

REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MAY 6, 2026

At the regular work session of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, May 6, 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, Tommy Pairet, Adam Yoelin, Donald Hunter, and John Hardy.

Staff present were Town Manager Scott Davis, Town Attorney Gary Elder, Captain William Hogan, Deputy Town Manager/Finance Director Julie Moore, Community Development Director Ashley Atkins-Austin, Fire Chief Daniel Clark, Public Works Director Stephen Edwards, Deputy Clerk and IT Support Jacqueline Vaughan, and Clerk of Council Mary McKay.

Mayor Vincent called the work session to order and all guests were welcomed.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest made.

PRESENTATION BY VDOT ON DESIGNATED GROWTH AREA AND E. THIRD STREET SMART SCALE PROJECT

Carson Eckhardt, VDOT Lynchburg District Planner, reviewed the purpose of his presentation:

- To discuss the ongoing round of Smart Scale and the intersection improvement project at East Third Street and Milnwood Road, and review background information of Smart Scale.
- As a part of the Town’s comprehensive planning update, VDOT recommends Farmville be designated as a Designated Growth Area (DGA). The process of a DGA was to be explained and how it ties into Smart Scale.

Mr. Eckhardt explained that a DGA is a voluntary designation that can be included in a locality’s comprehensive plan which allows a locality an avenue to pursue broader options in transportation funding through the Smart Scale funding stream.

A detailed review of information for the Smart Scale process was provided. Throughout the presentation, Council members asked questions and discussion was held. The Town Manager advised that the designation of the Designated Growth Area will be part of the revamped transportation section of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Eckhardt clarified that the money to pay for Smart Scale projects comes from the Virginia Department of Transportation's construction budget with no federal funds involved. He added that there is no match requirement for Smart Scale and that the Town is not contributing any money to the project.

The project would convert the Third Street/Milnwood Road intersection into a hybrid roundabout and improve access to the economic development site up Persimmon Tree Fork Road and help support a future 460-business interchange. A Community Input Meeting was held previously at the Moton Museum with two concepts presented. The Council agreed to move forward with the roundabout alternative, and a Resolution of Support is needed for the Smart Scale project application. The resolution would be brought forward at next week's Regular meeting.

Discussion was held on a request previously mentioned at the Community Input Meeting concerning sidewalks on both sides of the street and a crosswalk across Milnwood Road. Mr. Eckhardt mentioned some flexibility in the design period to see if they can add that sidewalk part to connect the two linkages. It was noted that the project will include roundabout ahead signs at each leg of the intersection so that travelers coming up Third Street or Persimmon Tree Fork Road will see the sign and be able to slow to the yield condition. An inquiry was made as to why flashing lights were not included. Mr. Eckhardt would follow up with some guidance at the next meeting whether the flashers could be included.

The video simulation of the hybrid roundabout can be found on the VDOT website.

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Director Julie Moore provided a report for March 2026, reporting that the total revenue across all funds is approximately \$33.8 million year to date and remains in line with expectations. Overall revenue continues to be impacted by one-time items such as the bond proceeds and planned use of prior year fund balance and reserves which are reflected in the budget under Other Sources but are not reoccurring operating revenue. Major revenue categories including taxes and licenses, food, lodging, permits and fees continue to perform in line with expectations. Business license revenue is approximately 97% of the budget at the end of March. Total expenditure across all funds is \$21.9 million year to date, which remains well below the

nine-month benchmark of \$37.1. Several expenditure variances continue to be related to timing differences in planned capital projects such as the purchase of a new ladder truck, the Third Street paving and street maintenance fund, and UV treatment equipment in the sewer fund. Some projects budgeted for FY 2026, including the construction activity of the new firehouse, have not begun, which continues to keep expenditures below the benchmark level at this point of the year. Overall, the town's financial position remains stable through the first nine months of the fiscal year. Revenue continues to track within expected ranges, and expenditures are below budget.

DISCUSSION: SIDEWALKS

Town Manager Scott Davis reported that staff were returning with information on two items:

- Question was raised on how to handle exceptions to zoning rules and if there is some leeway for topographical issues.

The subdivision ordinance was provided to Council members which shows some leeway upon staff based on the topography when land is being subdivided.

- Information on concrete versus asphalt regarding multi-use paths.

Public Works Director Stephen Edwards shared detailed information on the cost, maintenance, and longevity of sidewalks for both concrete and asphalt materials.

Discussion was held on keeping the multi-use path as an available option and the usage of street maintenance funds to maintain multi-use paths in a neighborhood. The path must be tied to the roadway itself for those funds to be used. There was a consensus to return the ordinance as drafted back to the Planning Commission for a Public Hearing in June, and a Public Hearing with the Council in July.

DISCUSSION: ALLEY AND RIGHT-OF-WAY ABANDONMENT-WEYANOKE PARK SECTION I SUBDIVISION ON BUFFALOE LANE

Ms. Atkins-Austin provided a report on the alley and right-of-way abandonment request. The applicant purchased 17 of the parcels from the Weyanoke Park Section I subdivision and the 10-acre parcel to the west of the subdivision and is seeking to abandon the 20 ft alley between the lots on the west side of Buffalo Lane and the 10-acre parcel as well as the 50-ft unopened right-of-way between lots 14 and 15. It was reported the Department of Community Development sees no reason not to approve the ordinance for abandonment of this alley and unopened street right-of-way.

Questions were asked about the ability to develop the property if located in a flood plain. Ms. Atkins-Austin advised that some parcels near the front of the subdivision that fall within the

floodway may not be developed but land within the special flood hazard area may as long as it complies with the ordinance. The ordinance was approved two years ago with updates to the FEMA maps. A public hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 245 is scheduled for the next week's regular Council meeting.

DISCUSSION: PROPOSED FY2026-2027 TOWN BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Town Manager Davis reported the topic being brought forward again for any additional questions or concerns.

Mr. Pairet questioned duplicate pages within the proposed capital improvement plan and if those pages were factored into the total cost of the CIP for each year. The Town Manager clarified that the duplicate pages were not included in the total costs. Mr. Pairet expressed thoughts that the process should be reviewed to ensure there is not a repeat in future years, given the challenges and concessions made this year with balancing the budget. He emphasized that the needs should be prioritized instead of the wants. The Town Manager stressed the importance of identifying the needs early to plan ahead. He noted that when a year comes up and the funding is not available, a project can be pushed off until a later time.

Mr. Hardy added comments of wanting the Town to set aside money for capital improvement projects without the need to take on debt.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager advised his report to be provided at next week's regular meeting.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

Mr. Hardy commented on a request received about signage needing to be addressed at the shopping center. A discussion was held on the plan to review changes to the sign ordinance. A July start date for Council to review was mentioned and the need to have information to the Town Manager on sections of the zoning ordinance for review.

Mr. Pairet was pleased that most of the road paving work is finished and thinks the work was done well despite some challenges. He reported being appreciative of everyone's patience and cooperation during the process.

Mr. Dwyer shared feedback from a downtown resident who frequently walks dogs on the High Bridge Trail and who raised concerns about the amount of dog waste there. From a conversation the resident had with a Town staff member, it was mentioned that the Town may have extra dog waste bags and disposal stations. A suggestion was made to install one in the

Downtown Plaza area to encourage better cleanup by trail users. The Town Manager stated that he could contact Daniel Jordan due to the trail property. Mr. Dwyer mentioned the disposal station could be placed in that area somewhere on the Town's property.

Mr. Reid reported on resident complaints concerning trash cans being left out on sidewalks longer than allowed and a couple of unkept vacant properties. Ms. Atkins-Austin reported that letters have been sent to the property address and a certain number of days are allowed to resolve the issue. If the complaint is not taken care of, a contractor will be sent to cut the grass on the property, and then a bill will be mailed. Mr. Reid stated it has been a while since any maintenance has been done.

Mrs. Amos remarked that the paving job looked good and offered a thank you.

Mayor Vincent noted another new business, Bamboo Café, has opened on Main Street across from the Courthouse, and mentioned the cupcake shop and several of the newer businesses, Savour Restaurant, Farmville Mercantile, Persimmon Market and Eatery and the Fox and Lamb. He offered thanks to all the enterprising entrepreneurs who make downtown Farmville a fun place to visit.

CLOSED SESSION – 2.2-3711 A.3.

On motion by Mr. Yoelin, seconded by Mr. Hunter, and with Council members Hardy, Amos, Reid, Dwyer, Pairet, Yoelin, and Hunter voting “yes”, Council went into closed session under the provisions of Paragraph A.3 of Section 2.2-3711, Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, and Paragraph A.5 of Section 2.2-3711, Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Farmville Town Council has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Farmville Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

Farmville Town Council
Regular Work Session of May 6, 2026

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Farmville Town Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Farmville Town Council.

VOTE: Seven ayes, No noes

MOTION: Yoelin SECOND: Hunter

AYES: Amos, Reid, Dwyer, Pairet, Yoelin, Hunter, and Hardy

NOES: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

Clerk of Council

With no other business and on a motion by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Mr. Pairet, with all stating "aye" in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Brian R. Vincent, Mayor

Mary H. McKay, Clerk of Council