

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The following were present:

Mayor David Moore	Jonathan Blanton, City Manager
Mayor Pro Tem Lauren Shoemaker	Brian DuPont, Assistant City Manager
Councilman Ivory Craig	Alexis Hines, Human Resources Director
Councilman Jeff Meadows	Brian Reagan, Police Chief
Councilman Bryan Hough	Greg Beal, Planning Director
Councilwoman Phyllis Harris	Ryan Baker, Fire Chief
Councilman Kenneth Reeves	Jason Green, Public Works Director
Marie M. Anders, City Attorney	Eric Smallwood, Parks\Recreation Director
Tara Douglas, City Clerk	Michelle Wood, Finance Director
	Matt Black, Economic Development Director
	Jon Ford, City Engineer
	Ken Kennedy, IT Director

INVOCATION

Fire Chief Baker led the Council, Staff, and attendees in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Hough led the Council, Staff, and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SET THE AGENDA

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion: Councilman Reeves made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker seconded the motion.

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6-0. (Motion Carried).

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Call for a public hearing to update Section 153.088 of the Subdivision Ordinance to add an approval signature block for rezoning plans. Case # TA-25-12.
2. Approval of Minutes- City Council Meeting- September 8, 2025.

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Mayor Moore entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion: Councilwoman Harris made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker seconded the motion.

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6 -0. (Motion Carried)

PRESENTATIONS

1. Arts on the Greenway-Labyrinth Project

Wanda Campbell

Wanda Campbell spoke on behalf of Arts on the Greenway regarding their desire to begin construction on a Labyrinth. Ms. Campbell stated that this Labyrinth would be an outdoor installation of art and expressed a desire for the Labyrinth to be located between Arts on the Greenway and Clariant. Ms. Campbell stated that they would also like to request a hydration station. Ms. Campbell gave a brief history and description of what a Labyrinth is. Ms. Campbell thanked and recognized the team working on this project. Ms. Campbell explained that people can purchase a brick to be used as part of the project for \$50.00 and each brick will have the donor's name or business name and a kind word of their choice. Ms. Campbell stated that these bricks will match those used at the Police Memorial to maintain a cohesive look for the area.

Motion: Councilwoman Harris made a motion to approve the Labyrinth Project. Councilman Hough seconded the motion.

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6 -0. (Motion Carried)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing to consider approval of a fourth amendment to the development agreement with OMBMH, LLC.

Brian DuPont

Mr. DuPont discussed the background timeline for the OMBMH, LLC project which included the following dates: April 2021-Request for Proposals were solicited, July 12, 2021-Development Agreement approved, March 31, 2022- Property sold to OMB, March 15, 2022-first amendment to the agreement approved, March 27, 2023-second amendment to the agreement was granted, and finally on March 25, 2024-third amendment to the agreement was granted. Mr. DuPont stated that tonight's public hearing for Council's consideration is for an extension for a one-year period to September 30, 2026 and would allow OMB to hold a grand

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opening by December 31, 2026. Mr. DuPont stated that Mr. Jim Burch from OMB is here to address the Council.

Jim Burch, CEO for OMBMH, LLC, spoke regarding the fourth amendment and thanked the Council for its patience and recognized that this project has taken too long. Mr. Burch stated that they have finalized negotiations for their general contractor agreement with Gais Construction based out of Denver. Mr. Burch stated that the project is within budget, which is the reason that it has been delayed so frequently. Mr. Burch stated that the bank financing is in place and stated that most of what will happen with this project early on will be financed by OMBMH. Mr. Burch stated that this is a \$6,000,000.00 project for the company. Mr. Burch stated that they are very excited but also know that there is a good bit of frustration around the delays. Mr. Burch stated that the timeline if this fourth amendment is approved would be that OMBMH would have a signed contract before October 1, 2025. Mr. Burch stated that we are looking at 210-250 days which brings us to a June 1, 2026 Grand Opening. Mr. Burch shared current renderings of the project to the Council. Mr. Burch concluded his presentation by apologizing for the delay and that they would appreciate the approval of this amendment.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker made a motion to come out of the regular meeting and go into the public hearing. Councilman Craig seconded the motion.

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6-0. (Motion Carried)

Mayor Moore stated that no one signed up to speak at this public hearing.

Motion: Councilman Meadows made a motion to come out of the public hearing and go back into the regular meeting. Councilman Hough seconded the motion.

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6-0. (Motion Carried)

Councilman Meadows stated that he is disappointed that OMB, LLC chose to delay the project in the City of Mount Holly to start a project in South Charlotte.

Motion: Councilman Craig made a motion to approve the fourth amendment to the development agreement with OMBMH, LLC. Councilman Meadows seconded the motion.

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6-0. (Motion Carried)

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NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Mount Holly Historical Society Memorandum of Understanding

Marie Anders

Mrs. Anders stated that before the Council is a third amended agreement for the collection, preservation, and display of City of Mount Holly archives proposed between the City of Mount Holly and the Mount Holly Historical Society Inc. Mrs. Anders stated that this third Amendment reflects the longstanding partnership and relationship between the City of Mount Holly and the Mount Holly Historical Society as it has evolved over time. Mrs. Anders stated that the first agreement, which will be referred to as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), was dated in 2011, which is when the Mount Holly City Council formally recognized the Mount Holly Historical Society as the caretaker of the archives of the City which include artifacts, photographs and writings. Mrs. Anders stated that there was an amendment to the MOU in 2014 with terms allowing for office space. Mrs. Anders stated that the second amendment to this agreement added the next-door property located at 129 South Main Street. Mrs. Anders stated that this third amendment to the agreement would be to change the location from the 131 S. Main location to 414 E. Central Avenue, which is the address for the new museum space that the City Council previously voted to upfit for the museum and for the location of the artifacts. Mrs. Anders stated that if adopted, this third amendment would formalize that the Mount Holly Historical Society is the ongoing custodian of the artifacts, be allowed rent free at the location of 414 E. Central Avenue for the museum space, the City would relocate the archives to this new space at its cost on or before October 30, 2025, the City store any portion that could not reasonably be located at the premises, and that there would be no other changes from the original agreement as amended.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Shoemaker made a motion to approve the Mount Holly Historical Society Memorandum of Understanding. Seconded by Councilman Craig

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6-0. (Motion Carried)

2. City Manager Report

Jonathan Blanton

Mr. Blanton reviewed the numerous events that the City has participated in recently. Mr. Blanton stated that the Charlotte Water Decommissioning Event at our wastewater treatment plant was a success and that the City of Mount Holly is online with the City of Charlotte 100 percent. Mr.

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Blanton thanked the all of the attendees and the North Carolina General Assembly for providing \$15,000,000.00 in direct allocations for the decommissioning of this project. Mr. Blanton mentioned that today there was a ribbon cutting ceremony at Ida Rankin Elementary School for the Rise Mural. Mr. Blanton stated that the artists were Sarah and Andrew McWilson. Mr. Blanton thanked the staff, the Public Arts Advisory Council (PAAC), and the City Council. Mr. Blanton stated that the City unveiled the Truist Mosaic done by Thomas Thoune and Patrick Robertson. Mr. Blanton stated that the title of this mosaic is the Catawba River, and it incorporates many different areas of the City of Mount Holly's history. Mr. Blanton stated that the bridge construction that will connect our greenways began at River Street Park. Mr. Blanton stated that the project is expected to be completed in mid-2026. Mr. Blanton stated that the new water tower is up behind the north Fire station that should go online in November. Mr. Blanton stated that National Night Out will be on October 7, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Mr. Blanton stated that Mount Holly Nights will be on October 10, 2025. Mr. Blanton stated that the Arts on the Greenway's Buccaneer's Ball will be on October 11, 2025. Mr. Blanton highlighted the very successful ribbon cutting event at Ransom Hunter Park. Mr. Blanton stated that David Childers will be inducted into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame on October 16, 2025.

ADJOURN

Motion: Councilman Hough made a motion to adjourn the September 22, 2025 City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM. Councilman Meadows seconded the motion.

All Council members present and voting, voted in favor 6-0. (Motion Carried)

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM