and expenses received in the Aviation Walk project.*
6. *To appropriate $106,394 in PFAS settlement revenues towards Water and Sewer Capital Reserve.*
7. *To appropriate $700,000 in sale of land revenues to be used for the City's match of future NCDOT grant funds.*

X. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

X. Informational Items

XI. New Business

A. Public Hearings

A1 1. Consideration of the City Manager's FY2026-2027 Recommended Budget – Presented by City Manager Warren Wood. **(Exhibit XI.A.1.)**

Notice of the public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on May 23, 2026.

B. Departmental Reports

A 1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) Appointed by City Council
Ward 1(Wood Appoints) (Lynn Sampson Resigned) VACANT

Alderman Wood Nominated Virginia "Ginger" Bishop as Ward 1 Representative on the Community Appearance Commission.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Caucasian (Council Appoints) VACANT
Caucasian (Council Appoints) VACANT
Caucasian (Council Appoints) (Jennifer Seaman Resigned 5-3-2026) VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
(Term Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms with Unlimited Appointments) (Appointed by City Council)
Burke County Representative (Mayor Appoints with Recommendation from Burke County) VACANT

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
At-Large (2) (Mayor Appoints) VACANT

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) VACANT

RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints) (Lauren Jordan Resigned) VACANT
Ward 6 (Patton Appoints) VACANT
At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

UNIVERSITY CITY COMMISSION
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 2-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
At-Large Not Including ETJ (Council Appoints) (Leah Bolts Resigned) VACANT

YOUTH COUNCIL
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 1-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Homeschool Representative VACANT

C. Presentation of Petitions and Requests

XII. Matters Not on Agenda (requires majority vote of Council to consider)

XIII. General Comments by Members of Council, City Manager or City Attorney of a Non-Business Nature

XIV. Adjournment

***Hickory City Code Section 2-56. Public Address to Council:**

"When conducting public hearings, considering ordinances, and otherwise considering matters wherein the public has a right to be heard, when it appears that there are persons present desiring to be heard, the Mayor shall require those opposing and favoring the proposed action to identify themselves. Each side of the matter shall be given equal time. Those opposing the proposed action shall be allowed 15 minutes for presentation, followed by 15 minutes for those favoring the action, with the opponents then to have five minutes for rebuttal and the proponents to then have five minutes for surrebuttal. Those persons on either side shall have the right to divide their allotted time among them as they may choose. The Council, by majority vote, may extend the time for each side equally. On matters in which the person desiring to address the Council does not have a legal right to speak, the Council shall determine whether it will hear the person. The refusal to hear a person desiring to speak may be based upon grounds that the subject matter is confidential, that its public discussion would be illegal, that it is a matter not within the jurisdiction of the Council or for any other cause deemed sufficient by the Council. Any person allowed to speak who shall depart from the subject under discussion or who shall make personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, or who shall become boisterous while addressing the Council shall be declared out of order by the Mayor, or by vote of the Council, and barred from speaking further before the Council unless permission to continue shall be granted by a majority vote of the Council, under such restrictions as the Council may provide."

**The City of Hickory holds all public meetings in accessible rooms.
Special requests for accommodation should be submitted by individuals
with disabilities at least 48 hours before the scheduled meeting.
Phone Services (hearing impaired) – Call 711 or 1-800-735-2962**