

REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MARCH 4, 2026

At the regular work session of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, March 4, 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, Daniel Dwyer, Adam Yoelin, and Donald Hunter.

Staff present were Town Manager Scott Davis, Town Attorney Gary Elder, Chief of Police Andy Ellington, Captain William Hogan, Human Resources Manager Amanda Zirkle, Deputy Town Manager/Finance Director Julie Moore, Community Development Director Ashley Atkins-Austin, Fire Chief Daniel Clark, Deputy Clerk and IT Support Jacqueline Vaughan, and Clerk of Council Mary McKay.

Mayor Vincent called the work session to order, and all in attendance were welcomed.

The Clerk called the roll, noting Council members Tommy Pairet and John Hardy were absent.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest made.

FINANCE REPORT

Deputy Town Manager/Finance Director Julie Moore provided a review of the January 2026 finance report for the seventh month of the FY2026 budget.

- Total revenue across all funds is approximately \$28.7 million year to date compared to the annual total budget of \$44.6 million. Revenue appears ahead of the straight-line benchmark primarily due to the General Fund obligation bond issued in December 2025 and recorded in the financial system in January 2026. The budget also includes other sources such as planned use of prior-year funds and other transfers from reserve accounts which appear as revenue in the budget and do not represent current year operating revenue. When these timing items are considered, reoccurring revenue is tracking normally. The general revenue fund totals approximately \$23.8 million. Major revenue sources such as taxes, food and lodging, and permits continue to track generally in line with expectations.

- Total expenses across all funds are approximately \$17.6 million year to date, which remains below the seven-month benchmark of \$26 million for the budget. Overall spending remains within the expected levels. Some differences compared to prior year are related to capital one-time purchases such as: Public Safety - the prepayment for the new ladder truck; Fund 15 or Street Maintenance Fund - the Town pays VDOT for its portion of the Third Street paving; and the Sewer Fund - purchase of the UV treatment equipment. These payments were planned capital investments and do not indicate ongoing operational costs. Overall revenue and expenses tracked within expected ranges.

DISCUSSION: SPLASHPAD BATHROOMS

The Town Manager brought the topic back for discussion to see if the Council wants staff to move forward and put out to bid one of the options previously shared of the two prefabs or the stick-built option. He reported that the small building located near the park was determined to be more costly to consider. The amount currently set aside for the facility was noted as approximately \$300,000+. A brief discussion was held on the life expectancy of the splash park and the prefab or stick built options. It was pointed out that the long-term use of the property is in the recreation master plan. From previous meeting discussion, the lifespan for a prefab option was noted as approximately 20 years in comparison to the stick built having an estimated 40-year lifespan. The stick-built option was suggested as the best option for long term. Questions were asked if any upgrades were made to a similar facility in Alta Vista and for the square footage of their stick-built facility. Council members agreed to place the construction out to bid which will provide actual numbers based on a design already obtained.

DISCUSSION: AMENDED AIRPORT LEASE AGREEMENT

The Town Manager reported on an amended lease agreement provided in the meeting packet which is based upon discussion held after public comments were received from Morgan Dunnavant. The Town Manager and Town Attorney have both reviewed the changes. There was a brief report of the changes made which also were highlighted for Council's review:

- Page numbers were added at the bottom.
- *At the expiration or termination of this Lease, the Town and Lessee shall have thirty (30) days to re-negotiate the terms of an extension to this Lease.*
- *Lessee shall maintain liability insurance covering the improvements to the Parcel and shall name the Town as additional insured.*

An inquiry was made into whether the changes address what community members were interested in. The Town Manager explained that the changes were sent to Mr. Dunnivant and he is amenable. It was noted that a public hearing is not needed as the changes are more beneficial to the tenants.

DISCUSSION: COUNCIL/MAYOR SALARY STUDY

Town Manager Davis reported being asked at the end of the last meeting to reach out to surrounding localities of similar sizes and types to ask about Council pay. Human Resources Manager Zirkle gathered the requested information which was provided to the Council in the meeting packet. Council member Amos initiated the discussion to review whether the current stipend for serving on Town Council is still appropriate when compared to other jurisdictions and the position responsibilities. In review of the stipend structure, Mrs. Amos noted the current Council member annual salary of \$6,000, Vice-Mayor \$7,200, and Mayor \$9,000, noting that the figures are extremely low compared to the other area jurisdictions. A suggestion was made to set the Council salary closer to \$8,000 so it aligns more closely with Prince Edward with a goal of \$10,000 but increase as the election years come up. Discussion was held concerning the timing of increases in relation to election times. Town Attorney Elder quoted one code section 15.2-1414.7. Salaries of town council members and mayors. “Notwithstanding any provision of a charter of a town or any other law, a town council may establish the compensation to be paid to council members and the mayor. No increase in salary of a council member or mayor shall take effect during the incumbent council member’s or mayor's term in office; however, this restriction shall not apply to councils or mayors when the council members are elected for staggered terms...” He noted also that he hasn’t read the code in its entirety on the subject.

The question was asked of the Town Manager of when the last time Council members received a raise with the information not being known at this time. A brief discussion was held on the incremental increase in salary to reach a goal of \$10,000. Mention was made of the reductions in Council take-home pay due to the phasing out of the in-lieu-of health insurance benefit procedure in the last budget season. As not all Council members were in attendance, it was suggested the topic be placed back on the agenda at the next meeting for all Council members to review and discuss.

DISCUSSION: HEALTH INSURANCE

Town Manager Davis reported on the estimated health insurance costs for the next budget year starting on July 1, 2026. The Local Choice plan saw an increase this year for everyone in the

100+ allocation area with the Town's portion increasing by 7%. He spoke on the balance of providing employees with the benefit of health insurance and their salary. A review was provided of the available plans and the costs the Town pays for employees' health insurance. Council members were provided informational sheets with biweekly premiums and the new rates.

Ms. Moore provided a detailed review of the different scenarios of employer/employee costs based on the increase and what is proposed with an allocation breakdown of 25% (Single), 30% (Dual), and 35% (Family) for employees in the 250 plan which was noted as the more costly plan.

For the record, Town Manager Davis reported on the Town's current process:

Key Advantage 250

Single – Employer pays 92%, Employee pays 8%

Dual – Employer pays 74%, Employee pays 26%

Family – Employer pays 74%, Employee pays 26%

Key Advantage 500

Single – Employer pays 96%, Employee pays 4%

Dual - Employer pays 77%, Employee pays 23%

Family – Employer pays 77%, Employee pays 23%

Ms. Zirkle added information on the deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, and a review of some of the coverage in the different plans.

The discussion will continue at next week's meeting.

DISCUSSION: ECONOMIC INCENTIVE APPROPRIATIONS – NEW REQUIREMENTS

Finance Director Moore reported on efforts to strengthen the Town's internal controls for the next fiscal year and a proposed process which would require non-profit organizations who seek funding from the Town to complete a form and submit audit documentation if the request is over \$25,000. The Town Council would make the final decision to give out money to a non-profit organization.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

No additional report was offered.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

Mr. Hunter asked when the Town last raised its food tax.

Mr. Yoelin asked for a status on the sidewalk study at next week's meeting.

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Mayor Vincent mentioned looking forward to future discussion and how to move forward. He thanked all for their attendance and for those who tuned in online.

With no other business and on a motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, with all stating “aye” in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Brian R. Vincent, Mayor

Mary H. McKay, Clerk of Council