TOWN OF MCADENVILLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

The McAdenville Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers of Town Hall located at 163 Main Street, McAdenville N.C.

PRESENT:
Mayor Reid Washam and Mayor Pro-Tem Joe Rankin; Council Members: Susan Elkins, Fred McBee, Jay McCosh and Greg Richardson. Also in attendance: Attorney, Chris Whelchel and Town Administrator/Clerk Lesley Dellinger.

CALL TO ORDER:
Mayor Washam called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Griggs, McAdenville Baptist Church, opened the meeting with prayer.

ADJUSTMENT & APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
The September Agenda was approved as submitted by motion of Fred McBee, second by Jay McCosh and unanimous vote.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:
Mayor Washam opened the floor for public comment. No comments were presented.

CONSENT AGENDA:
Mayor Washm asked Lesley Dellinger for clarification on item b) Budget Amenement Ordinance No. 2026-010 prior to calling for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Lesley Dellinger stated the W/S fund balance appropriation of $113,000 is necessary to fund expenditures for the Hallie Bentley PRV construction and Professional Engineering services for the Ford Drive 6" waterline extension project. The items of the Consent Agenda were approved by motion of Susan Elkins, second by Greg Richardson and unanimous vote:

a) **Approval of Minutes:** Council approved the meeting minutes from August 11, 2026.
b) **Budget Amendment:** Council approved Ordinance No. 2026-010 amending the General Fund and Water/Sewer Fund budgets for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. Changes will increase the total budget by $113,000 to $2,479,300.00.
c) **Christmas Town 5K:** Council approved the Special Event Permit for the 2026 Christmas Town 5K sponsored by the McAdenville Woman's Club.
d) **Fire Station Lease Renewal:** Council approved a 3-year lease extension for the McAdenville Woman's Club for 362.5 square feet of storage space in the McAdenville Fire Station.

e) **On-Call Planning Consulting Services:** Council approved the on-call agreement with Uwharrie Planners for planning and site plan review services on an as needed basis.
f) **McAdenville Elementary Sponsorship:** Council approved a silver level sponsorship for the 2026-2027 school year.

EMERGENCY INTERCONNECT AGREEMENT REVISION:
Attorney Chris Whelchel reported that the City of Lowell Council rejected the draft Interlocal Agreement for an emergency water interconnect that the McAdenville Council had approved at its July 14th meeting. Lowell's attorney proposed the following revisions for McAdenville's consideration:

- Increase the usage rate to wholesale cost plus a 33% markup.
- Require Lowell's consent for assignment.
- Add a Force Majeure clause.
- Require prior approval by the Lowell Council to use the emergency interconnect for planned outages or maintenance.

Chris Whelchel advised that the requested revisions constituted material changes and therefore required reconsideration by the McAdenville Council. Jay McCosh asked what formula supported increasing the markup from 25% to 33%. Chris Whelchel replied that a Lowell Council member had recommended the increase without providing supporting data. Mayor Washam noted that completion of the Main Street Interconnect project would reduce the need for the Lowell emergency feed. However, he said the connection would provide a safeguard against service interruptions during project construction and supported approving the agreement with the substantive changes.

Following discussion, Jay McCosh moved to approve the revised Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Emergency Water Service between the Town of McAdenville and the City of Lowell. The revised agreement includes a wholesale cost plus 33% markup on usage, mutual consent for assignment, a Force Majeure clause, and prior approval for planned outages. Mayor Pro-Tem Rankin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMTNE REPORT:
Captain Harris of the GCPD presented the August crime statistics. Two cases remain under investigation including an online intimidation and harassment matter involving a McAdenville student, and a wire fraud case which was referred to the GCPD Cyber Fraud Division. Officers responded to 115 calls for service, 93 of which were officer-initiated. Roadway safety remains a priority, with 16 traffic stops conducted in August. Captain Harris completed the slide presentation and offered to address any questions or concerns from the Council.

Fred McBee reported that, on Sunday, September 6th, a resident was allegedly confronted aggressively by a couple on the greenway regarding the resident's pet. Captain Harris said he was unaware of the reported encounter but would determine whether a report had been filed with the GCPD. Mayor Washam noted that McAdenville Village is a popular trick-or-treating destination, creating safety concerns along Wesleyan Drive. He requested that an officer and patrol car be stationed at the Wesleyan Drive traffic circle on October 31st as a traffic-calming measure. Captain Harris confirmed that an officer could be assigned to McAdenville for Halloween. Mayor Washam added that signalized crosswalk improvements are being reviewed near McAdenville Elementary. He asked whether the school resource officer (SRO) manages the crosswalk during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. Captain Harris confirmed that the SRO oversees the crosswalk in front of the school.

STAFF REPORT:
Town Administrator, Lesley Dellinger, reported on the following:

Water/Sewer:

- ARPA Funded Water Projects - The monthly construction meeting for the DWI grant projects was held today 9/8/2026 at Town Hall. A change order request is being considered to mill and resurface Poplar Street rather than just patching the sections of asphalt that were disturbed during construction. The estimated cost to resurface the full street is $180,000. WithersRavenel will review the VUR grant expenditure and advise if adequate funding remains to cover the full resurfacing cost without using contingency monies. A pipe realignment beside Mill #3 on Main Street has been recommended to better align with the future intersection improvement. State Utilities have confirmed that this can be handled as a field adjustment rather than a formal change order. Staff added that DWI has been slow approving change orders in general, and we still have two pending and will hopefully be submitting a fourth for the Poplar Street repaving. Pending change orders will add about 60 days to the construction schedule, which moves our expected completion date to November 6, 2026.

- Ford Drive Waterline Extension - Willis Engineering has finished the plans for the new 6-inch waterline on Ford Drive, and TRU is reviewing. Once that review is complete, our staff will submit an encroachment agreement to NCDOT and a permit application to Public Water Supply. These approvals typically take about 45 days, but Willis Engineering is going to work to move that along as quickly as they can. This project matters for two reasons — it supports the fire protection improvements planned for Ford Drive, Pine Street, and Oak Street, and it gives water system redundancy on the north side of Town, which right now is served by an aging 2-inch galvanized line.

- Main Street Interconnect Project - At its August meeting, Town Council approved a resolution to accept a $3,959,380.00 grant award from DWI. Willis Engineering has been contracted to prepare the required engineering report and assist with grant administration. DWI has confirmed that the VUR and DWSRF funding will be transferable to the City of Gastonia/TRU as part of the planned merger.

Parks & Recreation:

- River Link Sidewalk Connector - The design plans for the River Link sidewalk connector have received local NCDOT approval and have been submitted to the State DOT office for review. Bid documents and the RFLOI for construction engineering inspections have also been submitted and are pending approval at the local level. Survey work and right-of-way exhibits have been completed, and Telics is working with the four affected property owners to acquire the necessary right-of-way in accordance with the Uniform Act. Staff recently learned that the WithersRavenel design contract must be amended to include bidding services, which are not eligible for reimbursement through the CMAQ grant. If the project continues to progress as anticipated, staff expect to advertise for bids after the first of the year, allowing construction to be completed in 2027.

I-85 Bridge Betterments:

- End Cap Medallion Design – The NCDOT provided feedback on the two bridge medallion concepts McAdenville submitted. (Simplified bell tower design & Christmas tree with scalloped bridge railing.) The DOT identified the bell tower design as their preferred option, mainly for its simplicity. Staff stated that a limited color pallet (3 colors) can now be incorporated into the medallion designs. Staff presented the end cap designs for Belmont and Gaston County with color incorporated. Following discussion, the Council did not feel that adding color to the bell tower design would enhance the impact and it could possibly create additional maintenance. Staff stated that the NCDOT would like to have the final designs submitted in October. No additional discussion or recommendation was received from the Council on McAdenville's preferred design.

COUNCIL GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Mayor Washam thanked Fred McBee and Joe Rankin for taking time out of their Saturday to install the new payment drop box at Town Hall. He also thanked Susan Elkins for volunteering to be the McAdenville representative on the I-85 Commuter Taskforce Committee. The committee was organized by CCOG and will meet quarterly to discuss developing issues related to the NCDOT widening projects in Gaston and Mecklenburg Counties.

Mayor Washam then provided an overview from the Get Ready Gaston Forum that he and Susan Elkins attended on the widening projects planned along the I-85 and Wilkinson Blvd corridors.

I-85 Widening Project:

- I-85 handles approximately 143,000 vehicles per day.
- The first section of the I-85 project will be from the Catawba River to McAdenville Exit 23.
- There will be local improvements and realignment at exit 26 and at Wilkenson Blvd.
- I-85 will be 4 lanes in both directions.
- The Catawba River to McAdenville section is currently in design phase and is expected to reach 60 percent design in the Fall of 2026.
- Right-of-way acquisition will begin this fall, followed by utility relocation.
- NCDOT is targeting early work on overpasses and bridges by the end of the 2026 and we will probably see construction barrels by this winter.
- No lane closures during the day.
- Railroad bridge widening in the other phases will begin construction before the actual road widening.

Wilkinson Blvd Widening Project:

- Wilkenson Blvd. handles approximately 23,000 vehicles per day.
- The Catawba River to McAdenville section is anticipated to be in service in Spring of 2031.
- Wilkinson Blvd Widening will expand the Catawba River bridge to 3 lanes in each direction with bike/ped room on each side and median in the middle.
- Land clearing is expected by the end of September with construction signs going up in the next couple of weeks.
- The intersection of Wilkinson and Catawba will be converted to a REDUCED CONFLICT INTERSECTION.
- Anticipate completion date for the Catawba River bridge is August 2032.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM upon motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Rankin, second by Greg Richardson and unanimous vote.

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Reid Washam, Mayor Lesley Dellinger, Town Clerk