

CITY OF MOUNT HOLLY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 13, 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

Councilman Brooks 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 entertained a motion to set the agenda as presented.

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

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

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CONSENT AGENDA

1. Call for a public hearing to consider a petition for annexation, submitted by Abernathy Construction, for an approximately 70.96 acre tract of land, located at Parcel #'s 177876, 177881, 177882, 177886, 177889, 177890, 203426, 203427, 208874, 177891, 214300, 312234, & 178009.
2. Call for a public hearing to consider a rezoning of Tax Parcel #'s 177876, 177881, 177882, 177886, 177889, 177890, 203426, 203427, 208874, 177891, 214300, 312234, & 178009 from City R-12 and County R-20 to City Conditional District (B-3, L-I, and R-8MF) for the 1714 North Main Street Mixed Use Site, Case R-26-4.
3. Approval of reappointment of Janice McRorie to the ABC Board.
4. Request to apply for the NC Recreational Trails Program Grant
5. Proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month
6. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes – June 22, 2026
7. Approval of Minutes - Closed Session - June 22, 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)

Councilman Craig thanked Janice McRorie for her continued service to the ABC board. Councilman Craig requested that the ABC Board go to a 5 person board. Mayor Moore stated that Mayor Pro Tem Harris is working on this project.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation by Olde Mecklenburg Brewery

Jim Birch

Mr. Birch gave an update on the project and stated that the projected opening will be in the Fall of 2026. Mr. Birch is requesting that the Council approve a formal discharge of the performance bond for the River View site, acknowledge that the bonded site improvements are complete and in place, and allow the project to proceed to its Fall 2026 opening without the bond in force. The consensus of the Council is to allow staff to recommend this release at the appropriate time.

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PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public hearing to consider rezoning Parcel # 123202 from R-8MF to R-8SF. Case # R-26-3.

Brandon Livingston

Mr. Livingston stated that this rezoning application for 400 N. Main Street, Parcel #123202, was submitted by Michal Vittatoe and Melissa Vasquez who are seeking to take this property from R-8MF to R-8SF. Mr. Livingston stated that the proposed plan is to subdivide the lot and build one additional home. Mr. Livingston stated that the Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation by a 6-0 unanimous vote during their meeting on July 6, 2026, citing that this proposal would be less impactful than the current multifamily zoning allows.

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

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

Motion: Councilman Meadows made a motion to approve rezoning Parcel # 123202 from R-8MF to R-8SF. Case # R-26-3. Councilman Reeves seconded the motion.

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

2. Public Hearing to consider an update to Sections 5.11-C-3-h & 5.12-C-3-h of the Zoning Ordinance to update the maximum height of fences in the LI & HI zoning districts. Case # TA-26-6.

Brandon Livingston

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Mr. Livingston stated that this amendment proposed by staff would increase the maximum height of fences allowed in the front and side yards in both the LI & HI zoning districts for security purposes and it will require that the vinyl coating for the fences to be either green or black in color. Mr. Livingston stated that the current maximum fence height shall be five feet. Mr. Livingston stated that rear yard fences and walls shall be made of brick, stucco, wrought iron, stone, wood or similar materials with a maximum fence height of eight feet.

Mr. Livingston stated that staff is proposing that the front and side yard fences and walls be brick, stucco, wrought iron, stone or materials similar in appearance and durability, maximum fence height shall be ten feet, and that rear yard fences and walls shall be made of brick, stucco, wrought iron, stone, wood or similar materials. Mr. Livingston stated alternatively, new installation of perimeter fences on L-I light industrial/H-I heavy industrial property may be vinyl-coated galvanized, chain-link fencing along with barbed-wire runners, if necessary, for security purposes and that if this option is chosen, fences in the L-I District/H-I District can either be eight feet in height in the front, side and rear yards with up to two feet of barbed wire runners on top or ten feet in height with twisted selvage. Mr. Livingston stated that the vinyl coating for the fence must be either green or black in color.

Mr. Livingston stated that the Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation by a 6-0 unanimous vote during their meeting on July 6, 2026.

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into the Public Hearing.

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

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

Motion: Councilman Reeves made a motion to approve an update to Sections 5.11-C-3-h & 5.12-C-3-h of the Zoning Ordinance to update the maximum height of fences in the LI & HI zoning districts. Case # TA-26-6. Mayor Pro Tem Harris seconded the motion.

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

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3. Public Hearing to consider an update to Sections 153.049 of the Subdivision Land Development Ordinance to develop standards for private streets. Case # TA-26-4.

Torin Priddle, Planning Intern

Mr. Priddle stated that this proposed update to Section 153.049 of the Subdivision Land Development Ordinance to develop standards for private streets was submitted by staff. Mr. Priddle stated that the amendment would help to provide standards for the design of private streets and to mandate the creation of a Road Maintenance Agreement and an Ownership Association for developments with private streets. Mr. Priddle stated that the latter two documents would provide basic standards for the development of private streets-while ensuring these improvements will be maintained in perpetuity. Mr. Priddle stated that recording both documents in the Register of Deeds office will also allow purchasers of property to be informed of potential maintenance costs and constraints before purchasing property. Mr. Priddle stated that the City currently has no standards for the design and regulation of private streets in residential subdivisions. Mr. Priddle stated that this amendment will ensure that private streets are designed to accommodate City emergency vehicles while maintaining adequate traffic flow over the course of the road's life and will put limits on where private streets can be utilized to ensure that they are not subject to heavy traffic. Mr. Priddle noted that residential developments with private streets can only feature four lots. Mr. Priddle stated that the requirement of the development of a Road Maintenance Agreement and an Owners Association prior to road construction and final plat approval will ensure a designated entity is responsible for ongoing upkeep.

Mr. Priddle stated that the Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation by a 6-0 unanimous vote during their meeting on July 6, 2026. Mr. Priddle stated that City staff recommends approval.

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into the Public Hearing.

Motion: Councilwoman Shoemaker made a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into the public hearing. Councilman Brooks 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.

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Motion: Councilwoman Shoemaker 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: Councilwoman Shoemaker made a motion to approve an update to Sections 153.049 of the Subdivision Land Development Ordinance to develop standards for private streets. Case # TA-26-4. Councilman Reeves seconded the motion.

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

4. Public Hearing to consider an update to Section 153.085 of the Subdivision Land Development Ordinance to require fencing for BMPs. Case # TA-26-5.

Torin Priddle, Planning Intern

Mr. Priddle stated that this proposed update to Section 153.085-A of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance was submitted by staff to develop requirements for fencing to be installed around new stormwater detention ponds. Mr. Priddle stated that the Planning staff consulted the Public Works department on this proposed update.

Mr. Priddle stated that after discussion on the timing of the fence installation, the Planning Commission came to a consensus to add under (12) in the attached document: ***Fencing shall be installed before the first home or commercial building receives its certificate of occupancy.***

Mr. Priddle stated that the Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation by a 6-0 unanimous vote during their meeting on July 6, 2026.

Motion: Councilman Craig made a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into the public hearing. Councilman Brooks 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 Meadows made a motion to go out of the Public Hearing and back into the Regular Meeting. Councilman Brooks seconded the motion.

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

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Motion: Councilman Craig made a motion to approve an update to Section 153.085 of the Subdivision Land Development Ordinance to require fencing for BMPs. Case # TA-26-5. Mayor Pro Tem Harris seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT- There was no one signed up to speak for public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

1. City Manager Report

Jonathan Blanton

City Manager Blanton showed a video highlighting the Piedmont Arts and Cultural Experience (PACE). City Manager Blanton stated that the City recently completed the Tuckaseegee Windscreen art project as well as the Tuckaseegee Park mural. City Manager Blanton stated that repair work has begun on the Riverhawk Greenway with the FEMA funding received for damages occurring during Hurricane Helene. City Manager Blanton gave an update on the Wastewater Decommissioning site citing that the topsoil and grading has been happening over the last few weeks and that the City is working towards finishing up the irrigation and sod. City Manager Blanton stated that City staff is working towards finalizing this grant and that we were fortunate enough to receive a 1 year extension. City Manager Blanton updated the Council of a direct grant from Raleigh in the amount of \$125,000 that was awarded to the Mount Holly Fire Department for safety upgrades. City Manager Blanton stated that the City's Christmas in July event will be held on July 24, 2026 in the Grand Hall. City Manager Blanton thanked the Police, Fire, and Public Works crew for keeping everyone safe during the holiday. City Manager Blanton announced the new NextRequest records request software implemented by the City Clerk's office to ensure and promote transparency and ease of access to public records. City Manager Blanton thanked City Clerk, Tara Douglas, for spearheading this project and those efforts to make sure that our public records are readily available. City Manager Blanton thanked Mr. Priddle for his presentations tonight.

CLOSED SESSION

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

Mayor Moore entertained a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3 and 5).

Motion: Councilman Brooks made a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into closed session at 7:22 pm. Councilman Reeves seconded the motion.

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

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Motion: Councilman Meadows made a motion to come out of closed session and back into the regular meeting at 7:47 pm. Councilman Brooks seconded the motion.

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

ADJORN

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to adjourn the July 13, 2026 City Council Meeting at 7:47 pm. Councilman Craig seconded the motion.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.