



Town of Blowing Rock

Board of Commissioners Meeting

Date: *Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 6:00 p.m.*

Location: *1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock, NC 28605*

Agenda

<i>Item</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter and Participants</i>
I.	CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE	Mayor Charles Sellers
II.	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Mayor Charles Sellers
III.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES – By Roll Call 1. December 9, 2025 – Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes REGULAR AGENDA ADOPTION	Mayor & Council Mayor & Council
IV.	CONSENT AGENDA: 1. Budget Amendment – 2025-21	Mayor & Council
V.	PUBLIC COMMENTS <i>Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes</i>	
VI.	SPECIAL RECOGNITION: 1. Former Council Members – Melissa Pickett and Pete Gherini 2. Sergeant Daniel Harris	Mayor & Council Chief Nathen Kirk
VII.	REGULAR AGENDA: 1. Blowing Rock Chamber Update 2. Selection of RTAC Member (Rural Transportation Advisory Committee) for High Country Council of Government 3. Selection of TDA (Tourism and Development Authority) Council Representative 4. Selection of EDC (Economic Development Commission) Representative	Executive Director Robin Miller Mayor & Council

VIII.	OFFICIALS REPORTS & COMMENTS: 1. Mayor 2. Council Members 3. Town Attorney 4. Town Manager	
IX.	CLOSED SESSION – None	
X.	ADJOURNMENT/RECESS... <i>Mayor Charles Sellers entertains a motion and second to adjourn or recess the meeting</i>	

DRAFT
MINUTES
Town of Blowing Rock
Town Council Meeting
December 9, 2025

The Town of Blowing Rock Town Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting took place at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock, NC. Present were Mayor Charlie Sellers, Mayor Pro-Tem Doug Matheson, Council Members Cat Perry and David Harwood. Newly Elected Council Members Wayne Miller and Melissa Tausche. Council Members Melissa Pickett and Pete Gherini were unable to attend. Others in attendance were Interim Town Manager Lane Bailey, Town Attorney Joey Petrack, Planning Director Kevin Rothrock, Police Chief Nathan Kirk, Finance Director Tasha Brown, Public Works Director Matt Blackburn, IT Director Thomas Steele, Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Brown and Town Clerk Hilari Hubner, who recorded the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sellers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Mayor Sellers verified attendance via roll call.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTE APPROVAL

Mayor Pro-Tem Matheson made the motion to approve the minutes from November 12, 2025, regular session and closed session, seconded by Council Member Harwood. Unanimously approved.

Mayor Sellers asked Interim Town Manager Lane Bailey to move the Special Recognition of Council Members Pickett and Gherini to the January meeting since both were unable to attend.

OATH OF OFFICE

Town Clerk Hilari Hubner administered the Oath of Office to incumbent Mayor Charlie Sellers, incumbent Council Member Doug Matheson and newly elected Council Member Wayne Miller.

Clerk of Superior Court Charles Haynes administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Council Member Melissa Tausche.

Mayor Sellers asked Council if they would agree to move the selection of RTAC Member and TDA Council representative selection to Winter Retreat. Council consensus was to move those selections to Winter Retreat.

SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM

Mayor Sellers opened the floor for nominations for Mayor Pro-Tem. Current Mayor Pro-

Tem Matheson nominated Council Member Harwood, Council Member Miller seconded the nomination. Unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA ADOPTION

Council Member Perry made a motion to adopt the regular agenda, seconded by Council Member Tausche. Unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Budget Amendment - #2025-20**
2. **Middle Fork Greenway Resolution of Easements – Town of Blowing Rock and ARHS Properties**
3. **Consent for Interim Town Manager W. Lane Bailey to sign closing documents – Purchase of Land from the Blowing Rock Conference Center**

Council Member Tausche made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Harwood. Unanimously approved.

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

NONE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Retreat Date Approval – January 26, 27 and 28, 2026 at the Blowing Rock Conference Center**

Council Member Matheson made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Member Miller. Unanimously approved.

2. **Code of Conduct – Signature of the Board**

Mayor Pro-Tem Harwood made a motion to approve the Code of Conduct, seconded by Council Member Perry. The Board signed the code of conduct form which is to be done annually.

OFFICIAL REPORTS & COMMENTS

- Mayor Sellers – Thanked staff for all their hard work during the snow removal, thanked staff for their hard work for the Christmas parade and the lighting of the Town, welcomed new Council Members, thanked outgoing Council Members Pickett and Gherini and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.
- Council Member Perry – Noted Blowing Rock has the best employees anywhere around and offered her many thanks to all of them, welcomed Council Members Miller and Tausche - looks forward to working with them, wished everyone Happy Holidays.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Harwood – Welcomed new Council Members Miller and Tausche, thanked outgoing Council Members Pickett and Gherini for their service to the Town, welcomed Interim Town Manager Lane Bailey, thanked Parks and Recreation staff for a great parade, noted he had the pleasure to drive the old fire

truck in the parade, thanked public works for their hard work with snow removal and thanked Council for entrusting him as Mayor Pro-Tem.

- Council Member Miller – Acknowledged the Town has the best staff around and its Councils job to maintain that, he is honored to be serving the voters of Blowing Rock.
- Council Member Matheson – Welcomed Council Members Miller and Tausche, has enjoyed serving with outgoing Council Members Pickett and Gherini, gave an update from his RISK Management meeting from the NC League – retirement changes, Bill 382 is on hold, insurance claims are up in the state - make sure insurance policies are up to date.
- Council Member Tausche – Honor to serve the citizens of Blowing Rock and a pleasure to serve with all the Council, congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Harwood for his new role, welcomed Interim Manager Bailey, acknowledged the great Christmas parade and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- Town Attorney Joey Petrack – None
- Interim Town Manager Lane Bailey – loved the snow this past week, thanked public works director Matt Blackburn and his staff for the hard work during the past week of winter weather, later in the week there will be an orientation session for the two new Council Members – giving the opportunity to meet with department heads individually, recommends the newly elected Council Members attend the Essentials of Government Class, numerous complaints about the parking situation at the post office – the Town has no control over that as it is private property – Town staff has tried to reach out to the property owner – he and Mayor have reached out to Virginia Foxx’s office to see if there is anything their office can do, only been here two weeks and can say the Town is very blessed with their staff- there are very talented individuals on staff and he looks forward to working with everyone during his time here.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:30 p.m. Council Member Perry made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11.(a)(3) consultant with an attorney regarding judicial action, NCGS 143-318.11.(a)(5) – discussion of potential property acquisition and NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(6) – to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Harwood. Unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:55 p.m. Council returned to open session. With no further action, Council Member Miller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Perry. Unanimously approved.

MAYOR _____
Charlie Sellers, Mayor

ATTEST _____
Hilari Hubner, Town Clerk

Attachments

Budget Amendment #2025-20 – Attachment A

**Middle Fork Greenway Resolution of Easements – Town of Blowing Rock and ARHS
– Attachment B**



Town of Blowing Rock

1036 Main Street ★ Post Office Box 47 ★ Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605

To: Mr. Lane Bailey, Mayor Sellers, and Members of Town Council

From: Tasha Brown, Finance Officer

Subject: Budget Amendment Ordinance to Account for Various Items
(Ordinance #2026-01)

Date: January 13, 2026

Enclosed please find a Budget Amendment Ordinance for the fiscal year 2025-2026 for your consideration.

Section 1 (General Fund) allocates funding as follows:

- Allocates funds (\$806) donated to the Blowing Rock Academy by the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce, High Country Childcare Stabilization Grant. This allocation has been directed towards Materials/Supplies – P&R.

Section 2 (Water/Sewer Fund) allocates funding as follows:

- Allocates fund balance (\$11,000) to cover increased costs for engineering fees for various water/sewer projects. This allocation has been directed towards Engineering Services – W/S Admin.
-

Section 3 (General Fund) allocates funding as follows:

- Allocates Afterschool fees received over budget (\$10,400) and fund balance (\$31,872) to cover increased costs for staffing and supplies for the afterschool program. This is due to an increase in the number of children attending than expected. This allocation also covers the increased cost of the department's utilities and unforeseen staffing costs for the department. This allocation has been directed towards various lines for the P&R department as listed on page 2.

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
10-80-6100-033	Materials/Supplies	\$ 55,600	\$ -	\$ 806	\$ 56,406
			\$ -	\$ 806	

This will result in a net increase of \$806 in the appropriations of the General Fund. As a result, the following revenue will be increased.

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
10-00-3400-358	Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 806	\$ 806
			\$ -	\$ 806	

Section 2. To amend the Water/Sewer Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
30-91-7110-721	Engineering Services	\$ 4,482	\$ -	\$ 11,000	\$ 15,482
			\$ -	\$ 11,000	

This will result in a net increase of \$11,000 in the appropriations of the Water/Sewer Fund. As a result, the following revenue will be increased.

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
30-91-3400-399	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000
			\$ -	\$ 11,000	

Section 3. To amend the General Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
10-80-6100-002	Recreation Dept. Salaries	\$ 369,865	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 389,865
10-80-6100-005	FICA	\$ 46,234	\$ -	\$ 1,930	\$ 48,164
10-80-6100-007	401K	\$ 8,782	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 9,782
10-80-6100-008	Retirement	\$ 79,055	\$ -	\$ 4,342	\$ 83,397
10-80-6100-013	Utilities - Park/Office	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000
10-80-6100-135	Materials/Supplies - Afterschool Care	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 17,000
10-80-6100-207	Seasonal Salaries - Afterschool Care	\$ 42,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 47,000
			\$ -	\$ 42,272	

This will result in a net increase of \$42,272 in the appropriations of the General Fund. As a result, the following revenue will be increased.

<u>Acct. No.</u>		<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Appropriation</u>
10-80-3400-375	Afterschool Care Fees	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ 10,400	\$ 50,400
10-00-3400-399	Fund Balance Appropriated	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,872	\$ 31,872
			\$ -	\$ 42,272	

Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Town Council and to the Finance Officer for their implementation.

Adopted this 13th day of January 2026.

Attested by:

Charles Sellers, Mayor

Hilari Hubner, Town Clerk