

MINUTES
TOWN OF RONDA REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 10th, 2026, 6:00 PM

The Ronda Town Board met on Tuesday, February 10th, 2026, at 6:00 PM with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Reece, Commissioner Helen Porter, Commissioner Chris Nelson, Commissioner Matthew Foster, Commissioner Bobby Munsey, and Clerk Rachel DeGroat. Mayor Gerald Masterson was not present.

Members of the public that were present and signed in are Doug and MaryJane Combs, and Ward Swann. There were others in attendance, but they did not sign in.

Mayor Pro Tem Reece Called the Meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Commissioner Nelson led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

AGENDA: Mayor Pro Tem Reece asked for an amendment to the agenda to include Board Action regarding a dollar amount be voted on for the repair of a small section of damaged siding on the exterior of Town Hall. Commissioner Nelson makes the motion with the understanding that it could cause a bigger issue with the current condition of the siding, Commissioner Foster seconded, and all said aye in a 4-0 vote. Additional Board Action will be added regarding a vote on repair work to the small section of siding on the exterior of Town Hall.

MINUTES: Mayor Pro Tem Reece asked for a motion on the approval of minutes from the January Work Session, January Meeting and January Emergency Meeting. Commissioner Nelson makes the motion, Commissioner Porter seconded, and all said aye in a 4-0 vote.

DISCUSSION OF EXPENDITURES: None

Reports:

- 1) **YVSA:** Clerk Rachel DeGroat provided report on behalf of Victor Varella who was unable to attend tonight's meeting. YVSA is currently under \$87,000.00 under budget for the year so far.
- 2) **HCCOG:** Commissioner Munsey states there is nothing to report. HCCOG does not meet in January. February meeting is later in the month, and he will provide a report at the next meeting, in March.
- 3) **Wilkes EDC:** Mayor Pro Tem Reece shares there is nothing to report at this time.
- 4) **WCC:** Nothing to report at this time.

- 5) **YVCC:** Clerk Rachel DeGroat reports on behalf of Victor Varella that the YVCC did not meet in January, they will be meeting in February and Mr. Varella will report back to the board at the March meeting.

OPEN FORUM: Mr. Ward Swann with Yadkin River Keeper is requesting the towns permission to an event to be held on the Yadkin River on June 6, 2026. This event is a kayak and canoe race, beginning at the boat ramp located at River Park here in Ronda and ending in Elkin at Crater Park. Because of the lack of parking at River Park, those participating in the race will be shuttled in by North Carolina River Riders, their boats on a trailer. They will offload at the ramp and enter the water. Mr. Swann is estimating twenty racers and an inconvenience at River Park for no more than 30 minutes in the morning at the time of drop off. The race again will conclude in Elkin and be over by lunchtime. Pending board's approval, Mr. Swann will proceed with the plans as proposed, and Emergency Services will be included and on site at the time of the race. Those arrangements with Emergency Services will be managed by Mr. Swann and his team. No action will need to be taken by the town in preparation of this event. Mayor Pro Tem Reece asks Michael Boaz if the board needs to vote on this request to drop off racers at the town park on June 6th for this event? Michael Boaz states that you do not necessarily need to vote "if everyone around the tables just nods their head that it is going to be ok." Mayor Pro Tem Reece asks the members of the board if any are against this request to drop off racers at the boat ramp located at the town park for this June event. Commissioner Foster states that "shuttling the boaters here should not create issues with anybody else at the park." The board as a whole nod in agreement to allow Mr. Swann to proceed with river access in Ronda being the starting point of this river race event. Mr. Swann states that his reason for bring this to the board is because when the shuttle arrives that morning it will be a "big scene" for early morning walkers at the park. Commissioner Nelson asks, "so are you saying you will be taking over our park momentarily?" Mr. Swann replies, "momentarily." Mayor Pro Tem Reece states that for one time a year, to promote an event he does not see anyone being upset. Mayor Pro Tem Reece believes that promoting the river will only help the town. Mayor Pro Tem also offers when advertising becomes available, the town would help promote the event. Mr. Swann shares that a recent survey shows that paddlers on average spend about \$70.00 a day. Exposure of this event and the starting point being in the Ton of Ronda, part of that \$70.00 could be spent here. Mr. Swann also shares that they recently placed many mile markers in the river, including within Ronda. These markers are designed to help EMS and fellow paddlers have a point to reference in finding each other.

BOARD ACTION:

1. **RFQ Lawn Maintenance Contract for City-Limit Streets:** Mayor Pro Tem opens the table for a motion to be made. Commissioner Nelson states, "I still

have many apprehensions paying somebody to this work. Paying this amount to do this work. With that being said, I won't go against the majority on this but I just, that amount of money is incredulous to me." Commissioner Munsey proposes, "Chris why don't you entertain this, since Jordan is head of the maintenance department, right? Why don't we let him do it as a 'as needed.'" When he sees it needs to be done, if he can figure out a monthly amount, let him call in and say we got this approved for this month but may not need it for the next two months. Let him just oversee that." Commissioner Nelson, "well the problem with that suggestion is these are contracts and they are good for a year." Commissioner Munsey, "the contract can be re-worded, be re-done. I am just saying that is another option. As needed basis, you can work it out and say you get a certain amount for this street, this street, and this street." Commissioner Nelson, "my personal opinion, I think that complicates it a bit more. There is at least 4 months out of the year that we basically need little or none. This contract you are still paying them whether they are there or not." Commissioner Munsey, "what I am saying is that contract is null and void, we are not going to do the monthly payment plan. We are just going to pay you a certain amount for this." Mayor Pro Tem Reece, "if the clerk would reach out to these contractors and ask them what would it be 'per as needed'. Maning the Maintenance Director/Supervisor (Jordan) calls them when we need that service. What would they charge us each time that he calls." Commissioner Nelson, "they probably won't do that and if they did, they probably would charge more money." Mayor Pro Tem Reece, "but at least if they presented that to us. And then the next meeting we look at the 'monthly service' and the 'as needed service'. I would rather have Jordans input on this before we vote on it. If the board is ok with it, I would like to entertain a motion to table till the next meeting?" Commissioner Nelson makes the motion to table this action to the next meeting, Commissioner Munsey seconds that motion, and all said aye in a 4-0 vote. Prior to moving on Mr. Doug Combs asks to speak on the trash pick-up, "the fire department, the churches, have a particular Saturday, everybody come together and meet at the park. Give us a street, have a hot do vendor. We used to have a town clean up with the churches, a community event." Mayor Pro Tem Reece asks that Clerk to place this idea for a Town hosted Community Clean-Up Event, where the town will provide refreshments and food to be placed on the agenda for Board Action and vote in March.

2. **Price Power Salt Spreader Quote:** Mayor Pro Tem Reece explains that approval was given at the Work Session for the town to purchase a salt spreader. Recommendation was made by Mayor Masterson to include a vibrator component on the spreader. Quote being presented now includes a salt spreader

with the needed vibrator piece. Commissioner Nelson makes a motion to approve the revised quote. Commissioner Foster seconds that motion. All said aye in a 4-0 vote. Town will purchase the revised quote and additional equipment supplied by Price Power for the total cost of \$3,018.45.

3. **Compensation for resident Chad Harris:** Mayor Pro Tem Reece states that Mr. Harris volunteered to help with a large tree that had fallen on Factory Street over the weekend. While helping the town he damaged the chain on his personal chainsaw due to making contact with a piece of metal while cutting a section of this fallen tree. Replacement of the chain was \$31.00, and the Town paid for that cost of replacing the chain for him. Commissioner Nelson states, "he has not come out and asked for any money, but he did express to myself and the Clerk today he could use some help on his water bill. He is a bit behind. I am not suggesting that we pay the whole amount but if we can maybe help him out with maybe a couple hundred. Help him get on his way to get back in good standing. I don't ask this for anybody, but what he done on that tree on the side of Factory. There was a whole lot of firemen standing around saying it is too big for us, we need help. Chad Harris when down there and done it himself. Cut that thing up, Jordan was there pulling limbs back, the mayor was there watching him. They saw him hit the metal. I think it would be a good thing." Mayor Pro Tem Reece agrees that he would entertain a motion for compensation but not taking off for water. Commissioner Nelson agrees and corrects himself saying, "I meant to say that as compensation. I think it would bring up problems if we did off the water bill." Mayor Pro Tem Reece, "I will entertain a motion, you want to give him \$200.00?" Commissioner Nelson, "yes sir." Commissioner Nelson makes the motion for the town to authorize Chad Harris a \$200.00 check as a thank you. Commissioner Bobby Munsey seconds that motion. All said aye in a 4-0 vote.
4. **Work Truck Policy:** Mayor Pro Tem Reece shares that during a conversation regarding suggestions of efficiency and improvement within the town, Jordan inquired about policy regarding Town Vehicle. As a 24-hour-on-call employee with the Maintenance Department Jordan takes emergency calls in the middle of the night, on the weekends, and well after normal business hours, he must drive to Town Hall, switch vehicles, load up necessary tools and then head to the location. Jordan is requesting the boards consideration to amend the policy and grant him the ability to take the work vehicle home with him each night. In taking the work vehicle home it will allow him to be already prepared with the needed equipment and report directly to the call location in a quicker response time. During this conversation Mayor Pro Tem Reece advised Jordan that the only way he would personally vote in favor is with the understanding that the vehicle was to never be used for personal needs. Commissioner Foster asks, "is

that something we need to investigate as far as the insurance? I don't have a problem with it because he is on call all the time. But just to make sure we can do that and be covered with liability." Mayor Pro Tem Reece raises that question to Michael Boaz. Michael Boaz answers, "that is standard practice for folks who are on the call. The League would cover that, would cover the vehicle in route to his home and back to work. If he drove to the food town, they would have a problem with that. But as long as it's for work, yes that is fine. There is no tax liability either because he is on call." Mayor Pro Tem Reece then asks the Clerk if she has the same understanding regarding coverage and insurance policy as Michael Boaz. Clerk, Rachel DeGroat confirms that based on her research so far with the current policy, yes, she agrees with Michael that this is a covered request. Mayor Pro Tem Reece opens the table for a motion to allow Jordan to take the work truck as a 24-hour on-call employee of the town for work related purposes. Commissioner Matthew Fosters makes that motion. Commissioner Chris Nelson seconds. Commissioner Munsey suggests considering placing Triple AAA on the town vehicle as well. Clerk commits to doing research and pricing on towing options as well. All said aye in a 4-0 vote to the motion on the table. Current policy will be amended to include the current revision just voted on and approved. Those policy revisions will be presented at the next scheduled board meeting in March.

- 5. Town Hall Siding:** Mayor Pro Tem Reece is requesting approval for up to \$500.00 for the clerk or maintenance staff to reach out to a contractor and repair the section of siding that has blown off on Town Hall. The repair work is not necessarily to replace the siding but at the very least stop the threat or possibility of water from coming into the building and causing further damage. Commissioner Nelson makes the motion, with Commissioner Foster seconding. All said aye in a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Reece asked for a motion to adjourn at 6:46 PM. Commissioner Nelson makes the motion, Commissioner Porter seconds and all said aye in a 4-0 vote.

Rachel DeGroat

Rachel DeGroat, Town Clerk

