



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD,
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur Miner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Mark Taylor
Pat Shelbourne
Cris Blackburn
Lovie Downey
Andrew Neal
Stephen Welch
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem Place 6
Council Member Place 1
Council Member Place 2 (absent with notice)
Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 7

and

Sandra Gibson
Linda Proskey
Paul Hackleman
Timothy Hamilton
James Lewis
Randy Barkley
Jennifer Calvert
Julie Rodriguez
Lana Ewell
Timothy Hamilton
Randy Richards

City Manager
City Secretary
Director of Public Works/Assistant City
Manager
Director of Parks and Community Services
Police Chief
Fire Chief/Assistant Manager
Director of Finance
Director of Human Resources
Director of Library Services
Director of Parks and Community Services
Assistant Public Works Director

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no request for public comment

PRESENTATION

1. Strategic Plan Update

The Strategic Plan Update was moved to a later date.

2. Budget Workshop

Jennifer Calvert, Finance Director, presented an overview of the proposed FY 2027 budget, including departmental budgets, major budget drivers, transfers, other funds, new funded requests, and unfunded requests. The proposed General Fund budget includes approximately \$20.9 million in expenditures, with Police and Fire representing approximately 49% of the total budget.

The proposed departmental budgets were reviewed, including significant changes in personnel, contractual services, supplies, maintenance, and capital expenditures. The Personnel Enhancement Plan includes the approved reclassification of three Fire Department lieutenants to captains based on the recent compensation study, while several other requested positions and enhancements were not included due to budget constraints.

The General Fund transfers are proposed to increase to \$643,000, including funding for equipment replacement, capital projects, and Strategic Initiatives. Other funds, including Storm Drain, Water and Sewer, Municipal Court, Police Crime Control, and Economic Development, were also reviewed.

New funded requests total approximately \$352,000 in one-time expenditures and \$12,000 in ongoing expenditures. An additional \$40,000 in one-time expenditures is expected to be covered through current fiscal year savings. Several unfunded requests were also discussed, including facility improvements, equipment, ADA improvements, and other departmental needs. Chief Barkley will research grant opportunities for the unfunded fire hydrant quick-connect adapters.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Approved: this 24 day of August, 2026

Signed: this 25 day of August, 2026

APPROVED:

/s/ Arthur L. Miner
Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Linda Proskey
Linda Proskey, City Secretary

