

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., with the following members present:

	Hank Guess	
Charlotte C. Williams	Aldermen	Anthony Freeman
Danny Seaver		Arnita M. Dula
		Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

Also present were City Manager Warren Wood, Assistant City Manager Steve Miller, Assistant City Manager Yaidee Fox, City Attorney Timothy Swanson, Deputy City Clerk Crystal B. Mundy and City Clerk Debbie D. Miller

- I. Mayor Guess called the meeting to order. All Council members were present except for Alderman Wood.
- II. Invocation by Alderman Freeman
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations

Mayor Guess asked Communications and Marketing Manager Dana Kaminske to introduce a special guest present.

Communications and Marketing Manager Dana Kaminske introduced Intern Annabel Fox.

Intern Annabel Fox stood and introduced herself and advised she was interning in the Communications Department. She thanked Council for the opportunity.

Mayor Guess advised that Annabel failed to mention that her mother was Assistant City Manager Yaidee Fox. He welcomed Annabel and commented they were glad to have her interning with the City for the summer.

V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

- A. Mr. Bob Post 1006 12th Avenue NW, advised that he took a walk today, went down and looked at the new sidewalk along 12th Avenue NW between Old Lenoir Road and 10th Street Boulevard. After seeing that, he wanted to come here tonight and thank them on behalf of many neighbors in the area who already reached out to him and said how excited they were to have this pedestrian and bicycle access to the Aviation Walk, the Riverwalk, and the future OLLE Art Walk. He was sure there were many neighbors that had yet to discover that they now will have safe access to the Hickory Trail. He wanted to thank Council, City Manager Warren Wood, Planning Manager John Marshall, Ward 5 Alderwoman Arnita Dula, as well as former Ward 5 Alderman Dave Zagaroli. He wanted to give a special thanks to Ward 6 Alderwoman Jill Patton. Just a great job. He admitted that he was a bit skeptical that it was going to get done so quickly. But they really made it happen. He was sure there were many others that he had missed, but those were the folks that he had some contact with. Hopefully they agreed that this short section of sidewalk represented not only just a sidewalk, but also how small projects could make a big difference in people's lives. Hopefully, they see the value of a respectful group of interested citizens in bringing ideas to Council for consideration. If they do see that value, he asked that Council consider implementing a City committee that would be focused on improving safe pedestrian and bicycle access throughout the City of Hickory, one small project at a time. In the meantime, he wanted to say thanks, a very, very sincere thank you.

Alderman Freeman thanked Mr. Post. While he was coming and thanking the individuals and their City Manager, one, he knew that Mr. Post was always consistent and present during the Hickory City Council meetings. He thought he might have been the one that reminded him of anything that comes out of his mouth. He commended him. They do not get a whole lot of accolades, nor do they do what they do for accolades, because he believed they wanted to serve the community to the best of their ability. They do not get a whole lot of thank-you(s), and he wanted to say thank you back. That he came, just to say thank you for what they were doing, he appreciated that.

Mayor Guess asked if anyone else present wished to address City Council. No one else appeared.

VI. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Meeting of June 2, 2026.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderwoman Williams that the Minutes of June 2, 2026 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

- 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.

Alderman Seaver moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton that the following be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Budget Revision Number 21. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
- B. City Manager's FY2026-2027 Recommended Budget. (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.

Alderman Freeman moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approved a Resolution to Cancel the Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting on July 7, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-35

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Hickory that the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting for July 7, 2026 be cancelled.

- B. Approved a Lease Agreement with Flex Crew LLC, and Appalachian Aero Group, LLC for Hangar, Office, and Shop Space at Hickory Regional Airport.

Staff requests approval of the lease agreement with Flex Crew LLC and Appalachian Aero Group, LLC. The City currently leases hangar, office, and shop space to Flex Crew, LLC and Appalachian Aero Group, LLC for aircraft management and aircraft maintenance. Hangar and office spaces are located on the West Ramp of Hickory Regional Airport. The proposed lease spans a 10-year term, projecting an estimated revenue of \$2,772,338. Flex Crew presently oversees ten aircraft based at Hickory Regional Airport. These aircraft significantly contribute to the City's tax revenue. Furthermore, Flex Crew's annual purchase of over 130,000 gallons of jet fuel is anticipated. This long-term agreement consolidates both LLCs into a single contract, streamlining administrative processes and providing additional hangar space to accommodate more aircraft at Hickory. Staff recommend City Council's approval of the lease agreement with Flex Crew LLC and Appalachian Aero Group, LLC.

The public notice of the lease was advertised in the Hickory Daily Record on April 25, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-36

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEASE AND COMMERCIAL USE PERMIT FOR FBO OPERATIONS AT HICKORY REGIONAL AIRPORT

WHEREAS, the City of Hickory (the "City") owns certain real property commonly known as the Hickory Regional Airport, located at 2889 19th Ave Dr NW, Hickory, North Carolina, and identified as Parcel ID: 2793038569, together with related airport properties, including those recorded in Deed Book 264, Page 187, Catawba County Registry (the "Airport"); and

WHEREAS, Section 3-41 of the City of Hickory Code of Ordinances provides that no person shall operate a fixed base operator ("FBO") at the Airport or provide aeronautical services to aeronautical operators at the Airport, including the sale or delivery of aviation fuel, unless such operations are approved by the City and authorized pursuant to a lease, concession agreement, or commercial use permit; and

WHEREAS, Flex Crew, LLC ("Flex Crew"), a North Carolina limited liability company, and Appalachian Aero Group, LLC ("AAG"), a North Carolina limited liability company and a Federal Aviation Administration certified Part 145 Repair Station, have requested approval to operate an FBO and provide aeronautical services at the Airport pursuant to a Commercial Use Permit and lease of certain airport facilities consisting of Hangars W1, W4, and W5, together with adjoining office and shop space (the "Premises"); and

WHEREAS, the City desires to lease the Premises to Flex Crew and AAG and to issue a Commercial Use Permit pursuant to a five (5) year Commercial Use Permit and Lease Agreement, with one option to renew for an additional five (5) year term (the "Agreement"), a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, at least thirty (30) days' public notice has been given by publication describing the Premises, stating the annual lease payments, and announcing the City Council's intent to authorize the lease at a regular meeting, in compliance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statutes § 160A-272; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the Premises will not be needed by the City during the term of the Agreement and that entering into the Agreement is in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hickory that:

1. The City Council hereby approves the issuance of the Commercial Use Permit and authorizes the lease of the Premises to Flex Crew and AAG pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes § 160A-272, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement. All rights granted herein are subject to applicable Federal Aviation Administration requirements and airport grant assurances.
2. The City Manager, or the Manager's designee, is authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City, subject to pre-audit certification by the Chief Financial Officer, as required by law, and approval as to form and legality by the City Attorney.

- C. Approved the Request to Name the Hickory City Park Tennis Complex in Honor of Kathy Kim.

Staff requests approval to name the tennis complex at Hickory City Park "The Kathy Kim Tennis Complex". Kathy Kim has been a cornerstone of tennis in the Hickory community for decades. Over the past 50+ years, she has introduced countless players to the game and has been instrumental in promoting tennis throughout the region. Her lifelong dedication to teaching, mentoring, and growing the sport has left a lasting impact on generations of players. In her 80s, Kathy continues to teach five days a week and leads multiple women's leagues. Her passion, energy, and commitment to tennis embody the very best of what community recreation represents. Naming the Hickory City Park Tennis Complex in her honor would be a fitting and lasting tribute to her remarkable contributions and will not only celebrate her enduring legacy but also inspire future generations to enjoy and grow the game of tennis in Hickory. The only cost to the City of Hickory would be the purchase and installation of signage on the building. This proposal has received unanimous support from both the Greater Hickory Tennis Association and the Hickory Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Commission. Staff recommends approval of this request.

- D. Approved the Write-Off Uncollectible Accounts Totaling \$136,088.88, in Accordance with North Carolina General Statutes.

Staff requests Council's approval to write off uncollectable accounts totaling \$136,088.88. In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS) a list of accounts to be written off is submitted for Council's approval each year, in conjunction with the annual audit. The NCGS establish that all street assessments, demolitions, nuisance violations, and property taxes that are over ten years old are no longer collectible and should be written off in conjunction with the annual audit. For the current fiscal year 2025-2026, there is \$16,237.50 in unpaid property taxes which exceed the ten year limitation. The City of Hickory's Accounting Division requires all other accounts that are over eighteen months in arrears to be written off to comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in order to more fairly represent financial assets of the City on the balance sheet. For the current fiscal year, this amount is \$119,851.38. Current fiscal year write-offs total \$136,088.88, compared to \$126,142.07 for FY 2024-2025. Even though these accounts will be written off, the Finance Department will continue to pursue collection of the debts. All eligible accounts over \$50 are submitted to the North Carolina Debt Setoff Program for collection. As of May 28, 2026, the City of Hickory has collected \$23,367.59 from the garnishment of North Carolina State income tax refunds and North Carolina State lottery winnings during this current fiscal year. Staff recommends approval to write-off uncollectible accounts for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

- E. Approved the Citizens' Advisory Committee Recommendation for Assistance through the City of Hickory's Housing Programs.

The mission of the City of Hickory's Community Development Division is to preserve the existing housing base, enhance ownership opportunities for all of its citizens to obtain decent housing, and provide a quality environment conducive to the safe and healthy growth of its citizenry. The seven-member Citizens' Advisory Committee was formed to provide for citizens' input in the facilitation of the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, as well as any other similar community enhancement funding the City may receive. The following requests were considered by the Citizens' Advisory Committee at their regular meeting on June 4, 2026:

- William Coats, located at 621 9th Avenue Drive SE, Hickory was recommended for approval of up to \$15,000 under the City of Hickory's 2026 Urgent Repair Program.
- Dorothy Conner, located at 590 30th Avenue Circle NE, Hickory was recommended for approval of up to \$15,000 under the City of Hickory's 2026 Urgent Repair Program
- Nancy Peterson, located at 611 5th Avenue SW, Hickory was recommended for approval of up to \$25,000 under the City of Hickory's Housing Rehabilitation

- Program.
Phyllis Chester, located at 1526 20th Street Drive NE, Hickory was recommended for approval of up to \$25,000 under the City of Hickory’s Housing Rehabilitation Program.

The Citizens’ Advisory Committee recommends approval of the aforementioned requests for assistance through the City of Hickory’s housing assistance programs.

- F. Approved a Correction Cemetery Deed Transfer from William F. Fox and wife, Sally M. Fox to Larry Todd Taylor and wife, Karen Taylor, Located in Oakwood Cemetery, Containing 40 Square Feet, Grave 8, Designated as Plot M, Lot 1, Section 49. (Prepared by Raven M. Barron, Attorney at Law).
- G. Approved a Cemetery Deed Transfer from Rebecca Wilfong Wood, to Eileen Marie Conway, Located in Oakwood Cemetery, Section 47, Plot A, Cemetery Lot Number 6, Space 1. (Prepared by Jason A. Knight, Attorney at Law).
- H. Approved a Cemetery Deed Transfer from Rebecca Wilfong Wood, to John Carlos Grubbs, Located in Oakwood Cemetery, Section 47, Plot A, Cemetery Lot Number 6, Space 4. (Prepared by Jason A. Knight, Attorney at Law).
- I. Approved a Cemetery Deed Transfer from David M. Setzer, and wife, Julie Dale Setzer; Martha Setzer Rice, and husband, Randall W. Rice; David M. Setzer, and Martha Setzer Rice, Successor Co-Trustees of the Jean P. Setzer Revocable Trust, to David Clyde Lail, and wife, Cathleen Cheniae Lail, Located in Oakwood Cemetery, Containing Approximately 160 Square Feet, more or less, Designated at Block B, Lot No. 2, Section 46. (Prepared by L. Oliver, Noble Jr., Robert A. Mullinax, PLLC, Attorney at Law).
- J. Approved on First Reading Budget Revision Number 22.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-22
BUDGET REVISION NUMBER 22

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the City of Hickory that, pursuant to N.C. General Statutes 159.15 and 159.13.2, the following revision be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and for the duration of the Project Ordinance noted herein.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund within the FY 2025-26 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures shall be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Culture & Recreation	148,482	-
TOTAL	148,482	-

To provide funding for the above, the General Fund revenues will be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous	148,482	-
TOTAL	148,482	-

SECTION 2. To amend the Airport Fund within the FY 2025-26 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures shall be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Transportation	17,346	-
TOTAL	17,346	-

To provide funding for the above, the Airport Fund revenues will be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Restricted Intergovernmental	17,346	-
TOTAL	17,346	-

SECTION 3. Copies of the budget revision shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Governing Board, and to the City Manager (Budget Officer) and the Finance Officer for their direction.

- IX. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None
- X. Informational Items
- XI. New Business

A. Public Hearings

1. Approved the Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation of Property Located at 3440 Eller Drive, Newton, Containing Approximately 5.56-Acres, Identified at PIN 3711-15-52-8710, Owned by Gregory Raniszewski – Presented by Planning Manager Cal Overby.

Consideration of the voluntary non-contiguous annexation of property located at 3440 Eller Drive, identified as PIN 371115528710, containing approximately 5.56-acres. The applicant has petitioned for the voluntary non-contiguous annexation to obtain future city services. The property is currently located within the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) and zoned R-1 Residential. The applicant has requested, if annexed, the property be rezoned to R-3 Residential. The intention of the annexation and rezoning is to provide sewer service so the property can be subdivided into 12 building lots for single-family homes. The current tax value of the property is \$66,100. Tax revenue generated by annexation of the property would be \$300.76. Upon completion of the homes previously outlined, tax values and revenues would increase. Upon analysis, staff determined the petition meets the statutory requirements for voluntary non-contiguous annexation, and adequate public services are available. Staff find the petition to be in conformity with applicable statutes and recommend approval of the petition.

Notice of the public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on June 6, 2026.

City Manager Warren Wood asked Planning Manager Cal Overby to the podium to present Council with the voluntary non-contiguous annexation of property located at 3440 Eller Drive, Newton, containing approximately 5.56-acres, owned by Gregory Raniszewski.

Planning Manager Cal Overby gave a PowerPoint presentation. He discussed the voluntary non-contiguous annexation of property that was located at 3440 Eller Drive. It was about 5.5 acres of property, and the property was currently zoned R-1 residential. It was vacant. It was currently adjacent to Ward 3, which was Alderman Seaver's ward. The future idea was to develop the property for single-family residences. He referred to a map on the PowerPoint and pointed out the subject property. He noted the City's extraterritorial area, the area which was currently City limits, and the Catawba County jurisdiction. He pointed out an area which was a subdivision, and the area which was for a future subdivision. He displayed a zoning map. In terms of zoning for the properties, he pointed out R-2 residential areas, R-1 residential, and Catawba County R-20 residential, with a little commercial property there. He displayed another map and pointed out Overture Point development. It accessed from Short Road via Startown Road, but it eventually would connect down to Eller Drive and then out to Robinson. In total, this was about 270 lots. It was reduced by about 20, resulting in the sale of some property to an adjacent development that was incorporated into their development also. He pointed out Tennison Crossing another development. There were about 180 total lots in this development also. He noted the location of the subject property. The idea that the developer brought to staff was that they wanted to divide this property into 12 individual parcels. When the sewer line was ready in this area, there would be a bridge constructed so Eller Drive extension could then come across and go to this area. The developer would then extend a line and connect to the sewer line to bring the sewer to this piece of property to serve the property, so houses could be constructed. There was kind of a little lag time there. In doing so, staff evaluated the petition. They looked at it from the perspective of public services, police, fire, sanitation, public utilities, and found that all those were available and in sufficient quantities to serve the property should Council choose to annex the property. Staff recommended approval of the annexation. He asked for questions.

Mayor Guess asked if Council had any questions. He explained the rules for conducting the public hearing. He declared the public hearing open and asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition to the proposal.

OPPONENT

No one appeared.

Mayor Guess asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the proposal.

PROPONENT

Mr. Benjamin Griffin, 180 29th Avenue Place NW, Hickory, advised they were trying to build 12 houses there. They were single-family homes, about 1,150 square feet,

in the lower end, as far as new construction goes, about \$255,000 price range, was what he builds them for now. He was trying to do affordable housing in Catawba County.

Mayor Guess asked if anyone else wished to speak in favor. No one else appeared. He closed the public hearing.

Alderman Seaver moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the voluntary non-contiguous annexation of 3440 Eller Drive, Newton. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NO. 523
VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION ORDINANCE (NON-CONTIGUOUS)
Gregory Raniszewski

AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE
CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO
GENERAL STATUTES 160A-58.1, AS AMENDED (NON-CONTIGUOUS)

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory desires to annex the area described herein, under G.S. 160A-58.1, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has by resolution directed the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of said annexation; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has certified to the sufficiency of said request, and a public hearing on the question of this annexation was held in the Council Chamber of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building, located at 76 North Center Street, Hickory, North Carolina, at 6:00 p.m. on the 16th day of June 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory further finds that the area described therein meets the standards of G.S. 160A-58.1(b), to wit:

- a. The nearest point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is not more than three miles from the corporate limits of the City of Hickory.
- b. No point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is closer to another city than to the City of Hickory.
- c. The areas described are so situated that the City will be able to provide services on the same basis within the proposed satellite corporate limits that it provides within the primary corporate limits.
- d. No subdivision, as defined in G.S. 160A-376, will be fragmented by this proposed annexation.
- e. The area within the proposed satellite corporate limits, when added to the area within all other satellite corporate limits, will not exceed ten percent (10%) of the area within the primary corporate limits of the City of Hickory.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory does hereby find as a fact that said petition has been signed by all the owners of real property in the area who are required by law to sign and all other requirements of G.S. 160A-58.1, as amended, have been complied with; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds that the annexation is otherwise valid, and that the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Hickory and of the areas proposed for annexation will be best served by annexing the area herein described.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA:

Section 1. By virtue of the authority granted by G.S. 160A-58.2, as amended, the following-described non-contiguous territory is hereby annexed and made a part of the City of Hickory as of the 30th day of June 2026:

Satellite Annexation by the City of Hickory
of the property of Gregory John Raniszewski
3440 Eller Drive
Newton, N.C. 28658

That certain parcel or tract of land lying and being about 3.82 miles south southeast of the center of the City of Hickory. Bounded on the north by the lands of John

Medford as described in Deed Book 3796 at Page 856; on the east by the lands of Leisa S. Bentley as described in Deed Book 3672 at Page 1182; on the south by the 60' right-of-way of Eller Drive (S.R. 1275); on the west by the lands of Richard J. Woods as described in Deed Book 3664 at Page 1555 and more particularly described as follows, to wit.

Beginning at a ½" iron on the north right-of-way line of the 60' right-of-way of Eller Drive (S.R. 1275), said iron being located North 31 degrees 20 minutes 56 seconds West 81.87 feet from the northwesternmost corner of the existing City of Hickory city limits as shown in Plat Book 82 at Page 179 and running thence, as new City of Hickory city limit lines and with the north right-of-way line of Eller Drive (S.R. 1275), North 63 degrees 34 minutes 52 seconds West 233.00 feet to a power pole; thence, continuing with the north right-of-way of Eller Drive (S.R. 1275) , North 78 degrees 31 minutes 19 seconds West 398.25 feet to a ½" iron, the southeast corner of the Richard J. Woods lands as described in Deed Book 3664 at Page 1555; thence, leaving the right-of-way of Eller Drive (S.R. 1275) and with the west line of Woods, North 06 degrees 24 minutes 04 seconds East 226.79 feet to a ½" iron, the southeast corner of Woods in the south line of the John Medford lands as described in Deed Book 3796 at Page 856; thence, with the south line of Medford, North 81 degrees 55 minutes 25 seconds East 759.74 feet to a 5/8" rebar in the south line of Medford, the northwest corner of the Leisa S. Bentley lands as described in Deed Book 3672 at Page 1182; thence, with the west line of Bentley, South 19 degrees 07 minutes 08 seconds West 545.10 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 5.56 acres more or less.

This description was drawn from a plat by Donald G. Bolick P.L.S. L-3688, titled "Satellite Annexation by the City of Hickory of the land parcel identified as PIN 371115528710 REID 57904 Hickory Township Catawba County North Carolina known as the property of Gregory John Raniszewski 11170 S. Gilbert Rd. Empire, Michigan 49630-9700" dated March 27, 2026.

Section 2. Upon and after the 30th day of June 2026, the above-described territory and its citizens and property shall be subject to all debts, laws, ordinances, and regulations in force in the City of Hickory and shall be entitled to the same privileges and benefits as other parts of the City of Hickory. Said territory shall be subject to municipal taxes according to G.S. 160A-58.10, as amended.

Section 3. The newly-annexed territory described herein shall become part of Ward No. 3 of the City of Hickory.

Section 4. The Mayor of the City of Hickory shall cause to be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Catawba County, and in the Office of the Secretary of State at Raleigh, North Carolina, an accurate map of the annexed territory, described in Section 1 hereof, together with duly certified copy of this Ordinance. Such a map shall also be delivered to the County Board of Elections, as required by G.S. 163-288.1.

2. Approved on First Reading Rezoning Petition 26-04 for Property Located at 3440 Eller Drive, Newton, Containing Approximately 5.56-Acres – Presented by Planning Manager Cal Overby.

Consideration of rezoning petition 26-04. The property owner petitioned for voluntary annexation of 5.56 acres of property located at 3440 Eller Drive, Newton, which is located within Hickory's extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ). As part of the voluntary annexation petition the owner has also requested, upon annexation, the property be rezoned from R-1 Residential to R-3 Residential. Permissible uses within the current R-1 Residential district consist mainly of one and two family residences, and manufactured homes, at a maximum density of two dwelling units per acre. The minimum lot size for single-family, two-family, and manufactured homes is 21,780 square feet. Permissible uses within the requested R-3 Residential district consist mainly of single-family, two-family, a multifamily residential, at a maximum density of eight units per acre for single-family and two-family residential and ten units per acre for all other residential development. Minimum lot sizes for single-family and two-family residences are 5,445 square feet, and 21,780 square feet for all other residential uses. The Hickory Regional Planning Commission held a hearing on May 27, 2026 to consider the petition. Upon closing the public hearing, the Hickory Regional Planning Commission acknowledged the petition's consistency with the Hickory by Choice 2030 Comprehensive Plan. Based upon its findings, the Hickory Regional Planning Commission voted 7-0 to recommend approval of the petition. Staff concur with the recommendation of the Hickory Regional Planning Commission.

Notice of the public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on June 6, and June 13, 2026.

City Manager Warren Wood asked Planning Manager Cal Overby to the podium to present rezoning petition 26-04 for property located at 3440 Eller Drive.

Planning Manager Cal Overby gave a PowerPoint presentation. He advised this was a follow-up to what was just discussed. As part of the petition that was submitted for the annexation of the property that was just voted on by Council, the request also included a request to rezone the property from R-1 residential to R-3 residential. As he noted previously, the property was actually in Hickory's extraterritorial area, so it was already zoned by Hickory in its R-1 residential. He referred to the PowerPoint and displayed Hickory's comprehensive plan map. He pointed out low-density residential, medium-density residential, and higher-density residential. There were 3 classifications in the area. In terms of existing zoning, they went over this previously, he pointed out R-2 residential, R-20 residential, R-1 residential, and more R-2, and the areas of Highway 70, and Catawba Valley Boulevard corridor. In terms of the land uses, they were seeing mostly residential through the area. There was one property in Catawba County's jurisdiction that had a business on it. He was not quite sure what it was, but he discovered that when he was looking at the property. It was mostly single-family detached residences through most of the area there. In terms of consistency with their long-range plan, the area was classified as medium density residential, called for 2 to 4 units an acre, or 8 to 10 depending upon the particular locations. It was R-3 an implementing district for medium density residential official land use classification. There were several things in the area that changed the character of the area. There were two fairly large developments that were happening there. And just around the corner, there was a fairly big employment center with Trivium Corporate Center going on. There was continued growth along the US 70/Catawba Valley Boulevard area. It was coming in on it. They could imagine the growth that was happening in the area there. With the rezoning, they were not diverging and just going outward changing the development pattern, they were staying residential; it was just a different density of residential. In terms of land uses in the area, R-1 and R-2 residential, Hickory, as well as R-20. They were all looking at residential zoning. They were not going away from that at all. The surrounding properties were either residential, single-family, or wooded and vacant areas. He discussed suitability under the existing zoning, the big differences, R-1 permitted manufactured homes where R-3 technically permitted multifamily. R-1 permitted 2 units an acre and R-3 was 8 to 10. On 5- acres, he was not sure how much they would actually get if they tried to do multifamily because by the time they do parking infrastructure, they were not going to have a lot of property left over. He gave a rundown of the difference between the two districts. They were looking at density, R-3, 8 to 10 units an acre, R-1, 2 units an acre. The minimum lot size of R-1 was half an acre, mainly because those areas that have R-1 do not have public utilities, so they would need a larger lot to accommodate that. Uses for R-3 was detached and attached residence as well as multifamily. Uses in R-1 would be attached and detached residences as well as manufactured homes. Some of the characteristics they saw for R-1 was they were larger lots and more automobile dependent. Characteristics of R-3 were they were smaller lots and they were generally located closer to commercial areas. He discussed detrimental impacts. This dovetailed a little bit with the annexation. All of these were actually reviewed when staff considered the annexation. They evaluated all of the items that would be necessary to serve the property, if anything, would be detrimental. They were reviewed when they considered the annexation portion of this. Public services did not find anything that would be detrimental to the area, as well as any public safety, general welfare, any applicable rules would have to be complied with. He advised that the Planning Commission reviewed this particular case on May 27th and unanimously voted to send Council a recommendation of approval. He asked for any questions from Council.

Mayor Guess explained the same rules applied as he previously discussed. He declared the public hearing open and asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition to the proposal.

OPPONENT

Mr. John Medford, 3451 Winters Street, wanted to know why they were pursuing R-3 zoning as opposed to R-2. From his understanding, they were doing 12 houses, he thought, in this proposed development. If he understood right, R-2 would still cover that. R-3 would offer potentially even higher density. And from what he saw in the surrounding areas, including the new big developments, those were all R-2. There was no other R-3 in the area. Was there a reason why R-3 was considered as opposed to R-2?

Mayor Guess advised Mr. Medford that Council would consider his question when the public hearing was closed and discussed. He asked if anyone else wished to

speak in opposition. No one else appeared. He asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the proposal.

PROPONENT

Mr. Benjamin Griffin, 180 29th Avenue Place NW, Hickory, referred to Mr. Medford's question, he advised that they were looking for R-3 instead of R-2 because of lot width. In R-2 they could not get as many lots, they could not get 12 lots. The reason they were doing R-3 was so that they did not have to build roads, because that creates a whole lot more expense to do 12 houses or more. The only thing he did was build houses. He did not build duplexes, apartments, or anything else. He built approximately 20 a year. All he does was build houses, single-family homes. That was the intent. But the reason for the R-3 zone instead of R-2 was so that he could go to the smaller width on the street to build more houses. It was about a half-acre lot, average almost half-acre lot, 0.45, 0.56 acres. It was still big lots; it was just narrow.

Mayor Guess asked if anyone else would like to speak in favor. No one else appeared.

REBUTTAL

No one appeared for rebuttal

Mayor Guess closed the public hearing.

Aldерwoman Patton moved, seconded by Aldерwoman Dula approval of rezoning petition 26-04. The motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-23 AN ORDINANCE OF THE HICKORY CITY COUNCIL AMENDING THE OFFICIAL HICKORY ZONING ATLAS TO REZONE +/- 5.56 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3440 ELLER DRIVE FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL TO R-3 RESIDENTIAL.

WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 2.2 of the Hickory Land Development Code provides for amendments to the Official Zoning Atlas; and

WHEREAS, the property owner has petitioned to rezone +/- 5.56 acres of property located at 3440 Eller Drive, more particularly described on Exhibit A attached hereto, to R-3 Residential; and

WHEREAS, the Hickory Regional Planning Commission considered the proposed rezoning during a hearing on May 27, 2026, and forwarded a recommendation of approval to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Article 2 of the Hickory Land Development Code requires findings the proposed rezoning is in response to changing conditions and is reasonably necessary to promote public health, safety and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has found Petition 26-04 to be consistent with the Hickory by Choice 2030 Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA, THAT THE REZONING OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT A IS APPROVED.

SECTION 1. FINDINGS

The property is in an area identified as Medium Density Residential. Such areas are intended to accommodate varying types of residential uses with densities from two to four units per acre in established detached single-family areas, and eight to ten dwelling units per acre in historically mixed-use areas. These areas are characterized as being located on the periphery of high density residential areas north of I-40 and in the southeastern portion of the city.

The subject property is near two large residential developments. Overture Point, approximately 600 feet to the northeast on Eller Drive Extension and Tennison Crossing, 1,500 feet to the northeast on Robinson Road. These two developments, upon build-out, will contain several hundred single-family homes. The growth within the area -has increased over the past ten years, as more industries and business locate and expand in the southeastern part of the city, creating additional demand for housing.

Section 1.7 of the Hickory Land Development Code contains its Stated Purpose and Intent. This section contains five (5) specific items which the Land Development Code is intended to uphold. These are as follows:

- Implement the Hickory by Choice 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

The comprehensive plan identifies the area as Medium Density Residential. Such areas are intended to accommodate residential uses, single and multi-family, at densities from 2 to 4 units per acre in established detached single-family areas to 8 to 10 units per acre in established mixed-use areas. The plan continues to explain such area are as on the margins of higher density areas between lower density areas. The larger area is experiencing growth of all types. The presence of such growth and the strategies and recommendations of the comprehensive plan are being followed.

- Preserve and protect land, air, water and environmental resources and property values.

The requests is to rezone the property from one residential district to another, albeit the latter would permit more types of residential uses at higher densities. The surrounding area is largely single-family residential, and such uses types would continue. Proper site design, and other regulatory standards will be utilized to ensure any development occurring on the property does so in an appropriate manner.

- Promote land use patterns that ensure efficiency in service provision as well as wise use of fiscal resources and governmental expenditures.

As previously outlined, the area is predominately residential in nature. The requested rezoning is to another residential district, which will be a continuation of this pattern. Public infrastructure is available or will be improved or constructed, at the expense of the owner / developer to accommodate any development that occurs on the property.

Public resources will not be expended to facilitate development. Should the owner / developer be unable to provide the infrastructure necessary to accommodate development, future development on the property may be limited.

- Regulate the type and intensity of development; and

The current land use pattern of the larger area is residential in nature. Public resources to provide critical services are in place or will be provided by the property owner / developer to serve any future development. These include public utilities and transportation infrastructure.

- Ensure protection from fire, flood and other dangers.

The subject property will be required to adhere to all state and local building, fire, and flood zone related development regulations. Such regulations will ensure proper protection is provided to ensure surrounding residents, and property is adequately protected as prescribed by law.

Given these factors, Hickory City Council has found the Rezoning Petition 26-04 to be consistent with the findings and recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan. The petition has also been found to be a reasonable request as changing conditions in the area, including small lots and larger development are transitioning the area into a more urban denser area.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or provisions of the Hickory City Code which are not in conformance with the provisions of the Amendment occurring herein are repealed as of the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

(Exhibit "A" is on file in the City Clerk's Office and is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of the minutes)

3. Approved on First Reading Consideration of Text Amendment 26-03 Amending the City of Hickory's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance - Presented by Planning Manager Cal Overby

Consideration of Text Amendment 26-03 amending the City's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. City staff received notice from NC Emergency Management that a new model Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance has been

released. To remain compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), the City's existing Ordinance must be updated to include all required new language and regulations. Staff collaborated with NC Emergency Management to prepare an updated draft. The Ordinance is essential for maintaining eligibility for federally subsidized flood insurance and works together with the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) to identify hazard areas and enforce development regulations that reduce property damage. The Hickory Regional Planning Commission reviewed the proposed amendments on May 27, 2026, and unanimously recommended Hickory City Council's approval of the proposed amendments.

Notice of the public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on June 6, and June 13, 2026.

City Manager Warren Wood asked Planning Manager Cal Overby to the podium to present text amendment 26-03 amending the City of Hickory's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

Planning Manager Cal Overby gave a PowerPoint presentation. He discussed text amendment 26-03 amending the City of Hickory's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. The City was a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program. It was a volunteer program established by FEMA. It allowed the citizens of Hickory to get subsidized flood insurance. In participating in the program, the City was obligated to adopt regulatory standards for development in and around floodplains. The City's regulatory documents were rules developed by FEMA, then passed down to Department of Public Safety, who designed an ordinance and then passed the ordinance on to the City, and then Council adopted it. They were adopting an ordinance because they were told to adopt an ordinance. The amendments changed the ordinance. A lot of things in the ordinance were going away. There were chapters that were being replaced. It looked altogether different.

Planning Manager Cal Overby advised that Council had a draft of the document. If they had specific questions as he was going through it, they could stop him and he would answer those questions as they went through the material. The first article, statutory authority, there was just some changes to the language. It stipulated the necessity and explained the objectives. Article 2, definitions were added to the ordinance that were used elsewhere in the ordinance. General provisions changed so that they did not have to re-adopt new flood maps every time they came out, because that posed an issue every time new maps were released because they had to do that. Article 4, the datum measurements were changed to NAVD 1988. Before it was 1929, which was the old datum measurement, which was less accurate. Changed requirements for items to be added, included on the FEMA permit. There was nothing really changing, it was more of who was doing what and what they were doing on it, much more of a narrative type thing. Flood prevention certificates changed. That was for non-residential only. They could not floodproof a house. It was not permitted. Floodplain Administrator's duty for damage assessments. If something was damaged, floodplain administrator has a duty to do an assessment. That only happened with the assistance of emergency management. Better provide enforcement procedures and also prior to considering a variance, North Carolina Emergency Management must be consulted. He had been with the City for 20-some years and he had never done a floodplain variance. That was not something they would do. Article 5, flood hazard reduction changed, this was an important one, what was called pre-FIRM structures. Hickory joined the program in 1974, so anything that existed prior to 1974 was considered pre-FIRM, meaning that it existed. Think about it as zoning, as non-conforming. These would get damaged and they would have flood insurance because they were pre-FIRM. Over a 5-year period, if their fair market value at their first loss over the 5-year period equaled 50%, then they would no longer let them rebuild the structures. There was actually a FEMA buyback program they would enter at that point. It also prohibited the location of RVs. Accessory buildings were allowed to get wet floodproof. Established standards for fuel tanks, and fences. Those were additions that came in specifically because of Helene. It explained conditional letters of map revision as well as final letters of map revision. The Planning Commission considered this on May 27th and after consideration voted to recommend approval. He asked for questions from Council.

Mayor Guess asked for any questions from Council. He advised the same rules applied for the public hearing. He declared the public hearing open and asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition to the proposal. No one appeared. Mayor Guess asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the proposal. No one appeared. Mayor Guess closed the public hearing.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderwoman Williams approval of Text Amendment 26-03. The motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-24
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF HICKORY FLOOD DAMAGE
PREVENTION ORDINANCE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HICKORY THAT:

- 1. The Hickory Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance is amended as shown as attached Exhibit A.
- 2. All ordinances or provisions of the Hickory City Code which are not in conformance with the provisions of the Amendment occurring herein are repealed as of the effective date of this Ordinance.
- 3. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

(Exhibit “A” is on file in the City Clerk’s Office and is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of the minutes)

B. Departmental Reports

- 1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
At-Large (Council Appoints) Bianca Carter Eligible for Reappointment
At-Large (Council Appoints) Jeff Gniadek Not Seeking Reappointment

Mayor Guess nominated Bianca Carter for reappointment as an At-Large Representative on the Business Development Committee.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) Appointed by City Council
At-Large (Council Appoints) Mary Young Eligible for Reappointment
At-Large (Council Appoints) Steven Kiger Eligible for Reappointment
Small Cities Project Area (Council Appoints) Mark Huggins Not Eligible for Reappointment

Mayor Guess nominated Mary Young and Steven Kiger for reappointment as At-Large Representatives on the Citizens Advisory Committee.

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) Appointed by City Council
Ward 2 (Williams Appoints) Cliff Moone Not Eligible for Reappointment

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
African American (Council Appoints) Phyllis Michaux Eligible for Reappointment
African American (Council Appoints) Brenda Ramseur Eligible for Reappointment
African American (Council Appoints) Ida Clough Not Seeking Reappointment
Caucasian (Council Appoints) VACANT
Caucasian (Council Appoints) VACANT
Caucasian (Council Appoints) VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

Alderwoman Dula nominated Phyllis Michaux, and Brenda Ramseur for reappointment as African American Representatives on the Community Relations Council.

Alderwoman Williams nominated Zikiaya Hall for appointment as an African American Representative on the Community Relations Council.

HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
(Term Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms with Unlimited Appointments) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) Beth Berry Eligible for Reappointment
Ward 5 (Dula Appoints) Robert Lelewski Eligible for Reappointment
Burke County Representative (Mayor Appoints with Recommendation from Burke County) VACANT

Alderman Seaver nominated Beth Berry for reappointment as Ward 3 Representative on the Hickory Regional Planning Commission.

Alderwoman Dula nominated Robert Lelewski for reappointment as Ward 5

Representative on the Hickory Regional Planning Commission.

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints)	Allison Little Not Seeking Reappointment
Ward 5 (Dula Appoints)	Dianne Straley Not Seeking Reappointment
At-Large (1) (Mayor Appoints)	Dr. Rebecca Alt Not Seeking Reappointment
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
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints)	Wesley Christopher Eligible for Reappointment
Ward 5 (Dula Appoints)	Melissa Alderman Eligible for Reappointment
Ward 6 (Patton Appoints)	Pam Walters Eligible for Reappointment
At-Large (Mayor Appoints) (David Wortman Resigned 6-2-2026)	VACANT

Alderman Freeman nominated Wesley Christofer for reappointment as Ward 4 Representative on the Public Art Commission.

Alderwoman Dula nominated Melissa Alderman for reappointment as Ward 5 Representative on the Public Art Commission.

Alderwoman Patton nominated Pam Walters for reappointment as Ward 6 representative on the Public Art Commission.

PARKS RECREATION AND SPORTS TOURISM

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints)	Grover Linebarger Eligible for Reappointment
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints)	Timothy Shuford Eligible for Reappointment
At-Large (1) (Council Appoints)	Elaine Seaver Not Eligible for Reappointment
At-Large (4) (Council Appoints)	Douglas Locascio Eligible for Reappointment

Alderman Seaver nominated Grover Linebarger for reappointment as Ward 3 Representative on the Parks Recreation and Sports Tourism Board.

Alderman Freeman nominated Timothy Shuford for reappointment as Ward 4 Representative on the Parks Recreation and Sports Tourism Board.

Alderwoman Dula nominated Taylor Lelewski for appointment as At-Large (1) Representative on the Parks Recreation and Sports Tourism Board.

Mayor Guess nominated Douglas Locascio for reappointment as At-Large (4) Representative on the Parks Recreation and Sports Tourism Board.

RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints)	Elaine Seaver Not Eligible for Reappointment
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints)	VACANT
Ward 6 (Patton Appoints)	VACANT
At-Large (Council Appoints)	VACANT
At-Large (Council Appoints)	William Nathan Bost Not Eligible for Reappointment

SALT BLOCK FOUNDATION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 2-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

Hickory Representative (Council Appoints) Jill Patton Eligible for Reappointment

Mayor Guess nominated Jill Patton for reappointment as a Hickory Representative on the SALT Block Foundation.

TRIVIUM CORPORATE CENTER BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

Hickory City Council Member (Council Appoints)
Charlotte Williams Eligible for Reappointment

Mayor Guess nominated Charlotte Williams as a Hickory City Council Member Representative on the Trivium Corporate Center Board.

UNIVERSITY CITY COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 2-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

At-Large Not Including ETJ (Council Appoints)	Taylor Newton Not Seeking Reappointment
At-Large Not Including ETJ (Council Appoints)	VACANT

Alderwoman Patton nominated Reanna Rice for appointment as an At-Large Representative on the University City Commission.

YOUTH COUNCIL

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 1-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

Youth Council Applicant Review Committee Recommends the Following Appointments:

At-Large	Clayton Crowley	Appointment
At-Large	Adrian Almanza	Appointment
At-Large	Ethan Melon	Appointment
At-Large	Taylor Stahlschmidt	Appointment
At-Large	Emme Oursler	Appointment
At-Large	Adley Drum	Appointment
Hickory High School	Mason Packard	Appointment
Hickory High School	McKinley Hilton	Appointment
Hickory High School	Amy Kilfoyle	Appointment
St. Stephens High School	Ella Barkley	Appointment
St. Stephens High School	Walker Cox	Appointment
At-Large	Noah Roeder	Reappointment
At-Large	Payton Scronce	Reappointment
At-Large	Xavier Springs	Reappointment
At-Large	Yangqing Shao	Reappointment
Challenger High School	Anthem Avangeline	Reappointment
Fred T. Foard High School	Evelyn Cinson	Reappointment
Hickory Career Arts Magnet	Stephanie Flores	Reappointment
Hickory High School	Charlie Bowman	Reappointment
Hickory High School	Cole Caudle	Reappointment
Hickory High School	Harrison Bogle	Reappointment
Hickory High School	Porter Bray	Reappointment
Private School	Evie Hight	Reappointment
Private School	Ella Sprinkle	Reappointment
St. Stephens High School	Bailey Danner	Reappointment
St. Stephens High School	Callie Canella	Reappointment
St. Stephens High School	Carson Fincher	Reappointment
St. Stephens High School	Change Ly	Reappointment
Homeschool		VACANT
St. Stephens High School		VACANT

Mayor Guess nominated all the students listed above for appointment(s)/reappointment(s) on the Youth Council.

Mayor Guess moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the above nominations. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Guess advised that it was that time of year where folks were rotating off of some of the boards and commissions, and some other folks who have moved or whatever and were not eligible for reappointment. He encouraged those present in the audience, that might be interested in any of the boards or commissions, this was certainly an opportunity and a time to be able to get appointed to one of those boards or commissions if they so desire.

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

Alderwoman Patton knew he would never say it, but she wanted to mention that City Manager Warren Wood's daughter, Izzy was top of the leaderboard in Australia, 11 goals, the Golden Boot leader in mid-season. She knew he was really proud of her, and he would not say anything to them, but congratulations. She also thanked Assistant City Manager Yaidee Fox for heading up and getting their enhanced City Communications so that people can get the Snippets online. It was going to be a direct link in the paperless e-bill to the City Snippets, and she thought that it would be a real good communication for people that say, "well, I don't get the City Snippets". They could get it anytime.

City Manager Warren Wood appreciated City Council bringing that up because that was a pretty easy fix.

Assistant City Manager Yaidee Fox thanked the IT Department, Finance Department, and Communication. It was definitely a collaboration. She appreciated it.

Alderwoman Patton commented that she headed it up, and they appreciated everybody's work on it. Thank you very much.

Mayor Guess asked for any other comments.

Alderwoman Dula advised there were a number of Juneteenth events coming up this weekend. They had been going on actually throughout the month of June. She mentioned on Saturday, the Juneteenth Festival Stronger Together, which was Catawba County, the City of Newton, City of Hickory, Town of Catawba, Conover, Southwest Community, Town of Maiden, and Longview. It was a collaboration. That event was this coming Saturday at Lenoir-Rhyne University from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Guess asked for any other general comments that they would like to make this evening. He mentioned on a sad note, some of them may recall, may remember P.D. Fowler. P.D. Fowler was a longtime police officer for the City of Hickory. He had the honor and the privilege of working with him. He was actually his training officer back a long, long time ago, but, P.D. passed away this past week. His funeral would be Thursday. He knew many folks in the community knew P.D. and his family. Their condolences go out to the Fowler family, and he wanted to take this opportunity to recognize all his many contributions. The City of Hickory Police Department had been doing community policing for a really long time, but P.D. Fowler was doing community policing when most agencies were not doing community policing. He was a true community police officer and a real public servant to the City of Hickory and the surrounding area. He wanted to recall that and recognize his passing.

Mayor Guess mentioned Council would not be having their first meeting in July. They would only be having one Council meeting. It would be the third Tuesday in July. They would take off the first meeting. They always take that week, typically because everybody was on vacation and nobody would be here but them. Their next Council meeting would be on the third Tuesday in July.

City Manager Warren Wood advised they would have the Hickory High State Championship girls' soccer team coming to the meeting in July to recognize them and Coach Gillings.

Mayor Guess mentioned that July 4th celebrations would be in conjunction with some other municipalities, and there would be an event at the fairgrounds. The City of Hickory would be participating in that along with other municipalities as a joint effort.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk