THE TOWN OF HERTFORD TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION/RETREAT

February 21, 2026 9:00am to 4:00pm
Albemarle Commission Auditorium
512 South Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944

The Council of the Town of Hertford held a Special Session/Retreat Meeting at the Albemarle Commission Auditorium on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Ashley Hodges, Mayor
Connie Brothers, Mayor Pro Tem
Keith Rouse
Sara Winslow

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Evan Copeland

STAFF PRESENT

Doris Walton, Town Manager
Gina Durante, Town Clerk
Ashley Eure, Director of Finance
Sarah Nixon, Executive Assistant
Chad White, Public Services Director
Earline White, Customer Services Director
Renee Hoggard, Public Works Administrator

MISSION STATEMENT

Manager Walton directed Council to the boards on the easels display the Town's Mission Statement and Values. The Strategic Plan and Forgiveness Policy were included in the meeting packet.

Manager Walton lead the meeting and discussions of the following topics:

- **PROGRAMMING – YOUTH**

- **PROGRESS ON TOWN PROJECTS**

    - Dock Improvements/Harbor Towns

- The Connectivity Plan has received one bid so far in our second round. Bids are due by February 27th at 2 PM.
- The Riverfront Plan was done in 2021. Manager Walton explained that plans such as these have a 5-10 lifespan, and we are now at five years. The plans do not require a re-do but does need a revision/refresher.
- Hertford State Theatre. Manager Walton is scheduling a tour of the Theatre for Council. Our architect, Jacob Combee, will be there to answer questions.

- **GREEN SPACES**

  - A new sign has been erected at Missing Mills Park.

  - Our kayak launch has been successful, and we have received monies from rentals. Manager Walton would like to look into bike rentals from the same company as our kayaks and operates under the same concept. The Town pays a one-time initial fee to the company, and the company is responsible for upkeeping and managing the rental process.

  - On February 25th, at 6 PM, Robin Payne will be presenting the data she has collected for the updated Perquimans County Comprehensive Recreation Plan. This updated plan is important to the Town as it benefits us in applying for grants, such as the PARTF. That presentation will take place at the Perquimans County Rec Center.

- **TOWN STREETS / IMPROVEMENTS**

  - Phase I is the work currently being done, including Meads Circle, Meads Loop, Kenya, Carolina, Charles, Pennsylvania, Saunders, Hiland Park, Willow to Railroad, Perry to Willow, Cox, part of King, Market, Dobbs, Edenton Road Street, North Front and Punch Alley.

  - Phase II will include additional waterline work on Crescent, Whedbee, the mobile home park. All work will be completed by December 2026.

- We have accumulated a lot of Powell Bill Funds that we will be using to pave other town streets. Our Powell Bill Funds can only be used for Town-owned roads. Town streets to be milled and paved include:

    - King between Edenton Road Street and East Railroad
    - Cox between Edenton Road Street and East Railroad
    - East Railroad
    - Willow
    - Front
    - Pennsylvania

TOWN GROWTH

- Manager Walton showed Council pictures of the new builds in Town as of January 2024.

- The spray field is being surveyed to correct the language in the legal description. This will help with possible land for future development-subdivision.

GRANT SPREADSHEET

Manager Walton went over the grant spreadsheet in detail.

- $14.9M Infrastructure
    - $3.7M for Sewer Rehab ends 12/2026 58-68% of completion
    - $2.1M for Water Treatment Plant ends 12/2026 80% complete
    - $9M for Waterline Replacement end 12/2026 85-90% complete for Phase I

- $2M Harbor Towns

- $850K NC Department of Commerce for Hertford State Theatre

FUTURE PROJECTS

- Complete Waterline Replacement Project – need additional grants for completion

- Complete Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation – need additional grants for completion

- Jennie's Gut Phase II - need additional grants for completion

ADJOURNMENT

The Special Session/Retreat adjourned was adjourned at 4:00 PM with all scheduled business completed.