



## MINUTES

The King City Council convened for its regular meeting at King City Hall, Council Chambers, 229 S. Main St, King, on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 6:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and make decisions on various city matters. Present at the meeting were Councilman Tyler Bowles, Mayor Pro Tem Jane Cole, Mayor Rick McCraw, Councilwoman Terri Fowler, Councilman Michael Lane, City Engineer Ben Marion, City Attorney Brad Friesen, City Manager Scott Barrow, City Clerk Nicole Branshaw, Director of Finance & Personnel Susan O'Brien, Intern City Planner Emerson Wright, Fire Chief Steven Roberson, Police Chief Jordan Boyette, Police Lt. M. Perdue, Senior Center Director Paula Hall, Collections Clerk Tiffany George, Building Inspector Rick Gordon, and Chaplain Rick Hughes.

### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM on Monday, April 6, 2026. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, with all remaining standing for the invocation given by Chaplain Rick Hughes.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor presented the agenda items. Adding the Community Shred Event on May 19, 2026, from 1-3, and correcting that the Community Appearance Commission Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16th.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor McCraw opened the public comment period at 6:04 PM, reading the guidelines for public participation, including the 3-minute time limit for individual speakers and rules for courteous behavior.

1. Bob Penn, a veteran affiliated with American Legion Post 290, addressed the Council regarding the upcoming arrival of The Moving Wall, a traveling Vietnam War Memorial, scheduled to arrive on April 30th. He requested that the Police Department be made aware of the convoy coming off the highway exit that morning, asked for American flags to be displayed throughout the city in honor of the nation's 250th anniversary, and inquired whether the American Legion Auxiliary would be permitted to place yellow ribbons on city poles during the event. He noted that the wall would be open 24 hours a day, guarded by the militia, and that a museum display would also be available in the main hall of the post.

Mayor McCraw addressed the Council informally, asking if there were any objections to displaying American flags or allowing the placement of yellow ribbons. Councilman Lane affirmed there could never be too many American flags displayed. The Council indicated its general support and directed staff to coordinate accordingly.

There being no one else to give written or verbal requests, wishing to speak. Mayor McCraw closed the public comment portion of the meeting at 6:07 pm. **\*\*SEE DOCUMENT 1\*\***

### 1. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

Councilman Lane requested the addition of two items to the closed session agenda: one regarding the location or expansion of industries (business development) and one regarding real property acquisition, noting that a draft email with these additions had inadvertently not been sent prior to the meeting.

**Motion:** Motion to amend the agenda to add two closed session items, N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 — (a) (4) business development and (a) (5) real property acquisition, was made by Councilman Lane and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Councilwoman Fowler moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mayor Pro Tem Cole seconded. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

## **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor McCraw explained that the consent agenda items were considered noncontroversial and administrative in nature. No items were pulled from the consent agenda for separate discussions.

The following consent items were approved:

### **A. Approval of Minutes**

- a. February 6, 2026, Regular Meeting
- b. March 2, 2026, Regular Meeting

### **B. Approval From Council to Move Forward with Amending the Enforcement Section in Chapter 4 and Chapter 32-129 Special Use Permit Update**

### **C. Consideration of Renewing Agreement with Stokes County Senior Services for Senior Meal Site**

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Cole moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Councilman Lane seconded. Motion carried 4-0. **\*\*SEE DOCUMENT 2\*\***

## **3. Items for Presentation**

### **a. Presentation of Proclamation**

Mayor McCraw read a proclamation declaring National Library Day (April 16, 2026), National Library Workers Day (April 21, 2026), and National Library Week (April 19–25, 2026). The proclamation recognized libraries as vital community hubs that provide free and equitable access to knowledge, technology, and programming, and encouraged all residents to visit their local libraries. The proclamation was presented to the King Library Branch Manager, Gretchen Parker.

Council members expressed appreciation for the library's role as a community center, with Councilman Lane noting that the library is far more than books and sharing that reading to children at the library is among his favorite activities.

## **4. Public Hearing**

### **a. Public Hearing: Consideration of the Closure of Portions of Rupert Hall and Slate Alley**

Mayor McCraw opened the public hearing at 6:15 PM. No members of the public signed up to speak, and the hearing was closed at 6:15 PM.

City staff explained that the request came from 2A Real Estate, LLC, the owner of property on both sides of the affected areas. The portions proposed for closure include a section of Rupert Hall Alley, over which 2A has an existing building encroachment, and a small triangle at the top of Slate Alley on the far side of Kent Street. Staff noted that the reversion rights for the closed portions would go to the adjoining property owners, which in this case is 2A on both sides.

Councilman Lane asked whether the closure would remain active if the associated land purchase transaction under Action Item 12d were to fall through. Staff indicated confidence in the overall process. Mayor Pro Tem Cole noted a minor discrepancy in the spelling of "Rupert" on the displayed map, which staff attributed to handwriting. Staff clarified that formal action on the ordinance would follow a seven-day period and directed the Council to the associated action item. **\*\*SEE DOCUMENT 3\*\***

## **5. Information Items**

### **a. Informational Item Presented by Mr. Darrell Calloway, President of Foothills Vocational Charter High School**

Mr. Darrell Calloway, accompanied by board member Lori and others, presented information on Foothills Vocational Charter High School, an initiative formed by a group of trades professionals and educators to address a critical shortage of skilled trade workers in the region.

Mr. Calloway explained that the removal of trades programs from schools across North Carolina in the 1990s to make way for computer education had created what he described as a "trades desert," with no substantial pipeline of new workers entering fields such as plumbing, welding, electrical, and construction. He noted that major companies, including Siemens, had approached the group, expressing an urgent need for skilled workers, and that many existing trade business owners in their 60s are worried about the future of their businesses with no one to pass them on to.

Lori, who helped write the charter school application after retiring from nearly 30 years of high school teaching, spoke to the educational philosophy behind the school. She emphasized that the school's focus would not only be on hard technical skills needed to enter the workforce, but also on soft skills such as adaptability, teamwork, communication, critical thinking, and creativity—areas she observed declining in students over her teaching career. She noted that the school would serve students from any LEA, as well as homeschooled and private school students, and would enroll approximately 350 to 380 students. As a public charter school, it would be part of the public school system.

Mr. Calloway added that the school planned to equip labs with advanced technology, including laser welders, at a level beyond what the county school system could afford, and offered to open those facilities to county schools for labs at no cost to taxpayers. He noted discussions with area building owners about a potential location and mentioned a fundraiser planned for the coming weekend.

Council members were broadly enthusiastic. Councilman Lane praised the effort and noted that there are currently over 400,000 blue-collar jobs unfilled nationwide. Councilwoman Fowler and Mayor Pro Tem Cole each thanked Mr. Calloway and the board for their dedication and vision. Councilman Bowles, himself a mechanic by trade, expressed personal excitement. Mayor McCraw observed that the presence of a skilled trades school could be a draw for businesses such as the planned data center, creating a direct pipeline from education to employment.

Mr. Calloway committed to keeping the Council updated on the school's progress.

## **6. Discussion Items**

### **a. Choose a Date for a Meeting with Kimley-Horn and Choose Members of a Comprehensive Plan Committee**

City Planner Intern Emerson Wright reported that staff had been meeting with Kimley-Horn to begin updating the City's comprehensive plan. The next step in the process was a kickoff meeting between the City Council and Kimley-Horn, with a proposed timeframe of a two-hour afternoon meeting. Kimley-Horn offered the following available dates: Tuesday, April 14; Thursday, April 16; Monday, April 20; Tuesday, April 21; and Wednesday, April 22.

After a lengthy discussion about scheduling conflicts and other prior commitments, the Council was unable to settle on any of the originally offered dates. The Council ultimately asked staff to check whether Kimley-Horn could accommodate the morning of Tuesday, April 28, with an 8:00–10:00 AM window, and directed Emerson Wright to confirm availability.

Regarding the Comprehensive Plan Committee membership, the Council discussed and approved the following nominees:

- **City Council Representative:** Mayor Rick McCraw
- **Planning Board Representative:** Jeff Walker (Planning Board Chairman, confirmed present at the meeting)
- **Planning Staff:** Todd Cox and Emerson Wright
- **City Engineer:** Ben Marion
- **Developer/Realtor/Contractor Representative:** Ashley Mitchell
- **Citizen at Large:** Dean Craver, nominated by Mayor Pro Tem Cole on the basis of his many years as Planning Board chairman and his deep knowledge of the city

***Motion:** Motion to approve Mayor McCraw as the Council's representative on the Comprehensive Plan Committee was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cole and seconded by Councilman Lane. The motion carried unanimously.*

***Motion:** Motion to appoint Jeff Walker as the Planning Board representative was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cole, and Councilman Lane seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

***Motion:** Motion to appoint Ashley Mitchell as the developer/realtor/contractor representative was made by Councilman Lane and seconded by Councilwoman Fowler. The motion carried unanimously.*

***Motion:** Motion to appoint Dean Craver as the citizen-at-large representative was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cole and seconded by Councilman Bowles. The motion carried unanimously.*

## 7. Action Items

### A. Consideration of Approval of Audit Contract

Director of Finance and Personnel Susan O'Brien presented the audit contract for approval. The contract is the standard form used by the Local Government Commission (LGC). Mayor Pro Tem Cole noted a clause marked "N/A" relating to contracts with anticipated audit submission dates exceeding six months, which O'Brien confirmed was standard LGC language that did not apply in this case. O'Brien noted the prior year's total audit cost, including single audit, was \$33,525, and confirmed the current contract amount was consistent. Councilman Lane asked whether staff found the auditors thorough and whether they were satisfied working with them; O'Brien confirmed they were.

***Motion:** Motion to approve the audit contract was made by Councilwoman Fowler and seconded by Councilman Bowles. The motion carried unanimously.*

**B. Consideration of Budget Amendment 2025-06.06** Finance Director O'Brien presented Budget Amendment 2025-06.06, which included the following adjustments, all offset by revenue or insurance proceeds:

- **\$2,711** added to Public Works for a truck damaged during the winter storm, offset by insurance.
- **\$2,366** added to the Fire Department for a prior-year truck accident claim settled in the current year, offset by insurance.

- **\$2,160** for unanticipated overtime (hustle pay), offset by revenue from a film production company that used city resources for filming standby and Prowlers football.
- **\$11,154** to the Police Department for the upfit of a replacement vehicle (expedition to expedition), offset by insurance.
- **\$25,000** moved from Public Works bulk fuel to Public Buildings to replace two HVAC units at the library.
- Internal Police Department reallocations: \$2,500 from equipment repairs, \$10,000 from supplies and materials, and \$5,000 from K-9 expenses moved into vehicle repair. Staff noted the K-9 funds were available due to a dog with health issues that, while not yet formally retired, was no longer active.
- **\$10,000** drawn from interest income and **\$50,000** drawn from fund balance to cover unexpected HVAC repairs and officer payout obligations when officers departed, requiring payout of accrued vacation, holiday, and comp time.

Councilman Lane asked about the officer payouts, and O'Brien explained that this is a state-mandated obligation and that the Police Department had attempted to absorb the costs by delaying hiring, but could not fully offset them. Councilman Lane confirmed the fire truck accident occurred while the vehicle was running emergency miles.

Mayor McCraw raised a concern about body repair for city vehicles, noting that a local King body shop had contacted him to ask why they were not being given the opportunity to bid on the work. O'Brien explained that the insurance company sends an appraiser and often directs vehicles to specific shops, and that police and fire vehicles often require specialized work beyond the capability of a standard body shop. The matter was noted for follow-up, with staff to explore whether more local vendors could be included in the process where feasible.

Mayor Pro Tem Cole expressed concern about continued draws on the fund balance without knowing the current balance and requested that staff provide a report showing how much has been drawn from the fund balance to date. She stated she would vote for the amendment, given its urgency, but made clear her discomfort with the practice.

**Motion:** Councilwoman Fowler made a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2025-06.06, which was seconded by Councilman Lane. The motion carried unanimously. **\*\*SEE DOCUMENT 4\*\***

### **C. Consent and Agreement for RJR 4.348-Acre Tract Land Donation**

City staff presented a consent agreement through which Reynolds American (RJR) seeks to donate a 4.348-acre tract of land to the City of King. Staff noted the parcel was expected to be approximately 5 acres, but was slightly smaller upon survey. The donation requires annexation of the property into the city prior to transfer, which, in turn, requires amending a 1991 tri-party agreement involving Reynolds, the City of King, and the Village of Tobaccoville, which originally prohibited annexation of that tract.

The consent agreement, reviewed and found favorable by the City's attorney, requests Council approval so that RJR can proceed through the necessary steps. Staff confirmed that Reynolds was simultaneously presenting to the Village of Tobaccoville-related party that same evening to obtain their consent as well. The final paragraph of the consent agreement confirmed that the existing tri-party agreement, including provisions regarding tax-equivalent payments to the Village of Tobaccoville, would remain in full force and effect.

Councilman Bowles asked whether a traffic island shown on the map near the property would require modification. Staff confirmed that DOT had been consulted and was aware. Councilman Lane confirmed with Fire Chief Steve Roberson that the property would serve the needs for a planned fire station, and Roberson confirmed it would be a significant step forward. Staff noted the tract also encompasses other city infrastructure.

**Motion:** Councilwoman Fowler made a motion to approve the Consent and Agreement for the RJR 4.348-Acre Tract Land Donation. Councilman Lane seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **D. Agreement for Purchase of Land from 2A Real Estate, LLC**

Staff presented two items under this action: first, Ordinance 2026-05 to permanently close the portions of Rupert Hall Alley and Slate Alley identified in the public hearing; and second, a purchase agreement for a parcel from 2A Real Estate, LLC to be used for downtown parking, with a due diligence deadline of April 30 and a closing date of May 15.

Mayor Pro Tem Cole made a motion to approve the ordinance, and separately read the full legal description of the parcel into the record for the purchase agreement.

**Motion:** Motion to approve Ordinance 2026-05 to permanently close portions of Rupert Hall Alley and Slate Alley was made by Councilman Bowles and seconded by Councilwoman Fowler. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Cole made a motion to approve the Agreement for Purchase of Land from 2A Real Estate, LLC, including a 10-foot non-exclusive easement for pedestrian access and utilities over Track B, and it was seconded by Councilman Bowles. The motion carried unanimously. **\*\*SEE DOCUMENT 5\*\***

#### **E. Resolution 2026-07 Awarding Service Badge and Declaring Service Weapon – Officer Aulbrey Chase Sawyers (Retirement)**

Resolution 2026-07 was presented to recognize the retirement of Officer Aulbrey Chase Sawyers and to award him his service badge and declare his service weapon to him. Councilman Lane offered remarks noting that Officer Sawyers had nearly made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, and that it was meaningful that the department was now honoring him with his badge at retirement.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Cole made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-07 awarding the service badge and declaring the service weapon of Officer Aulbrey Chase Sawyers upon his retirement, and seconded by Councilman Bowles. The motion carried unanimously. **\*\*SEE DOCUMENT 6\*\***

#### **F. 5 Year Strategic and Economic Development Plan for Downtown King**

##### **Downtown King 5-Year Strategic Plan Presentation Summary**

Ms. Lizzie Morrison, Community Economic Development Planner for the Piedmont Triad Region with NC Commerce, presented a draft of the Downtown King 5-Year Strategic Plan. She noted that 510 survey responses were collected from the public, an impressive number for a community of King's size, and thanked Michael Lane and the Downtown King Partnership for their extensive involvement in the process.

The plan is organized around three strategies derived from a community visioning process: (1) Downtown King offers thoughtfully crafted culinary experiences; (2) Downtown King offers artfully curated specialty shops; and (3) Downtown King provides convenient access to outdoor adventure. Ms. Morrison explained that these strategies were drawn directly from group vision statements generated at a public workshop and were not imposed from the outside.

The plan includes SMART goals for each strategy, such as increasing dining-related downtown visitation by 25 percent by 2030, reducing long-term vacant storefronts by 20 percent, recruiting 3–5 anchor retail businesses, and supporting 1–2 new lodging facilities linked to outdoor recreation. Notably recommended actions discussed included: exploring a neighborhood bodega or boutique grocery option; assessing the feasibility of a social district; creating a downtown property inventory; improving the Dalton Street and Main

Street intersection in coordination with NCDOT; installing public art and pedestrian-scale lighting; identifying potential lodging opportunities; and developing itineraries linking outdoor recreation to downtown businesses.

Ms. Morrison recommended that the Council formalize its relationship with the Downtown King Partnership, potentially through a service agreement or MOU, and suggested the city consider ex officio representation on the Partnership's board. She also encouraged the Council to lean on NC Commerce for guidance on implementation going forward.

Mayor McCraw expressed interest in using the plan's economic data—particularly comparative figures for King and Stokes County—when presenting to county commissioners in hopes of securing county-level investment in downtown initiatives, noting that similar partnerships have worked in communities such as Mount Airy and Pilot Mountain.

Mayor Pro Tem Cole asked whether residents within the plan's identified "focus area" had been notified of its inclusion. Ms. Morrison clarified that the focus area was a loose study boundary rather than a defined ordinance district, and that no actions in the plan would impose additional taxes or obligations on private residences within it. Mayor Pro Tem Cole also expressed concern about the traffic implications of any future streetscape work, particularly at the Main and Dalton intersection. Ms. Morrison affirmed that any streetscape plan would require further engineering and community process well beyond the current document.

Councilwoman Fowler expressed enthusiasm about the AI-generated visuals in the document and thanked the Downtown King Partnership and Ms. Morrison for the work. Councilman Lane observed that the parking lot land purchase approved earlier in the meeting already represented implementation of a plan recommendation before the plan itself had been adopted.

Given the volume of material—approximately 80 pages sent earlier in the week—Council agreed to table adoption until the May meeting to allow all members adequate time to review and submit questions.

Motion to table adoption of the Downtown King 5-Year Strategic Plan until the May 2026 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Bowles and seconded by Mayor McCraw. The motion carried unanimously.

***Motion:** Councilman Bowles made a motion to table the item until the May meeting. Councilman Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

## **7. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Mayor McCraw asked if the council had any questions about the departmental reports. He thanked all departments for their reports. The Council acknowledged receipt of all departmental reports.

Council noted that the Planning and Inspection report reflected 72 new homes permitted in the past month, describing the pace of development as "unbelievable." He also noted that King Steel and Stud had received its certificate of occupancy, with the expectation of new employment opportunities in the city.

It was requested that the Police Chief consider establishing a more regular presence at Living Word Christian Academy on Newsom Road, noting that the school had grown to approximately 60 students and was not currently included in community outreach visits like those at First Baptist and Calvary.

***Motion:** Councilwoman Fowler moved to accept the departmental reports. Councilman Lane seconded. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.*

**ITEMS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

Councilman Bowles raised a concern from a citizen email regarding increased cut-through traffic on Maple Street and Phelps Drive. He asked whether anything could be done to mitigate traffic on those residential roads. Mayor McCraw confirmed that all Council members had received the email, which contained several suggestions. Staff indicated the standard process would begin with the Police Department conducting a spot survey of the area, with recommendations then flowing to Public Works or the Engineering Department.

Mayor Pro Tem Cole noted she had personally observed drivers cutting through neighborhoods around Main and Dalton to avoid the stoplight because there was no left-turn signal. She expressed concern that those roads were not designed for the volume of traffic they are now receiving and stated that speed mitigation tools—including the possibility of speed humps or inverted speed bumps—needed to be considered. She also noted she had recently spoken with a state senator who is still pursuing funding for left-turn lane improvements at that intersection.

Councilwoman Fowler asked whether Google Maps directions to Central Park could be corrected, as the current listing directs visitors to a service entrance rather than the main park entrance. Staff confirmed the address on file with Google—304 Felts Drive—corresponds to the service entrance, and that efforts were underway to correct this. Councilman Bowles noted that his church was experiencing the same issue with Google Maps.

Councilwoman Fowler also suggested that the city consider posting a speed limit sign on Maple Street, as the lack of signage may lead drivers to assume a higher limit. Staff agreed to look into it.

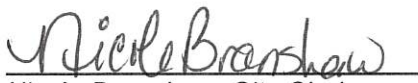
Council members offered general remarks of appreciation to city staff, referencing a successful Little League opening day ceremony—at which a mayoral proclamation was read in honor of a community member named Paige—as well as a well-attended Easter egg hunt coordinated by Parks staff. Mayor McCraw thanked Chaplain and staff for a Veterans Day ceremony at the American Legion and noted his attendance at the town and state dinner, a career fair at Calvary Baptist, and a program at the Senior Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Fowler made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 PM. Councilman Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

**\*\*\* Clerk's Note: See Document 1-6 for supporting documents. \*\*\***

Attest:

  
Nicole Branshaw, City Clerk



Approved by:

  
Richard E. McCraw, Mayor



Date: April 6, 2026

## PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

All persons who wish to speak MUST sign up for the Public Comment period unless you wish to speak during a public hearing, in which case you must sign up for the Public Hearing. ALL SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES.

### PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION (If Any)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>City Resident?</u>
1.	Bob Penn			336 823 2106	Flags	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
2.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
3.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
4.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
5.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
6.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
7.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
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9.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
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12.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
13.						<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no

BOARD: City Council  
 DATE: 4/6/2026  
 DOCUMENT #: 1 PAGES: 1

In many cases, the City Council will receive your comments but take no action at the meeting.  
 A staff member will contact you to follow up on your concerns.

BOARD: City Council

DATE: 4/6/2026

DOCUMENT #: 2 PAGES: 1

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF STOKES

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is entered into this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2026 by and between City of King, located at King Recreation Acres ("Meal Site"), and Stokes County Senior Services ("Senior Services").

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, Senior Services wishes to operate its meals program at the above-mentioned Meal Site; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Meal Site has agreed to provide use of their building, and its kitchen and dining area as set forth herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, based upon the foregoing agreements and acknowledgements, and in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants and agreements hereinafter recited and the undertakings of the parties, each to the other, the parties hereto agree, and covenant as follows:

1. Meal Site agrees to have its building available from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, specifically its kitchen and dining areas, with the following exceptions: (a) in case of emergency or (b) exceptional need by the City of King.
2. Senior Services agrees to pay the Meal Site the sum of \$200.00 per month, payable by the first day of each month.
3. This Agreement shall begin on July 1, 2026, and terminate on June 30, 2027, unless renewed on a yearly basis by the mutual consent of the parties.
4. Either party may terminate this Agreement by giving the other party thirty (30) days' written notice of said intent to terminate the Agreement.
5. The Meal Site agrees to provide the following equipment for Senior Services use during the required hours stated in the Agreement: (a) a stove and (b) a refrigerator.
6. To meet the requirements set forth in the N.C. Division of Aging Service Standards, the Meal Site agrees to heat the facility to at least 72 degrees during colder months and cool to 70 degrees during warmer months.
7. The contact person for Senior Services is Vicky East, (336) 593-8156. The contact person for the Meal Site is Site Manager, Sarah McHugh, at 983-9298. The Contact for the City of King is Scott Barrow, City Manager.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement on the day and year first above written.

Stokes County Senior Services  
By: Vicky East

Meal Site (City of King)  
By: T. Scott Barrow  
4-13-26

North Carolina  
STOKES COUNTY

BOARD: City Council  
DATE: 4/16/2026  
DOCUMENT #: 3 PAGES: 4

### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Before the undersigned, a Notary Public of said County and State, duly commissioned, qualified and authorized by law to administer oaths, personally appeared Serena Bowman who being first duly sworn, deposes and says: that he (she) is Regional General Manager (Publisher or other officer or employee authorized to make affidavit) of ADAMS PUBLISHING GROUP, LLC, engaged in the publication of a newspaper known as THE STOKES NEWS, published, issued, and entered as periodicals class mail in the city of King in said County and State; that he (she) is authorized to make this affidavit and sworn statement; that the notice or other legal advertisement, a true copy of which is attached hereto was published in THE STOKES NEWS on the following dates:

3-5, 3-12, 3-19, 3-26-26

and that the said newspaper in which such notice, paper, document or legal advertisement was published was, at the time of each and every such publication, a newspaper meeting all of the requirements and qualifications of Section 1-597 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and was a qualified newspaper within the meaning of Section 1-597 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

This 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026

Serena Bowman

Signature of person making affidavit

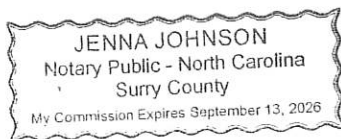
Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of

March, 2026

Jenna Johnson

Notary Public

My Commission expires: September 13, 2026



Resolution fixing the date of a public hearing on the question of permanent closure of a portion of Rupert Hall Alley pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-299

Whereas, there exists an alleyway known as "Rupert Hall" (the "Alley"), a portion of which bisects the following described real property (the "Property"):

Tracts A, B & E of the Survey for C.T. (Inez B.) McGee, Plat Book 5, Page 183, Stokes County Registry, as conveyed to 2A Real Estate, LLC in the North Carolina General Warranty Deed recorded at Book 797, Page 1115, Stokes County Registry, having the following PINs:

5992934522.000  
5992935620.000

The Property is commonly known as 120 E. Dalton Road.

The Alley is generally located between the two above-stated tax parcels, traveling in a generally East-West direction from Main Street to the North-South alleyway known as "Slate Alley" adjacent to 132 E. Dalton Road.

Whereas, the owner of the Property has asked the City to permanently close a portion of the Alley, described as follows and referred to hereinbelow as the "Alley Portion":

Being a portion of the alleys as shown in PB 5, PG 183 and PB 15, PG 123 and more particularly described as follows:

Area 1:

Beginning at an pk nail found having NC Grid coordinate of N: 923,600.19' E: 1,599,582.53', said nail being N 23°00'39" E 52.71' from an pk nail found in the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) and the East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) and in the West line of a 20' alley known as "Slate Alley", being the SE corner of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183, thence with the West line of said alley and East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC, N 11°27'16" E 22.00' to a point at the terminus of the West line of said alley and the NE corner of 2A Real Estate, LLC in the South line of E. Dalton Road, thence with the South line of E. Dalton Road S 72°15'54" E 4.43' to point, a new corner in "Slate Alley", thence on a new line S 23°00'39" W 21.96' to the point of beginning, containing 0.001 Acres (48 sq ft±).

Area 2:

Beginning at a pk nail found, said nail being S 23°00'39" W 52.71' from a pk nail found, said pk nail being the beginning point of the above described Tract 1 and having NC Grid coordinate of N: 923,600.19' E: 1,599,582.53' and in the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) and the East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) and in the West line of a

20' alley known as "Slate Alley", being the SE corner of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183, thence with the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) S 23°00'39" W 10.05' to a pk nail found the NE corner of Tract "A" of PB 5, PG 183, thence along the South line of a 10&#39; alley known as "Rupert Hall Alley" and the North line of Tract "A" N 71°24'19" W 146.69' to a 5/8" rebar set, thence on a new line N 17°55' 29" E 10.02' to a point in the North line of said 10&#39; alley; alley at the SE corner of Gary Tilton (DB 373, PG 2218) in the West line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797 PG 1115) said point being at the base of a fence post in line of chain link fence, thence S 71°24'19" E 147.66' along the North line of said 10' alley and the South line of tract "B" of P 5, PG 183 to the point of beginning, containing 0.023 Acres (988 sq ft±).

Whereas, the City has investigated the impact of closing the Alley Portion and believes that such closure is not contrary to the public interest and that no individual owning property in the vicinity of said portion of the Alley would be deprived of reasonable means of ingress and egress to his property by its closure; and

Whereas, the City reserves a right, title, and interest in any improvements or easements within the Alley pursuant to G.S. 160A-299(f), including utility, drainage, pedestrian, landscaping, conservation, or other easements currently existing, any.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the King City Council of the City of King, North Carolina that:

Section 1. The City of King declares its intent to permanently close the Alley Portion while reserving all right, title, and interest in any improvements or easements within the Alley pursuant to G.S. 160A-299(f), including utility, drainage, pedestrian, landscaping, conservation, or other easements currently existing, if any.

Section 2. A public hearing of the question of the permanent closure of a portion of Rupert Hall Alley shall be held at City Hall at 6 pm on April 6, 2026, at which any person may be heard on the question of whether the closing would be detrimental to the public interest or the property rights of any individual.

Section 3. Notice of the public hearing shall be published once a week for four successive weeks prior to the public hearing in the Stokes News, a newspaper having general circulation in the City of King, NC.

PUBLISH: 3-5, 3-12, 3-19, 3-26-26 306084

**Please publish this in the Stokes News for 4 consecutive weeks: 03/05/26, 03/12/26, 03/19/2026, and 03/26/2026.**

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**City of King**

**Resolution 2026-03**

**Resolution fixing the date of a public hearing on the question of permanent closure of a portion of Rupert Hall Alley pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-299**

**Whereas**, there exists an alleyway known as "Rupert Hall" (the "Alley"), a portion of which bisects the following described real property (the "Property"):

Tracts A, B & E of the Survey for C.T. (Inez B.) McGee, Plat Book 5, Page 183, Stokes County Registry, as conveyed to 2A Real Estate, LLC in the North Carolina General Warranty Deed recorded at Book 797, Page 1115, Stokes County Registry, having the following PINs:

5992934522.000

5992935620.000

The Property is commonly known as 120 E. Dalton Road.

The Alley is generally located between the two above-stated tax parcels, traveling in a generally East-West direction from Main Street to the North-South alleyway known as "Slate Alley" adjacent to 132 E. Dalton Road.

**Whereas**, the owner of the Property has asked the City to permanently close a portion of the Alley, described as follows and referred to hereinbelow as the "Alley Portion":

Being a portion of the alleys as shown in PB 5, PG 183 and PB 15, PG 123 and more particularly described as follows:

Area 1:

Beginning at an pk nail found having NC Grid coordinate of N: 923,600.19' E: 1,599,582.53', said nail being N 23°00'39" E 52.71' from an pk nail found in the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) and the East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) and in the West line of a 20' alley known as "Slate Alley", being the SE corner of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183, thence with the West line of said alley and East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC, N 11°27'16" E 22.00' to a point at the terminus of the West line of said alley and the NE corner of 2A Real Estate, LLC in the South line of E. Dalton Road, thence with the South line of E. Dalton Road S 72°15'54" E 4.43' to point, a new corner in "Slate Alley", thence on a

new line S 23°00'39" W 21.96' to the point of beginning, containing 0.001 Acres (48 sq ft±).

Area 2:

Beginning at a pk nail found, said nail being S 23°00'39" W 52.71' from a pk nail found, said pk nail being the beginning point of the above described Tract 1 and having NC Grid coordinate of N: 923,600.19' E: 1,599,582.53' and in the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) and the East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) and in the West line of a 20' alley known as "Slate Alley", being the SE corner of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183, thence with the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) S 23°00'39" W 10.05' to a pk nail found the NE corner of Tract "A" of PB 5, PG 183, thence along the South line of a 10' alley known as "Rupert Hall Alley" and the North line of Tract "A" N 71°24'19" W 146.69' to a 5/8" rebar set, thence on a new line N 17°55'29" E 10.02' to a point in the North line of said 10' alley at the SE corner of Gary Tilton (DB 373, PG 2218) in the West line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) said point being at the base of a fence post in line of chain link fence, thence S 71°24'19" E 147.66' along the North line of said 10' alley and the South line of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183 to the point of beginning, containing 0.023 Acres (988 sq ft±).

**Whereas**, the City has investigated the impact of closing the Alley Portion and believes that such closure is not contrary to the public interest and that no individual owning property in the vicinity of said portion of the Alley would be deprived of reasonable means of ingress and egress to his property by its closure;

and

**Whereas**, the City reserves all right, title, and interest in any improvements or easements within the Alley pursuant to G.S. 160A-299(f), including utility, drainage, pedestrian, landscaping, conservation, or other easements currently existing, if any.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved**, by the King City Council of the City of King, North Carolina that:

Section 1. The City of King declares its intent to permanently close the Alley Portion while reserving all right, title, and interest in any improvements or easements within the Alley pursuant to G.S. 160A-299(f), including utility, drainage, pedestrian, landscaping, conservation, or other easements currently existing, if any.

Section 2. A public hearing on the question of the permanent closure of a portion of Rupert Hall Alley shall be held at City Hall at 6 pm on April

6, 2026, at which any person may be heard on the question of whether the closing would be detrimental to the public interest or the property rights of any individual.

Section 3. Notice of the public hearing shall be published once a week for four successive weeks prior to the public hearing in the Stokes News, a newspaper having general circulation in the City of King, NC.



CITY OF KING  
 BUDGET AMENDMENT 2025-06.06

Be it hereby ordained by the City Council of the City of King that the following amendment be made to the Budget Ordinance adopted on the 4th day of June 2025, as follows:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>General Fund Expenditures</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>New Approp.</u>
Public Buildings		25,000	176,230
Police		71,154	4,274,322
Fire		4,526	3,379,827
Public Works	25,000	2,711	633,178
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>103,391</b>	

This will result in an increase in the expenditures of the General Fund. The above changes in expenditures will require no adjustment to revenues.

<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>New Approp.</u>
GF Revenues		28,391	12,349,761
GF Fund Balance Appropriated		50,000	115,651
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>78,391</b>	

Section 2. Copies of the budget amendment shall be furnished by the City Clerk to the City Council to the Mayor, Budget Officer and Finance Director for their directions.

Adopted this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

Richard E. McCraw  
 Richard E. McCraw, Mayor

Attest: Nicole Branshaw  
 Nicole Branshaw, City Clerk



<u>Public Works</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Vehicle Repairs	2,711	
Insurance Proceeds		2,711

Truck damage during the winter storm  
Payment has been received.

<u>Fire Department</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Insurance Repairs	2,366	
Insurance Proceeds		2,366
Standby salaries	2,160	
Standby revenue		2,160

Truck accident June 2025, settled in 25-26, and hustles for movie filming standby and Prowlers football.  
All revenues have been received.

<u>Public Buildings</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Capital-Buildings	25,000	
Public Works-Bulk Fuel		25,000

Two HVAC units at the Library need replacing.  
Transfer funds from Public Works to Public Buildings.

<u>Police Department</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Vehicle Repairs - Insurance	11,154	
Insurance Proceeds		11,154

Equipment, painting, graphics for 2022 Ford total loss replacement vehicle  
Payment has been received.

<u>Police Department</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
Vehicle Repairs	17,500	
Equipment Repairs		2,500
Supplies and Materials		10,000
K-9 Expenses		5,000

Request to re-allocate some funds to cover Vehicle Repairs.  
PD has suggested this and will limit further spending from the lines being used.

<u>Police Department</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Building Repairs	10,000	
GF Interest Income		10,000
Salaries	50,000	
Fund Balance		50,000

Unanticipated HVAC repairs for 2 units \$10,000 with remainder to be absorbed  
Payouts for 4 officers. The PD has absorbed some of the cost by delaying hires.

This is the anticipated budget shortage for salaries by June 30.



FILED Apr 07, 2026 FILED ELECTRONICALLY  
AT 11:52 AM  
BOOK 00801 STOKES COUNTY NC  
PAGE 0829 thru 0830 BRANDON HOOKER  
INSTRUMENT # 01692 REGISTER OF DEEDS  
EXCISE TAX \$0.00

**BOARD:** City Council  
**DATE:** 4/6/2026  
**DOCUMENT #:** 5 **PAGES:** 1

**CITY OF KING**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05**

**ORDER TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE PORTIONS OF RUPERT HALL ALLEY & SLATE ALLEY**

**WHEREAS**, section 160A-299 of the North Carolina General Statutes prescribes the procedure to be followed by a city to permanently close a street or alley; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 2, 2026, the City Council of the City of King adopted Resolution 2026-03 declaring its intent to permanently close the portions of Rupert Hall Alley and Slate Alley described as follows (hereinafter, the "Alley Portion") and setting a public hearing pursuant to 160A-299:

Being a portion of the alleys as shown in PB 5, PG 183 and PB 15, PG 123 and more particularly described as follows:

Area 1:

Beginning at an pk nail found having NC Grid coordinate of N: 923,600.19' E: 1,599,582.53', said nail being N 23°00'39" E 52.71' from an pk nail found in the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) and the East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) and in the West line of a 20' alley known as "Slate Alley", being the SE corner of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183, thence with the West line of said alley and East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC, N 11°27'16" E 22.00' to a point at the terminus of the West line of said alley and the NE corner of 2A Real Estate, LLC in the South line of E. Dalton Road, thence with the South line of E. Dalton Road S 72°15'54" E 4.43' to point, a new corner in "Slate Alley", thence on a new line S 23°00'39" W 21.96' to the point of beginning, containing 0.001 Acres (48 sq ft±).

Area 2:

Beginning at a pk nail found, said nail being S 23°00'39" W 52.71' from a pk nail found, said pk nail being the beginning point of the above described Tract 1 and having NC Grid coordinate of N: 923,600.19' E: 1,599,582.53' and in the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) and the East line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) and in the West line of a 20' alley known as "Slate Alley", being the SE corner of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183, thence with the West line of TS Funeral Properties, LLC (DB 694, PG 1483) S 23°00'39" W 10.05' to a pk nail found the NE corner of Tract "A" of PB 5, PG 183, thence along the South line of a 10' alley known as "Rupert Hall Alley" and the North line of Tract "A" N 71°24'19" W 146.69' to a 5/8" rebar set, thence on a new line N 17°55'29" E 10.02' to a point in the North line of said 10' alley at the SE corner of Gary Tilton (DB 373, PG 2218) in the West line of 2A Real Estate, LLC (DB 797, PG 1115) said point being at the base of a fence post in line of chain link fence, thence S 71°24'19" E 147.66' along the North line of said 10' alley and the South line of tract "B" of PB 5, PG 183 to the point of beginning, containing 0.023 Acres (988 sq ft±).

Which alleyway bisects the property now owned by 2A Real Estate, LLC (PIN 59929354522 & 5992935620) and a small triangular portion of Slate Alley east of said 2A Real Estate property on the south side of East Dalton Road, which are located within the corporate limits of the City of King and are shown on a map prepared by Eric Craver (Job/dwg No.: 2453-2A-3);

and

**WHEREAS**, the City of King planner and city clerk gathered the appropriate documentation and caused the proper public notice to be given (by publication, posting of property, and abutting owner notices) of a public hearing on April 6, 2026 before the City of King City Council, which public hearing was held on April 6, 2026, during the Regular Meeting of the City Council. and

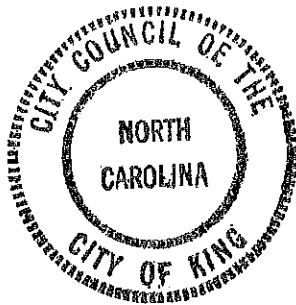
**WHEREAS**, and the City finds that closure of the Alley Portion is not contrary to the public interest and that no individual owning property in the vicinity of said portion of the Alley would be deprived of reasonable means of ingress and egress to his property by its closure;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** by the City Council of the City of King, this 6th day of April 2026, as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-299 the Alley Portion described herein above shall be, and hereby is, PERMANENTLY CLOSED;

Section 2. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A-299 the City RETAINS and RESERVES UNTO ITSELF a non-exclusive, perpetual easement over, across, and through the Alley Portion described herein above for the installation, repair, maintenance, and replacement of any and all utility lines or other improvements serving property now owned or later acquired by the City and/or any other property currently served by utilities that are located within the closed Alley Portion.

Adopted this 6th day of April 2026.



*Richard E. McCraw*  
Richard E. McCraw, Mayor

ATTEST:  
*Nicole Branshaw*  
Nicole Branshaw, City Clerk



CITY OF KING

RESOLUTION 2026-07

BOARD: City Council

DATE: 4/6/2026

DOCUMENT #: 6 PAGES: 1

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING THE SERVICE BADGE AND DECLARING THE SERVICE WEAPON CARRIED BY OFFICER AUBREY CHASE SAWYERS SURPLUS AND SOLD TO HIM UPON HIS RETIREMENT**

*WHEREAS*, North Carolina General Statute § 17F-20 provides that retiring members of municipal law enforcement agencies shall receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the municipality; and

*WHEREAS*, North Carolina General Statute § 17F-20 further provides that the governing body of a municipal law enforcement agency may, in its discretion, award to a retiring member the service sidearm carried by such member; and

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the City Council of the City of King that the City Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized, in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute § 17F-20, to:

- 1. Transfer to Officer Aubrey Chase Sawyers the service badge worn by him during his service with the City of King Police Department, and*
- 2. Declare the service weapon carried by Officer Aubrey Chase Sawyers surplus and sold to him for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) upon the occasion of his retirement.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the City Council of the City of King hereby expresses its appreciation to Officer Aubrey Chase Sawyers for his dedicated and faithful service rendered during his employment with the City of King.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, this resolution was adopted on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

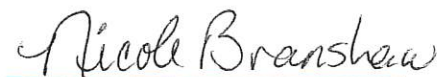


CITY OF KING:



Richard E. McCraw  
Mayor

ATTEST:



Nicole Branshaw  
City Clerk