

Town of Macclesfield
Regular Session Board Meeting
January 20, 2026
5:00 pm

Mayor Michael Speight called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm. Members in attendance were Mayor Speight, Commissioner/Mayor Pro Tem Jean Wooten-Jiles, Commissioner Joyce Braxton, Commissioner Peggy Walker, Attorney Michael Franchi, Public Works Director Chevy Taylor, and Town Administrator Jennifer Twiss. Commissioner Patrick Bridgers was absent. Town citizen Robert Cochrun was in attendance as well.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles offered the invocation, and all in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed, the motion carried.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 15th meeting. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed, the motion carried.

Mr. Taylor began to report on Public Works. The WWTP is still giving problems – there is trouble finding a contractor to clean out the “bunker” stating an issue obtaining a confined space permit. McDavid Associates was out at the plant and reported to Mr. Taylor that they will be starting to lay rebar and pour concrete. He reported there was a pipe to burst at the bottom of the water tower. The heaters on the pipes have been replaced at both wells. Mr. Speight asked Chevy to make sure to drip the water at the community building with the cold weather coming in. The Town of Tarboro is coming out to repair the transformer later this week. Mr. Taylor stated that Town of Tarboro will be drawing up a contract for assistance with electrical issues. Mr. Taylor stated that he hasn’t used the previous contractor (Matt Johnson) lately since he doesn’t have his own equipment. Mr. Taylor reported that the town needs electric meters. The Town of Tarboro has been assisting with meters and testing some that were questionable. Mr. Taylor has found someone to cut down the trees by the Fire Department, but they want to charge \$6000 (which is \$1000/tree). Mr. Taylor stated that he contacted Xylem and they are refusing to come back out. It was asked if the attorney could draft a letter to them regarding them not finishing the work and they have been paid. Mr. Taylor stated that Terrance Davis and Charles Williams are willing to go to certification schools. Mr. Speight stated that he hasn’t gotten any complaints about the public works’ guys. Mr. Speight mentioned that someone dumped a couch and bed at the Town sign. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked which classes he suggests for the guys – He stated that he feels they would do well starting with either water or collections. Mr. Taylor stated that the diesel heater has done well in the shop. Mr. Taylor stated that the truck is still in process – Mr. John Underwood has not been out yet. Commissioner Braxton mentioned when the town had an issue with the squirrel knocking the power out, if the vines, etc. had been taken care of. Mr. Taylor stated that it is an issue getting to it with the soft ground and the pine trees in the neighbor’s yard.

Ms. Twiss gave the financial report – \$2425.84 interest earned in the NCCMT accounts. Total expenditures for the month were \$261,727.19 (including \$7056.00 for part of WWTP project). Total revenues for the month were \$297,884.03 (including \$97,108.50 from WWTP project funds).

Michael Carey with RH (auditor) was in the office today and will return tomorrow. Payroll is all that's left and he will be getting the Trial Balance ready to send to Cherry Bekaert. It was stated that it is set to be sent tomorrow.

Mrs. Pam Hurdle, NCLM, has suggested we work with Cherry Bekaert on regular accounting. NCLM will pay for 1 year of CPA services and 1 audit through the AIM program.

Ms. Twiss stated that Commissioner Wooten-Jiles, Commissioner Walker and Commissioner Bridgers will be attending the Municipal Government class in February 12th in Rocky Mount.

For the CDBG-NR grant, there is a website that has to be accessed and right now it is showing Cynthia Buck and Christie Cobb as the town's representatives. They require a letter from the mayor designating who is the current representative for the town. Ms. Twiss has drafted a letter, and the mayor needs only to sign it. This will allow the town to obtain a government NCID.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was sent by Kimberly Hanson with WSP. The current plan has expired and it needs to be updated to go with Edgecombe County's. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to approve and adopt the updated N.E.W. Hazard Mitigation Plan. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed, the motion carried.

Ms. Twiss spoke with Mr. Moore (McDavid Associates) and he is unaware of any grants available. The only thing he knows of is pole agreements with internet/cable companies. Mayor Speight asked if we could send a letter to the internet or cable companies that are installing their equipment on our poles.

Ms. Twiss explained that there were two customers with extremely high electric portion of their bills. The meter has been replaced at one and the other customer had a heater issue and the landlord is repairing it. Mr. Taylor had several meters tested including one of the ones in question. The board has allowed water/sewer credits with leaks but there isn't anything available for any electric credits. It was recommended to set up a payment plan and waive the late fees.

Commissioner Braxton asked about the late fees for any payments that came in while the office was closed.

Mayor Speight mentioned that Commissioner Bridgers was supposed to check on cameras. Commissioner Walker made a motion to approve the quote from Bunn Security to install the cameras. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles seconded the motion and with none opposed the motion carried.

Mayor Speight stated that he feels the Gazebo needs to be repaired before the roof on the Town Hall. There is a quote for \$6800-\$7000 to replace all rotten wood, restabilize it, and paint it. Mr. Taylor will close off the steps so no one can enter the gazebo until it is repaired. It was mentioned to check with the local churches for help with the repairs.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to approve the quote from Pro Construction for the Town Hall roof repairs. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed, the motion carried.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles asked about the lot next to the park (in front of the shop) and if it would be possible to use part of it for the parking area for the park. Is the lot owned by the town?

It was also asked if it is possible to get the calls forwarded to Mr. Taylor's phone when the office closed during office hours. The staff will contact Locality and find out what needs to be done in order to accomplish this.

Mr. Taylor reported the panel box at the big well needs to be replaced. Tew Cool has given Mr. Taylor a quote of \$1980 to replace it. Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to approve the quote and have the work done. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed, the motion carried.

Commissioner Braxton asked if the town had a noise ordinance and if so, what it says. There was a complaint from a customer regarding music from a church late at night while trying to get their child to bed. Ms. Twiss will find the ordinance and Commissioner Wooten-Jiles stated that if there is an ordinance, she will address it with the church.

Commissioner Braxton also asked about the "Little Free Library" at the park. It was suggested that if they are not going to repair and restock it, it needs to be removed.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles reminded the board that the board needs to meet regarding the draft zoning ordinances before the February 9th public hearing. Attorney Franchi reminded the board that there needs to be a planning board to go over the ordinances and then recommend them to the board for approval. Ms. Twiss stated that Jason Taylor has been the only one to volunteer for the planning board so far. Mr. Robert Cochrun stated that he and possibly his son, Daniel, could be on the planning board as well. They will meet to go over the draft ordinances and report back to the board with their recommendations.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a suggestion to include a type of newsletter in the bills periodically to keep the citizens informed of what the town is working on, volunteer opportunities, upcoming events, etc. She also stated that the CDBG-NR grant funds have been released, the park parcels have been combined, but the alley still needs to be named. She also stated that the Housing Committee is required to meet monthly and be sure to distribute fair housing information to citizens. She gave Ms. Twiss a copy of a schedule for the Housing Committee meetings.

Commissioner Braxton mentioned that Paula Lewis has stated that she is still able to deliver Meals On Wheels, the town staff will just need to call her when they arrive.

Commissioner Braxton asked to be sure that signs were posted for any emergency/unscheduled closing of the office.

Commissioner Wooten-Jiles made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Braxton seconded the motion and with none opposed, the meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.