

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON FEBRUARY 23, 2026

At a special meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, February 23, 2026, at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, there were present Mayor Brian Vincent, presiding, and Council members Sallie Amos, A.D. “Chuckie” Reid, Dan Dwyer, Tommy Pairet, Adam Yoelin, Donald Hunter, and John Hardy.

Staff present were Town Manager Scott Davis, Town Attorney Gary Elder, Fire Chief Daniel Clark, Police Chief Andy Ellington, Captain William Hogan, Deputy Clerk and IT Support Jacqueline Vaughan, and Clerk of Council Mary McKay.

Mayor Vincent called the special meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll, noting all Council members were present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Hunter made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and with all stating “aye” in favor, the motion passed.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02-04 – CENSURE OF COUNCIL MEMBER HARDY

Mr. Hunter made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-02-04, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and with a recorded vote of Council member Amos “abstaining”, Council members Reid, Dwyer, Pairet, Yoelin, and Hunter voting “yes”, and Council member Hardy voting “no”, the motion passed.

Mrs. Amos provided a brief explanation of her position. She stated she believed this matter would have been better addressed privately between Dr. Davis, Councilman Hardy, Town Council, and the Mayor. Because of that and out of respect for the process and all the parties involved, she didn’t feel like it was appropriate to take a position for or against the censure.

Mr. Hunter added a statement explaining that there had been several conversations in reference to what had taken place with apology relayed and that more time was needed. He mentioned while he is willing to help, this seems a little different from an earlier conversation and reiterated his willingness to help.

BACKGROUND: Mayor Vincent read the proposed resolution and opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Hardy provided the following comments:

“Thank you, Mr. Mayor, fellow Council members, citizens, and Town employees for the opportunity to speak. Truly sorry for my role in bringing us to this point tonight. I appreciate the Town Manager raising his concerns. I understand how my questions and comments may have seemed frustrating or undermining to him. I view this as an opportunity to improve, and I am committed to doing so. I regret repeating community rumors about the proposed 4-day work week in a manner that may have been insensitive or contributed to speculation. The request for salary information was brief and, in my view, reasonable. It was promptly redirected to the Town Manager who addressed it effectively. In the future, I will direct such requests through him from the outset. Regarding my observations during the waterline emergency, my intent was to serve as a responsible representative. As someone with insurance and risk management experience, I had concerns about potential safety risks and liability. Concerns I believed were in the Town's interest. I also forwarded citizen reports about seat belt use to public works and the Town Manager. I recognized that the charter prohibits directing Town employees and I do not feel that I did so. My inquiries were intended as information sharing and oversight, responsibilities I believe are appropriate for a Council member. I agree that citizens' concerns should be channeled through the Town Manager and I will do so moving forward. On oversight I believe asking questions in that capacity is within my role, but I am willing to consult the Town Attorney to confirm my understanding of the charter. While I accept that I could have handled certain matters differently, I respectfully disagree that my actions warrant a public censure, particularly when much of the discussion relies on hearsay and no effort was made to resolve this privately. This situation also points to a larger issue. Communication in Farmville can feel one-sided to many. Concerns from residents, business owners, or Council members often lead to division rather than dialogue. There is a perception that the Town's direction is shaped more by administration than by elected officials and citizen input. Citizens have told me that raising questions about Town hall practices frequently results in deflection or dismissal, leaving them unheard. We should seek to include those we represent, not exclude them. Our duty is to listen and serve, not merely to manage. A public censure at this stage would reinforce those frustrations rather than address them. Respectful, open discussion remains the better approach. As leaders, we have the chance to demonstrate that we can

address disagreements constructively without escalation. I acknowledge my own missteps and remain fully committed to the Town and its people. I hope this difficult moment can lead to greater understanding. I respectfully ask my fellow Council members to vote no on the motion. Thank you.”

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02-04

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15.2-1400(D) of the Code of Virginia, and Section 2-24 of the Code of the Town of Farmville, the Farmville Town Council has the authority to discipline its members for engaging in disorderly behavior and misconduct; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman John Hardy has engaged in behavior that deviates from the behavior expected of individuals serving on Town Council, specifically by stating to employees of the Town of Farmville who are subordinates of the Town Manager that he wishes to see the Town Manager fired, and by providing specific job-related instructions to Town staff and employees, in direct violation of Article 4, Section 17 of the Charter of the Town of Farmville, which provides that “the mayor and members of the council shall deal with the administrative service solely through the town manager, and neither the council nor any member thereof shall give orders to any subordinate of the town manager, either publicly or privately”; and

WHEREAS, new Council members, including Councilman Hardy, have previously received education as to the manner of Town governance, including education specifically related to the duties of all members of Council with respect to communications with employees and staff of the Town of Farmville; and

WHEREAS, the actions undertaken by Councilman Hardy are such that they would serve to undermine the relationships and respect that exists between the employees of the Town of Farmville and the Town Manager of the Town of Farmville; and

WHEREAS, the actions undertaken by Councilman Hardy are such that they would serve to inhibit the Town Manager from successfully performing his assigned duties; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council is desirous of taking this action in order to protect the standing of the body in the community that it serves, amongst the general public, and amongst its highly regarded staff and employees;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL:

1. That the conduct described above is inconsistent with that prescribed in Article 4, Section 17 of the Charter of the Town of Farmville.
2. That such conduct interferes with the orderly administration of Town operations and the council–manager form of government established by the Charter.

3. That the Town Council hereby formally censures Councilman John Hardy for conduct inconsistent with the Town Charter.
4. That Councilman Hardy is placed on notice that continued conduct inconsistent with the governance standards established by the Charter may result in further action as authorized by Virginia law and the Town Code.
5. That this Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

Adopted: _____

Certified: _____
Clerk of Council

Mr. Pairet made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Amos, with all stating “aye” in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Brian R. Vincent, Mayor

Mary H. McKay, Clerk of Council