

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Denton held a Regular Scheduled Meeting on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 6:00pm at Town Hall.

The following Board members were in attendance:

Mayor Scott Morris, Mayor Pro Tem Deanna Grubb

Commissioners: Anne Carter Bean, Larry Ward, Hayden Hicks, Barbara Hogan

Town Attorney, Misti Whitman; Town Manager, Angel Jenkins; Town Clerk, Paula Hedrick

#### **1. Call to Order**

Mayor Morris called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

#### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Morris led the Pledge of Allegiance

#### **3. Adoption of Agenda**

Mayor Morris stated before we adopt the agenda, he would like to recognize Mayor Larry Ward with a plaque that includes a gavel. The plaque says "Town of Denton honors Larry D. Ward for 12 years of dedication of public service as Mayor of the Town of Denton since 2013".

Mayor Morris asked for Motion and Second to adopt agenda.

Commissioner Hogan asked to move Item #19 Denton Area Historical Society to Item #10a.

Mayor Morris asked to remove Item #15 Interlocal Agreement with Davidson County until further review.

Mayor Morris asked to add Personnel to the Closed Session.

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to adopt agenda with the corrections.

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

#### **4. Approval of January 5th, 2026, Minutes – tabled**

-Commissioner Bean stated the indicator for concern was never mentioned in the minutes for the Town of Denton having a deficit that we have to report to the state until it says that we need to sign the letter. Can we add that to the minutes for reference?

-Mayor Morris stated that we would table the minutes until next meeting after the correction has been added.

#### **5. Public Comment: *Citizens may speak on items not listed on the printed agenda. Please state your name and address and observe the three-minute time limit.***

Tony Downs was present to introduce himself, he is a lifetime resident of Davidson County, and has been in construction for 30 plus years. He has a double major in economics and business management at North Carolina State University. Mr. Downs stated that he is running for County Commissioner and would like to have our support.

**6. Consideration for the use of Town property at 71 N. Main and Harrison Park for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Heart of the Carolinas Antique Tractor and Car Show – Paula Hedrick**

Ms. Hedrick stated that the Heart of the Carolinas Antique Tractor Club would like the Board to Consider allowing the club to hold their annual benefit show again this year at 71 N. Main St and Harrison Park. Last year the club was able to raise between \$12,000 and \$14,000 for necessary bills while, beneficiary Miles Stuckensnider was undergoing treatment for childhood leukemia for the second time. The club would also like to request street closure of W. First Street from N. Main Street to Railroad Street to allow more access for the club members to bring equipment in and parking.

**7. Approve Street Closure for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Heart of the Carolinas Antique Tractor and Car Show on April 25, 2026, 8:30am-3:30pm, W. First Street from N. Main Street to Railroad Street**

Ms. Hedrick stated that we have included an ordinance for approval to send to NCDOT regarding the street closure.

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second.

--Mayor ProTem made a motion to approve Heart of the Carolinas Antique Tractor and Car Show to hold their annual show at 71 N. Main and to approve the Ordinance to close W. First Street from N. Main Street to Railroad Street.

-Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

**8. Consideration to approve VFD Evaluation Study by LaBella – Angel Jenkins**

Ms. Jenkins stated the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Evaluation Study by LaBella is a feasibility study to determine if we are able to add a VFD controlled pump to the Oxidation Ditch. There is a two- step process, 1. Existing system evaluation and VFD analysis and 2. Construction Drawings and Specifications. If Item 1 works then Item 2 would not be needed. Attached for reference is the Scope of Service and Fee schedule.

Mayor Morris asked Troy Branch ORC of the Waste Water Treatment Plant if this is what had been talked about all along and he confirmed yes. Mayor Morris stated he would like for Troy to be the Project Manager since this is his department.

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second.

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to approve the VFD Evaluation Study by LaBella and to make Troy Branch Project Manager.

-Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (5/0)

Mayor Morris asked Mr. Branch to keep himself and Ms. Jenkins updated.

## **9. Consideration:**

- **Pay Balance on Police Department 2022 Dodge Ram Truck**
- **Pay Balance on USDA Public Works Loan**

Ms. Jenkins stated that we have received a payout for the damaged Dodge Charger that was a total loss when Officer Kashif was hit on Bombay Road. We are asking to take the funding from the payout and apply it to the outstanding balance of the Police Department 2022 Dodge Ram truck loan. There will be a small balance after the payoff. We will review how to use that at a later date. Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second.

-Mayor ProTem Grubb made a motion to pay off the outstanding balance of the Police Department 2022 Dodge Ram truck loan.

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion passed unanimously. (5/0)

Ms. Jenkins stated we would like to request consideration of the Board to pay off the USDA loan for renovations from May 2007 to the Public Works Building. Original loan was a 40-year term loan in the amount of \$229,000. As of to-date there have been 18 payments of \$11,787 made towards the loan with a balance of \$173,164.50.

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second.

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to pay off the USDA loan for the Public Works Building renovations in the amount of \$173,164.50.

-Commissioners Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

Mayor Morris stated that he and Mayor ProTem Grubb met with Ms. Jenkins, they have reallocated funds from an account that was not gaining interest to a Money Market account which will earn a 3.44/3.50APY. In reviewing a 15 day span we had an increase of interest on the funds of \$1,857.66.

Mayor ProTem stated the Money Market account follows prime, the rate is not locked in, if prime drops, the percentage rate on the Money Market account will drop as well.

## **10. Review and Consideration Upgrades to Town Network Security, Software and Computers- Tavis Curry- Zero Stress Data**

Ms. Jenkins introduced Tavis Curry with Zero Data Stress, Mr. Curry has worked with the Town of Denton as our Information Technology (IT) for several years. Ms. Jenkins stated that Mr. Curry has provided quotes for upgrades that we need to do this year. Ms. Jenkins stated that she was asked

to have Mr. Curry look at our Cyber Security as well.

Ms. Jenkins provided a letter to the Board of Commissioners of additional thoughts provided by Mr. Curry.

Mr. Curry stated that the main goal is to get the Town of Denton in a better security position than where we are currently. One aspect that we really need to get on Microsoft 365 and do upgrades to some computers.

Mr. Curry stated his recommendation would be to move all 30 users to the Microsoft 365 Government Community Cloud. Mr. Curry has provided a quote for the annual licensing. Several computers are still operating with Windows 10 and can not upgrade to Windows 11, thus the reason for computer replacement. Mr. Curry stated that there was discussion of hosting our server offsite through Southern Software FMS.

-Commissioner Bean asked if training would be provided to everyone on how to utilize it and in regards to email, what can and cannot be deleted.

-Ms. Jenkins' stated this is a two-part question, the part about training and retention we can absolutely do based on what the state guidelines are on the retention schedule. We can ask the state to come in and do a presentation on how to properly destroy emails and text messages.

-Commissioner Bean asked where would the emails be backed up?

Mr. Curry stated they would be stored on Microsoft 365 Government servers.

-Commissioner Bean would there be screening on emails coming in?

Mr. Curry stated you can set up anti-phishing, and anti-spam.

-Mayor Morris asked if there was a limit on emails.

Mr. Curry stated that it would be 50 gigs, they have different levels that you can purchase to increase the number of gigs. You can increase storage based on user. You will be fine unless you are storing an excessive number of pictures.

-Mayor Morris asked what other government agencies does Mr. Curry work for?

Mr. Curry stated the Town of Denton is currently his only government agency.

-Mayor Morris asked if Mr. Curry is qualified and have license to work with government agencies.

Mr. Curry stated that he does.

-Commissioner Bean asked if we go with Microsoft 365 Government license would we be able to go to a .gov? Commissioner Bean stated that from her understanding there are some securities that are offered by being a .gov

Mr. Curry stated that the Town of Denton would get a .gov domain prior to the switch.

-Commissioner Bean asked does that also provide PCI compliance like for credit cards.

-Ms. Jenkins stated that we have PCI compliance on the two systems that we use and it's annual. It also checks our system quarterly and makes sure there are no compromises.

-Mayor Morris asked if this would cover all departments and you can add or reduce licenses as needed.

Mr. Curry stated that all departments will be covered and you can add or remove license.

The consensus of the Board is to give more thought.

-Mayor Morris stated full disclosure that there is another company in the audience that gave us a proposal on doing just an audit and Mayor Morris has reached out to Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) to see what they offer as well.

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to table Item 10 for further review.

-Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

#### **10a. Consideration of Denton Area Historical Society – Stone Memorial for Revolutionary Soldiers**

Mr. Dewey Snider and Mr. Lynn Butts were present to ask the Board of Commissioners for consideration of Denton Area Historical Society to erect a monument in Harrison Park for the Denton Area Revolutionary Soldiers, Militiamen and Patriots.

Mr. Snider stated that this does not originate with the Museum but from a conversation that he had with Mayor Morris in December, stating as part of the Town's observance of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary consider erecting a Revolutionary War Memorial in Harrison Park. Mr. Snider and Mr. Butts have been working for more than three years to identify all those within the confines of Davidson County who contributed in anyway to our nation's independence.

Mr. Snider stated Mayor Morris asked him to give him a price. Mr. Snider has been working with Ronnie Haneline, with Haneline Monument to provide a quote. The three foot tall, two foot wide and eight inch thick, granite monument would list all soldiers and militiamen on one side and patriots on the other.

Mr. Snider asked if the Town of Denton would like to make a contribution to the monument.

-Mayor ProTem Grubb made a motion to approve the Revolutionary War Memorial to be placed in Harrison Park and the town contribute \$1,000 to the purchase of the monument.

-Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

#### **11. Review Quotes for Town Uniform Service -Paula Hedrick**

Ms. Hedrick stated that you have before you a quote from both Cintas and UniFirst for staff

uniforms. Each company has provided two options in pants and shirts, which you have quotes for both options in your packet. The quotes provided are figured with the company providing laundry service and/or the employees laundering themselves. Ms. Hedrick stated that one thing that I would like to highlight is Cintas provides total replacement of damaged items where there is a fee associated with the replacement items through UniFirst.

Ms. Hedrick stated that both vendors have a 5-year contract, it was questioned that if we wanted a 3- year contract would they consider. They will but the cost per item will increase.

Ms. Hedrick stated, included in your packet, you will find the terms and conditions of their contract. Mayor Morris asked Mr. High, Public Works director his thoughts. In the past we used Cintas and some did not like the smell after they were laundered. The jackets were not thick enough to withstand the cold weather.

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second to table this item for further review and discussion.

-Commissioner Hicks made a motion to table Item # 11 Town Uniform service for further discussion.

-Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

## **12. Consideration of Town Banners and Banner Sponsorship – Paula Hedrick**

Ms. Hedrick provided quotes from two vendors (Display Sales and Mosca Design) for Sponsorship Banners. Ms. Hedrick stated the quote from Display Sales are for 30" x 60" 2-Ply 18oz Vinyl, which includes the sponsor additions.

Ms. Hedrick stated the quote from Mosca Design is for a 30" x 60" banner in a Marine Acrylic Sunbrella fabric. They stated that if we extended the banner to add a sponsor, the price would be astronomical. Their recommendation was to add an additional 30" wide by 15" long vinyl banner to the bottom of the existing Town banner.

-Mayor Morris asked about the hardware to attach the banner to the poles and the warranty.

Ms. Hedrick stated she would get a quote on the hardware to see the cost verses Mr. High making the hardware to install the banners.

-Mayor Morris asked to table Item #12 and review at next meeting, with the added information of the hardware for the banners. He asked to please include a contract for review.

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to table Item #12 Town Banners and Banner Sponsorship.

-Mayor ProTem seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (5/0)

## **13. Approve Response to North Carolina Treasurer, Local Government Commission - Fiscal Year End June 30, 2025, Indicator of Concern – Water and Sewer Fund – Prepared by Eddie Carrick.**

Ms. Jenkins stated Mr. Carrick has provided the response letter that needs to be submitted to the North Carolina Treasurer, Local Government Commission. The letter outlines Indicator of Concern for the year ending 2024/2025, "Due to high inflation in repairs and supplies, operating expenses were more than anticipated, the Town will monitor expenses and will adjust rates as necessary". Mr. Carrick stated for the past two years, the Town of Denton had a loss in our operating net income in our water and sewer fund.

-Commissioner Bean asked in regards to the Handy October bill for (September usage), if it had been paid, would we still have a deficit?

-Ms. Jenkins stated that probably not as this report is based on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to approve the Response to North Carolina Treasurer, Local Government Commission for Fiscal Year End June 30, 2025.

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

#### **14. Approve the FY 25/26 Cost of Water as Provided by Eddie Carrick with the Annual Audit**

Ms. Jenkins stated we need to approve the increase of cost of water at \$2.1578 per 1000 gallons provided by Mr. Carrick for the 2024/2025FY. We will back bill Handy from July 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 – until current.

-Commissioner Bean questioned if this is calculated correctly as the salaries for 2024 include Ms. Jenkins but for 2025 the salaries include Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Hedrick and Ms. Garrison. Can we get clarification on this.

-Ms. Jenkins stated that Mr. Carrick has a calculation that he uses to provide the Cost of Water rate and she will reach out to him for more clarification. Ms. Jenkins noted that the cost of water billed to Handy, they are paying rates this year for what it cost the Town of Denton to produce water last year.

Mr. Carrick stated in his presentation this is a great concern that we are going a whole year of establishing the expenditures and the cost but it is not reflected until the next year.

Ms. Jenkins stated the increase in expenditures are factored by trainee salaries, over time for Michael High, Sludge Removal and Land application. Ms. Jenkins stated that she will get with Mr. Carrick regarding the questions of the Board and will provide further details.

-Mayor Pro Tem Grubb made a motion to approve the 2025/2026 Cost of Water at the increase rate of \$2.1578 per 1000 gallons.

-Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

**15. Review and Approve the Interlocal Agreement with Davidson County for Ad Valorem Property Tax Collections Services- Angel Jenkins**

Mayor Morris asked to remove Item #15 from the agenda to review and discuss at a later date.

**16. Review and Approve Lease Agreement with Denton Towing for Portion of Town Property Located on South Jones Street – Angel Jenkins**

Ms. Jenkins stated we need a motion to approve the Lease Agreement provided to Denton Towing for the portion of Town Property located on South Jones Street.

Ms. Jenkins stated Ms. Hedrick reached out to Michael Potts to check status of the Lease Agreement with Denton Towing for Portion of Town Property Located on South Jones Street. Mr. Potts stated he was checking with his Insurance Company and would get back with us.

-Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second for the Lease Agreement of Town Property located on South Jones Street.

-Commissioner Ward asked if the Board to discuss this further.

-Mayor Morris stated let us get the motion and second and we will discuss.

-Commissioner Hogan made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement with Denton Towing for Portion of Town Property Located on South Jones Street.

-Mayor ProTem seconded the motion.

-Mayor Morris stated now we can have a discussion.

-Commissioner Ward stated that he is not in favor of using the Town property on South Jones Street for the storage of wrecked vehicles. He has concerns of oil and transmission fluid leaking onto the ground. He observed the location on Garner Street that housed the wrecked vehicles prior and they had to remove dirt from location due to fluids that had leaked over the years.

-Commissioner Hicks questioned who is responsible for mowing and does it effect our current mowing contract?

-Mayor Morris asked if there are no further discussion, all in favor say I.

-Commissioner Ward nay, the following votes were cast as a yay. (Commissioner Bean, Mayor ProTem Grubb, Commissioner Hogan, Commissioner Hicks) Motion passed (4/1)

**17. Approve 2026 Community Event Calendar**

-Mayor Morris asked if the Annual Chili Cookoff would be held October 10<sup>th</sup>, same day as the Denton Street Festival.

-Sam Grimes, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation (P&R) Board stated that was correct. Mr. Grimes stated that the P&R are working to establish a concert series this summer and add a 5K run

to the event calendar. Mr. Grimes stated that they estimate the concert cost to be \$15,000. They will be reaching out for donations and sponsors to raise \$7,500 and the remaining would come through the budget provided by the Town.

-Mayor ProTem Grubb made a motion to approve the 2026 Community Event Calendar and use Town budget of \$7,500 for the concert series.

-Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0).

**18. Consideration of Appointment to the Parks & Recreation Board – Volunteer James Brock**

Ms. Jenkins stated that we have received an application from James Brock for Volunteer for appointment to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second.

-Commissioner Ward made a motion to approve James Brock as a Volunteer for the P&R Board.

-Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

19. Item #19 was moved to Item #10a.

**20. Discussion of EDC Grant Projects – Angel Jenkins**

Ms. Jenkins stated that we have received the grant in the amount of \$50,000. In speaking with the state this money is to be used for any type of downtown or project within the forum. Mayor Morris stated that he has several items that he would like to present for consideration for the use of the EDC Grant Project. We will need to provide EDC a scope of each for approval.

-Mayor Morris stated that he has already made a list. (Copy attached for reference)

Additional Christmas Lights, Farmers Market paving, update the Welcome to Denton signs on both ends of Town along with new landscaping around them, mural on one of the buildings in Town.

If there are other items that you would like to discuss as potential projects, please provide those.

**21. Town Department Head Reports**

- |                     |                              |                  |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| ● Police Department | ● Water Treatment Plant      | ● Public Works   |
| Chief Mike James    | Jason Faunce                 | Michael High     |
| ● Fire Department   | ● Wastewater Treatment Plant | ● Administration |
| Chief Travis Morris | Troy Branch                  | Paula Hedrick    |

**22. Town Attorney Updates**

Ms. Whitman stated that she has been working on moving forward with Handy Sanitary meetings.

Other items will be discussed in Closed Session.

**23. Town Manager's Report**

Ms. Jenkins stated you have received a list of project updates and documentation will be attached for reference.

Ms. Jenkins stated that you have been given a quote from Steve Morris on the Police Department Building upgrades in the amount of \$2,900 and a new roof for the Raw Water Intake shed in the amount of \$1,600.

-Commissioner Bean asked if we could ask for the Police Department building to be quoted using T1-11 siding verses the quote using metal. This would just keep with esthetics of the property.

- Commissioner Hogan made a motion to approve the quote for the Police Department Building upgrades using T1-11 siding, provided the new quote does not exceed \$3,200.

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to approve the upgrades to the roof for the Raw Water Intake shed in the amount of \$1600.00.

-Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

#### **24. Commissioners Comments / Concerns / Update**

-Commissioner Bean asked how many P & R Volunteers are needed.

-Ms. Jenkins stated that we still need 3. Need 2 in town volunteer and 1 out of town volunteer.

-Commissioner Bean stated that Mayor Morris is now in his third month, and we are still receiving reports that reference Mayor Ward. She indicated that this is a pet peeve to hers.

-Ms. Jenkins stated that we will correct that going forward, it is just like when a new year rolls around you have to adjust yourself to making that switch over.

-Mayor Morris stated that he would like to discuss the renovations to 71 N. Main Street. The building was purchased 10 years ago and he feels that we need to move forward with renovations. Mayor Morris stated that he strongly suggests that we appropriate \$250,000 to start, finish the Plans, do the bathrooms for the park and the inside. Get the ATM fixed and the window in the back of the building.

Mayor Morris asked Attorney Whitman if we could do this with informal bids. Ms. Whitman stated that we could.

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and a second.

-Commissioner Ward made a motion to approve the appropriation of \$250,000 toward the upgrades

to 71 N. Main Street.

-Commissioner Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

Mayor Morris asked Mayor ProTem to reach out to Paul Briggs.

**25. Closed Session - In Accordance with the N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney/Client Privilege and (6) Personnel**

Mayor Morris called for Closed Session 8:22pm

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second to come out of Closed Session.

-Mayor ProTem made a motion to come out of Closed Session 9:42pm

-Commissioner Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

**26. Announcements –**

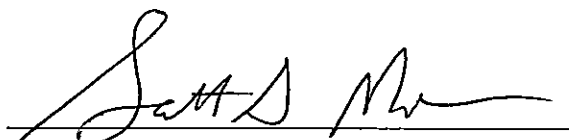
- 2/10/2026 - Parks and Recreation Board Meeting -6:00pm

**27. Board of Commissioners Adjournment**

Mayor Morris asked for a motion and second to adjourn.

-Commissioner Bean made a motion to adjourn. 9:42pm

-Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion.



Scott S. Morris, Mayor



Paula Hedrick, Town Clerk