

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following were present:

Mayor David Moore	Jonathan Blanton, City Manager
Mayor Pro Tem Phyllis Harris	Brian DuPont, Assistant City Manager
Councilman Ivory Craig	Alexis Hines, Human Resources Director
Councilman Jeff Meadows	Brian Reagan, Police Chief
Councilman William Brooks	Greg Beal, Planning Director
Councilwoman Lauren Shoemaker	Ryan Baker, Fire Chief
Councilman Kenneth Reeves	Robert Stewart, Deputy Utilities Director
Marie M. Anders, City Attorney	Eric Smallwood, Parks and Recreation Director
Tara Douglas, City Clerk	Ashley Whetstine Finance Director
	Matt Black, Economic Development Director
	Jason Green, Public Works Director

INVOCATION

Reverend Jeff Nichols from Message of Love Church led the Council, Staff, and attendees in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boy Scout Troop 59 led the Council, Staff, and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SET THE AGENDA

Mayor Moore stated that closed session would be removed from the agenda.

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to set the agenda as amended.

Motion: Councilman Brooks made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion.

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

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Proclamation for Arbor Day
2. Budget Amendment for Lead and Copper replacement project.
3. Letter of intent for property acquisition from Gaston County Schools
4. Resolution opposing limiting local authority on property tax.
5. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2026

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

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

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

PRESENTATIONS

1. Mount Holly Fire Department Purchase/ Lease Option

Deputy Chief Craig Spry

Deputy Chief Spry presented a purchase/lease option for the Council’s consideration regarding support and command vehicles. Deputy Chief Spry stated that there are ageing support vehicles that are needing repair and the cost to repair outweighs the benefits. Deputy Chief Spry stated that the Fire Department would like to implement a similar arrangement that the Police Department has with Enterprise Fleet Management for support and command vehicles. Deputy Chief Spry stated that the Fire Department strives to maintain reliable support and command vehicles, reduce the downtime, and have a cost-effective replacement strategy that will help the City predict budgeting from year to year. Deputy Chief Spry listed the benefits as annual vehicle value evaluations, data-driven replacement timing, maximize resale value, eliminate guesswork, no mileage restrictions, no wear and tear penalties, reduced timeframe that a vehicle is outside of its warranty window, and reduced repair costs. Deputy Chief Spry reviewed the cost comparison citing that this arrangement avoids large one-time capital expenses.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to approve the Mount Holly Fire Department to utilize Enterprise Fleet Management for a Purchase/Lease Option. Councilwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion.

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

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing to consider an amendment to Chapter 3 Section 3.21A, of the Zoning Ordinance to update the setback requirements for dumpsters. Case # TA-26-1.

Brandon Livingston

Mr. Livingston presented the details of this amendment to the zoning ordinance and stated that the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval at their May 4, 2026 meeting

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the Regular Meeting and into the Public Hearing.

Motion: Councilman Brooks made a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into the Public Hearing. Councilwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion.

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

With no one signed up to speak the Public Hearing, Mayor Moore entertained a motion to come out of the Public Hearing and back into the Regular Meeting.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to come out of the Public Hearing and back into the Regular Meeting. Councilman Meadows seconded the motion.

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

Motion: Councilman Meadows made a motion to approve an amendment to Chapter 3 Section 3.21A, of the Zoning Ordinance to update the setback requirements for dumpsters. Case # TA-26-1. Seconded by Councilman Reeves.

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

2. Public hearing to consider an amendment to Section 153.056 to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to make updates to the regulations relating to open space, and the provision of open space in the City. Case # TA-26-3.

Brandon Livingston

Mr. Livingston presented the details of this amendment to the subdivision and land development ordinance relating to the open space, and the provision of open space in the City. Mr. Livingston stated that the Planning staff worked with the Parks and Recreation Director on this request. Mr. Livingston stated that the Planning Commission heard this case at their May 4, 2026 meeting and voted unanimously to recommend approval.

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into the public hearing.

Motion: Councilman Meadows made a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into the Public Hearing. Councilwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion.

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

With no one signed up to speak at the Public Hearing, Mayor Moore entertained a motion to come out of the Public Hearing and back into the Regular Meeting.

Motion: Councilman Brooks made a motion to go out of the Public Hearing and back into the Regular Meeting. Councilman Reeves seconded the motion.

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

Motion: Councilman Meadows made a motion to approve an amendment to Section 153.056 to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to make updates to the regulations relating to open space, and the provision of open space in the City. Case # TA-26-3. Councilman Reeves seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT- Three (3) minute limit

1. John Jacob: 1213 W. Catawba Avenue- Mr. Jacob requested an update on the requested items for the Mount Holly Museum. Mr. Jacob highlighted the need for an employee to work in the museum.
2. Jarrod Facchino: 157 Oakland- Mr. Facchino spoke regarding the StreetLights Development and highlighted the specific votes of the Council throughout this process.
3. Michelle Yow: 2021 Lake Vista- Ms. Yow spoke regarding the StreetLights project and agreed with Mr. Facchino's sentiments. Ms. Yow expressed disappointment and confusion regarding the StreetLights project decision by the Council.
4. Terry Eudy: 117 St Vincent- Mr. Eudy expressed concerns regarding the housing developments that are coming into Mount Holly.

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

OLD BUSINESS

1. Consideration of a rezoning of Tax Parcel #'s 177847, 177844, 177594, 177846, and 218371 from R-1 (Gaston County) and R-12 (City) to City CD-MF (Conditional District Multifamily) for the Holly Heights Townhome Development, Case R-26-1.

Brandon Livingston

Mr. Livingston stated that the Planning Commission heard this case at their regular meeting in March where the members voted to recommend that the City Council table the consideration of this matter until the April 6, 2026 Planning Commission meeting as well as the April 13, 2026 City Council meeting. Mr. Livingston stated that as a result of the Planning Commission's request, the City Council voted to open the Public Hearing on this conditional district rezoning and table the Public Hearing in consideration of this matter until their April meeting. Mr. Livingston stated that the Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation to the City Council during their April 6, 2026 meeting and a Public Hearing was heard by the City Council during their April 13, 2026 meeting. Mr. Livingston stated that there were five people that came to speak on the matter during the Public Hearing and their concerns were regarding traffic and the impacts to the character of the community. Mr. Livingston stated that representatives from Kimley-Horn is here to answer any traffic related questions.

Mayor Moore opened the floor for any continued discussion. Bridget Grant from Moore & Van Allen was available for any questions from the Council.

Mrs. Anders clarified that the Council can make a motion to approve or to deny.

Motion: Councilwoman Shoemaker made a motion to approve the rezoning of Tax Parcel #'s 177847, 177844, 177594, 177846, and 218371 from R-1 (Gaston County) and R-12 (City) to City CD-MF (Conditional District Multifamily) for the Holly Heights Townhome Development, Case R-26-1. Councilman Reeves seconded the motion. (Motion Passes 5-1)
Councilman Craig cast the single Nay vote.

2. Consideration of a petition for annexation, submitted by Alissa Grice and William Stewart Jr., for a 34.35-acre tract of land, located at Parcel #'s 177847, 177844, 177594, 177846, and 218371.

Marie Anders

Mrs. Anders stated that this petition for annexation was submitted by Alissa Grice and William Stewart Jr. but the petition by William H. Stewart Jr. was revised and resigned by his entity called SJS of NC LLC on February 5, 2026. Mrs. Anders stated that after that date, the City Council

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

approved a resolution directing the Clerk to investigate both annexation petitions which were found to be sufficient. Mrs. Anders stated that the Council called for a Public Hearing on the question of the annexation to take place on March 9, 2026 at the regular Council meeting. Mrs. Anders stated that this Public Hearing was advertised in the Gaston Gazette, opened on March 9, 2026 and continued until the April 13, 2026 meeting where the Public Hearing was held and closed. Mrs. Anders stated that what the Council has before it tonight is a proposed annexation ordinance for the land. Mrs. Anders stated that additionally there is a proposed annexation and system development fee agreement for this proposed area. Mrs. Anders explained that the main provisions of the proposed annexation agreement are that the developer will construct certain developer improvements as recommended by the Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) study prepared by Kimley-Horn. Mrs. Anders stated that she passed out a revision to the annexation ordinance that went out in the packet to add a reference to the fact that the annexation would be contingent upon receipt of a fully executed annexation and system development fee agreement for Holly Heights. Mrs. Anders stated that the petitioners have signed it and we are awaiting signatures from the developer.

Councilwoman Shoemaker would like the Council to postpone until all documents are complete.

Councilman Meadows requested that staff look at the Land Use Plan to ensure that the City is looking at the cumulative impact. Mr. Blanton stated that staff can bring back an update on the Land Use Plan and any recommending revisions.

The consensus of the Council is to postpone this discussion until the May 18, 2026 work session.

NEW BUSINESS

1. City Manager Report

Jonathan Blanton

Mr. Blanton showed a presentation from the recent Senior Dinner and Community Awards Dinner in the Grand Hall. Mr. Blanton highlighted the first Mount Holly Nights event of the season. Mr. Blanton highlighted Woodlawn Park and the amenities provided. Mr. Blanton gave an update on the Council's recent trip to Raleigh where they attended the North Carolina League of Municipalities City Vision event. Mr. Blanton stated that the Council members were able to meet with our state senator and state representative to discuss some of the important issues here in Mount Holly. Mr. Blanton reported that the City was able to secure a year's extension for the grant funding for the decommissioning of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Blanton stated that Kemp A. Michael way is making great progress. Mr. Blanton stated that the City is in phase 2 of the mandatory regionally drought restrictions that are currently in place. Mr. Blanton stated

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

that this weekend will be the rescheduled Piedmont Arts and Cultural Experience. Mr. Blanton reminded everyone that the Council will meet next Monday, 5/18/2026 for the budget planning work session at 6:30 pm due to the Memorial Day Holiday that fell on the fourth Monday of this month.

CLOSED SESSION

1. ~~Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3 and 5)~~

ADJORN

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to adjourn the May 11, 2026 City Council Meeting at 7:44 pm. Councilman Meadows seconded the motion.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.