

MOUNT PLEASANT

EST. 1859

NORTH CAROLINA

**Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.**

Attendance: Mayor Tony Lapish
Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner Lori Furr
Commissioner Steven Dixon
Commissioner Liz Poole
Commissioner Mike Steiner (absent)
Commissioner Justin Simpson
Town Administrator Randy Holloway
Town Attorney John Scarbrough
Town Clerk Amy Schueneman

Also Present: Erin Burris, Fire Chief Dustin Sneed, Deputy Chief Austin McDonald, Scott O'Loughlin, Lt. Jerry Taylor, John & Dana Hilfirty, and 1 unknown.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tony Lapish called the meeting to order.

Discuss possible increase of Rural Fire Tax Rate

Fire Chief Dustin Sneed and Deputy Chief Austin McDonald presented a PowerPoint presentation (*included in the Minute Book*) to the Board requesting a .02¢ increase to the Rural Fire Tax Rate for FY26/27. The reason for the increase would be to set aside funds in a Capital Reserve account for future fire station #2 on Walker Road and the apparatus that will be needed. The Fire Chief would also like to increase firefighter wages by \$1.00 an hour.

Randy Holloway explained to the Board to keep the amount paid by Rural and Town residents equitable, if there is a .02¢ increase to the Rural Fire Tax Rate, it is only fair to increase the Town Tax Rate by the same amount. A chart displaying both Rural and Town Tax Rates from FY13/14 until present was provided to show the stability of the tax rates over the years. Also, Mr. Holloway stated that no one received raises since the Pay Study 2 years ago and the preliminary discussion was to increase all salaries by 2.5%, which would be approximately .50¢ for firefighters. In fairness to all staff, if a \$1.00 increase (roughly 5%) was given to the firefighters, it should also apply to Town Staff: Public Works, Water Treatment Plant, and Town Hall staff.

The Board discussed a possible .01¢ versus .02¢ increase and the financial effect on the residents. This discussion is opposite of the Towns' normal budgeting process because Cabarrus County moved their workshop up due to the \$13 million shortfall. Normally, the Budget workshop in March would take place prior to notifying the County of a request for a possible increase in tax rates.

The consensus of the Board was to go ahead and ask Cabarrus County for the .02¢ increase to the Rural Tax Rate with the option to lower it after the Budget Workshop.

TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT

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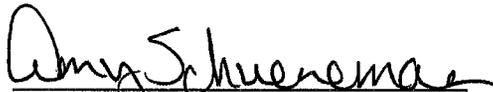
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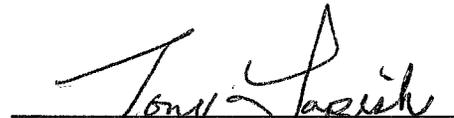
A motion to request a .02¢ increase in the Rural Fire Tax Rate was made by Commissioner Simpson with a second by Commissioner Furr. All Board Members were in favor. (4-0, Commissioner Steiner absent)

Adjournment

With nothing else to come before the Board, Commissioner Furr made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Simpson seconded the motion. All Board Members were in favor. (4-0, Commissioner Steiner absent)

By our signatures, the following minutes were approved as submitted on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 in the Regular Meeting.


Amy Schueneman, Town Clerk


Mayor Tony Lapish

