Meeting Minutes

**Town Hall Meeting **

Date: 9-17-2026 **Meeting Type:** Regular 6:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor David Spencer called the regular meeting of the Greensboro Mayor and Council to order at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Pastor Morley delivered the invocation.

Attendees and Participants

- Pastor Morley
- Bill Schaffner, 212 South Main Street
- Ashley Strazzza, Recovery Crisis and Services Supervisor, Mid Shore Behavioral Health
- Larry Porter
- Amanda Weaver

Agenda Amendments and Approval

Mayor David Spencer presented the agenda and noted three amendments: addition of the September 14, 2026, emergency meeting minutes for approval; addition of an American Legion Post 91 grant-funding presentation; and addition of a proclamation honoring Dr. Charles Hiram Stonesifer. The Council approved the agenda as amended.

- Agenda amended to add approval of the September 14, 2026, emergency meeting minutes.
- Agenda amended to add an American Legion Post 91 grant-funding presentation $10,000 for Police Department youth program and training.
- Agenda amended to add a proclamation honoring Dr. Charles Hiram Stonesifer.

Motions and Votes

- Motion made by Pete Brelia and seconded by Joe Noon

Approval of Minutes and Statement on Closed Session

The Council reviewed the August 20, 2026, meeting minutes, and September 14, 2026, emergency meeting minutes. Both sets of minutes were approved. Mayor David Spencer then read the statement regarding the prior closed session, advising that the Mayor and Council had met in closed session on August 20, 2026, from 8:16 p.m. to 9:01 p.m. to obtain legal advice regarding an unpaid sewer account and reducing the risk of claims of adverse employment actions.

Motions and Votes

- Pete Brelia made the motion and Joe Noon seconded to approve August 20, 2026, meeting minutes.
- Joe Noon made the motion and Kim Ernest seconded to approve September 14, 2026, emergency meeting minutes.
- Closed-session statement for August 20, 2026, was entered into the record.

Presentations and Proclamations

Mayor David Spencer administered the oath of office to Prendi Garcia as Greensboro Chief of Police, after which Chief Garcia signed the oath book. Ivy Garcia joined Chief Garcia for photographs, and Chief Garcia publicly recognized his post commander and announced a $10,000 donation from American Legion Post 91 of Dorchester/Cambridge.

Mayor Spencer then read a proclamation recognizing National Recovery Month for September 2026. Ashley Strazzza, Recovery Crisis and Services Supervisor for Mid Shore Behavioral Health and a member of the Caroline County Local Drug and Alcohol Addiction Council, thanked the Town for the recognition, described the council's work on prevention, treatment, overdose trends, and recovery resources in Caroline County, and shared that she would celebrate 11 years in recovery on September 28. The Mayor also issued a proclamation honoring Dr. Charles Hiram Stonesifer, noting his nearly 50 years of medical service to Greensboro and the surrounding Caroline County community, his house calls and lifelong dedication to patients, and the location of his office on what is now Stonesifer Lane.

Follow-Up

- Town officials indicated that a future meet-and-greet would be scheduled to allow residents additional time with Chief Garcia.

Committee and Board Reports

No committee or board reports were presented.

Department Report - Town Manager

The Town Manager reported that the eCode project remained in progress, and that staff continued working to compile ordinances and resolutions for online posting. The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on September 28 at 6:30 p.m. for a public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan, which had been submitted to Caroline County and approved there, with State comments still pending. The Town Manager also reported on the fiscal year 2023 audit discussion from the prior meeting, reading a response from the Town's accountant stating that no fraudulent activity had come to his attention during review of fiscal year 2023 and that he did not recommend a forensic audit. The Town Manager further reported that the fiscal year 2024 audit package had been submitted, work on fiscal year 2025 was underway, bank reconciliations were current, and budget-to-actual reporting was now being provided to the Council. In addition, Town manager corrected the tax classification for Mill Street Park from residential to governmental use and obtained a refund of $4,530.71 for three years of county taxes previously paid. The Town also received a $3,300 grant from the Maryland Training Commission for police training. The Hometown Hero flag campaign closed on August 31 with 30 new flags to be ordered by the GVFD, and the Town planned to place a missing-man table in the lobby in recognition of National POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 18. The next regular meeting was announced for October 15.

Follow-Up

- Planning Commission to hold the Comprehensive Plan public hearing on September 28, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

  Commissioner Ernest to resubmit any specific written allegations she wished to have investigated.

Department Report - Public Works

Public Works reported regular park maintenance and additional street sweeping following recent storms. Staff addressed flooding concerns in the meadows area off Hobbs Street. In Goldsboro, staff responded to three pump alarms, all involving clogged residential pumps, and each was cleared. At the wastewater treatment plant, recent storms caused multiple electrical failures and equipment repairs. Public Works obtained a quote from Hill's to rebuild one pump for $6,095.63, compared with $22,666 for a new pump, and recommended rebuilding the unit so a spare would be available. Staff also reported continued review of upgrades to aging communication lines serving the water system. At Jesse Sutton Park, roadway work was underway and paving prices were expected at the next meeting; installation of equipment might be delayed because of a reported 12-week turnaround and temperature limitations for installation. At the boat ramp, the kayak launch project was nearing completion, as we wait for the permit process to be completed, Shrub plantings remain as well. In response to a Council question, Public Works explained that water-main breaks on State roads are typically outsourced because of manpower and regulatory requirements, while breaks on Town streets are generally handled by Town staff.

Follow-Up

- Public Works to return with paving prices for Jesse Sutton Park at a future meeting.

Department Report - Police Department

Chief Prendi Garcia reported that police expenditures for August were approximately $1,000, largely for gas, uniforms, banners, and building upkeep. He thanked Sheriff Donnie Baker and the men and women of the Caroline County Sheriff's Department for handling 102 incidents in Greensboro during August, including civil process, reports, traffic stops, and other law-enforcement duties. He also thanked the Maryland State Police for 40 incidents within Town and expressed appreciation to Chief George Baycorn and the Denton Police Department for support and information-sharing. Chief Garcia advised that draft materials had been prepared for an Explorer program, with assistance from American Legion Post 91, and that he intended to submit a request to Under Armor for uniforms or equipment. He further reported that lesson plans for a Citizens Police Academy and draft materials for a 2026 Citizen of the Year program were being prepared for Council review by the next meeting. Chief Garcia stated that he had already begun assisting the public with safety-related matters and had received complaints about e-bikes, motorcycles, and four-wheelers being operated in the Rowe Street or Rowe Avenue area during evening hours, speeding on Sunset Avenue, and tractor-trailers making an illegal turn at Sunset and Main. He advised that enforcement and visibility would increase in response to those complaints.

Follow-Up

- Chief Garcia to continue development of the Explorer program, Citizens Police Academy, and Citizen of the Year materials for review at the next meeting.
- Chief Garcia to increase attention to motorized vehicle complaints in the Roe Street/Roe Avenue area and speeding concerns on Sunset Avenue.

New Business - Hawkins Chemicals for WWTP

The Council considered payment to Hawkins for wastewater treatment chemicals after 2,000 gallons of aluminum sulfate had been delivered on August 28 while the Town was out of chemical. Staff reported that the invoice totaled $7,280.72, including a $10 fuel surcharge, and exceeded the Town Manager's approval threshold. It was also reported that the contractor had placed the order before Council approval because no intervening meeting had occurred. Council

discussed the cost increase and ordering practices, and staff advised that the contractor had been instructed not to place over-threshold orders without prior Town approval.

Motions and Votes

- Pete Brelia made the motion seconded by Kim Ernest to approve payment of the Hawkins invoice in the amount of $7280.72

New Business - Hill's Pump Unit Replacement for WWTP

The Council considered the Public Works recommendation to rebuild a wastewater-treatment-plant pump through Hill's at a cost of $6,095.63 rather than purchase a new pump for $22,666. During discussion, it was noted that a rebuilt pump would not carry a warranty, while a new pump would include a one-year warranty. Council determined that rebuilding the pump was the more economical option and would allow the Town to restore a spare unit to inventory.

Motions and Votes

- Pete Brelia made the motion and Joe Noon seconded; the council approved the Hills pump rebuild in the amount of $6095.63

New Business - Water Tower Maintenance Bids

The Council reviewed responses to the request for proposals for water tower maintenance. Staff reported concerns with the current vendor, USG, including staff turnover, communication delays, and difficulty obtaining timely coordination for inspections and painting. Two bids were received, one from USG and one from Southern Corrosion. Although USG's first-year cost was reported to be lower by $1,211, staff advised that the USG submission lacked requested items, including insurance documentation and a clear contract start date. Staff further reported that reference checks with nearby municipalities strongly favored Southern Corrosion for responsiveness, scheduling, honesty, and dependability. On staff recommendation, the Council approved changing vendors and awarding the maintenance contract to Southern Persian.

Motions and Votes

- Pete Brelia made the motion and Kim Ernest seconded, the council approved awarding the water tower maintenance contract to Southern Corrosion

New Business - Maryland Municipal League Winter Conference

The Town Manager advised the Council of the upcoming Maryland Municipal League winter conference in Baltimore and noted that $8,000 had been budgeted this year for training based on prior conference participation. Registration and attendance costs were discussed, and Commissioner Ernest stated that she wished to attend. The Mayor stated that he did not plan to attend the winter conference. The Town Manager asked that any council members planning to participate notify her so that registration could be completed through Town accounts and paid directly.

Follow-Up

- Council member Kim Ernest is planning to attend the Maryland Municipal League winter conference to notify the Town Manager for registration and payment processing.

Council Remarks and Adjournment

During Council remarks, Kim Ernest thanked attendees for coming, apologized for the disorder at the previous meeting, and encouraged calm and respectful conduct during public participation. Pete Brelia reminded the public of the Fire Department's weekend rodeo event and thanked law-enforcement agencies for their presence in Town over recent months. Mayor David Spencer echoed appreciation to Sheriff Donnie Baker, the Maryland State Police, and others who assisted Greensboro while the Town was without a police officer, and he invited attendees to remain briefly after adjournment for photographs and brief greetings with Chief Prendi Garcia.

Motions and Votes

- Pete Brelia made the motion to adjourn, and Kim Ernest seconded all in favor.

Adjournment

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm

David Spencer, Mayor