



Wake Forest Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

The Wake Forest Board of Commissioners met on **Tuesday, May 19, 2026**, at **6:00 p.m.** in the Board Room at Wake Forest Town Hall, 301 S Brooks Street.

Mayor Clapsaddle called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members of Boys Scout Troop 500 led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Members Present: Mayor Ben C. Clapsaddle, Commissioner Haseeb Fatmi, Commissioner Faith Cross, Commissioner Nick Sliwinski, Commissioner Adam Wright, and Commissioner Keith Shackelford.

Commissioner Members Absent:

Staff Members Present

Town Manager Kip Padgett
Assistant Town Manager Candace Davis
Assistant Town Manager Allison Snyder
Assistant Town Manager Aileen Staples
Town Attorney Nathan McKinney
Deputy Town Clerk Ella Dowtin
Police Chief Julius Jefferson
Police Captain David Zick
Police Captain Brandon High
Fire Chief Ron Early
Engineering Director Tim Watson
Planning Director Jennifer Currin
Interim WFCAA Director Monica Lileton

Budget and Performance Director
Michelle Daniels
Finance Director Samantha Sanchez
Budget and Performance Analyst
Benjamin Blevins
Budget and Performance Analyst
Davianna Humble
Senior Planner- Michelle Michael
Planner I – Development Services
Ari Schwartz
Community Engagement Manager
Zoe Taylor

1. Approval of Agenda

ACTION:

Mover: Commissioner Wright moved to approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Commissioner Sliwinski

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

Mayor Clapsaddle advised of amendments to the agenda, noting the addition of a Recognition of WFPD J. Fuquay for MADD Excellence, Proclamation for LGBTQ+ Pride, Proclamation for National Day of Prayer, and Proclamation for Mental Health Month.

***Denotes addition to the agenda below.**

2. Approval of Minutes

2.A. Draft BOC Minutes

- April 7, 2026, BOC Work Session and April 21, 2026, BOC Regular Meeting

ACTION:

Mover: Commissioner Wright moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Second: Commissioner Sliwinski

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

3. Presentations

Mayor Clapsaddle advised the Board was honored to recognize Wake Forest Police Officer Jordan Fuquay for receiving the 2026 Driving While Impaired (DWI) Enforcer Award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) North Carolina. Mayor Clapsaddle explained that the award was presented during the MADD Awards of Excellence Ceremony held on April 30, 2026, in Selma, North Carolina, and emphasized the importance of publicly recognizing Officer Fuquay's achievement before the community. Mayor Clapsaddle noted that Officer Fuquay graduated from East Carolina University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in criminal justice. Officer Fuquay began his law enforcement career with the Winterville Police Department in August 2019 before joining the Wake Forest Police Department in May 2023. Since becoming a member of the department, Officer Fuquay has consistently demonstrated professionalism, dedication, and a strong commitment to protecting public safety.

Mayor Clapsaddle further explained the significance of the MADD North Carolina Enforcer Award, noting that it recognizes law enforcement officers whose efforts help remove impaired drivers from roadways and reduce alcohol-related crashes and fatalities. Mayor Clapsaddle advised that award recipients are evaluated based on their DWI enforcement efforts in relation to the size of the community they serve. Mayor Clapsaddle reported that in 2025, Officer Fuquay was responsible for 47 of the Wake Forest Police Department's 255 DWI arrests and noted that by May 15, 2026, Officer Fuquay had already accounted for 15 of the department's 86 DWI arrests for the year. Mayor Clapsaddle commended Officer Fuquay for his vigilance, dedication, and commitment to keeping the community safe. He stated that Officer Fuquay's efforts have made a meaningful contribution to public safety in Wake Forest and expressed the Board's appreciation for his hard work and professionalism. Mayor Clapsaddle then invited those in attendance to join him in recognizing Officer Fuquay for the well-deserved honor and his continued service to the community.

3.A. Resolution recognizing Katherine Tharrington on their retirement from the Town of Wake Forest

RESOLUTION 2026-33

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR
THE SERVICES OF**

Katherine Tharrington

WHEREAS Katherine "Kathy" was initially hired as a Public Works Administrative Assistant with the Wake Forest Public Works Department for the Town of Wake Forest, effective November 2, 2020, and

WHEREAS, with just over 5 years of service with the Town, Katherine has served unselfishly in this capacity for the good of Wake Forest, and, in recognition of her outstanding service and dedication, we honor a remarkable Administrative Assistant whose unwavering commitment has left a lasting impact on the Public Works Department and the community it serves. Known for her exceptional customer service, she consistently goes above and beyond to assist residents, colleagues, and partners with professionalism, kindness, and efficiency. A true cornerstone of the department, she has been instrumental in holding operations together, ensuring the stability and success of the Solid Waste Program, and providing vital support across the Streets, Urban Forestry, and Fleet Departments. Her positive spirit and natural ability to uplift those around her have made her a cherished morale booster and trusted team member. Through her tireless efforts, attention to detail, and genuine care for others, she has set a standard of excellence that will continue to inspire long after her well-earned retirement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wake Forest, North Carolina, that Katherine Tharrington is hereby officially commended by this Board on behalf

of the citizens of Wake Forest for valuable and outstanding service rendered to the Town of Wake Forest in this official capacity as an Administrative Assistant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be made a part of the permanent records of the Town of Wake Forest and that a copy of this resolution be presented to Katherine Tharrington.

This is the 19th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:

Ben Clapsaddle
Mayor

Evelyn Wright
Town Clerk

3.B. Proclamation for LGBTQ+ Pride*

*Proclamation Recognizing LGBTQ+ PRIDE Month
June 2026*

WHEREAS, the Town of Wake Forest is strengthened by the diversity of its residents, families, businesses, and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ Pride Month is recognized nationally each June to honor the history, contributions, and resilience of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning individuals; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ residents have long contributed to the cultural, civic, and economic life of Wake Forest; and

WHEREAS, fostering an inclusive and welcoming community supports the health, safety, and wellbeing of all residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2026 as "LGBTQ+ Pride Month." As the Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, I encourage residents to reflect on the importance of respect, understanding, and belonging for all members of our community.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 19th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:



Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor

Evelyn Wright, Town Clerk

3.C. Proclamation for National Day of Prayer*

**PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

MAY 7, 2026

WHEREAS, Our community is strongest when we come together in times of both joy and challenge to care for one another, share gratitude, and lift each other up, recognizing that our collective strength is rooted in compassion, connection, and a shared commitment to the well-being of all; and

WHEREAS, Throughout our nation's history, people have turned to prayer, reflection, and acts of service in moments of uncertainty and celebration alike, seeking hope, wisdom, and encouragement while strengthening the bonds that unite neighbors, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, In our Town, these traditions continue each day as residents, faith communities, civic groups, and local organizations come together in homes, workplaces, and community spaces to support one another, serve those in need, and foster a spirit of kindness, belonging, and mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, The National Day of Prayer, established by Public Law in 1952 and observed each year on the first Thursday of May, provides a meaningful opportunity for people of all backgrounds to come together — through prayer, reflection, meditation, and acts of kindness — in ways that honor their individual beliefs while strengthening the unity and shared purpose of our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2026, as a DAY OF PRAYER, REFLECTION, AND COMMUNITY UNITY throughout our Town, and warmly encourage all residents to participate in ways meaningful to them — through prayer, quiet reflection, helping a neighbor, or joining in community activities — to nurture compassion, strengthen connections, and inspire hope.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 5th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:



Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor

Evelyn Wright, Town Clerk

3.D. National Senior Health and Fitness Day Proclamation

**PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL SENIOR HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY**

MAY 27, 2026

WHEREAS, May is designated as Older Americans Month and National Physical Fitness and Sports Month; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate to honor our mature citizens for their many contributions to the vitality and strength of our community; and

WHEREAS, The United States Surgeon General has determined that regular physical activity results in significant health benefits and improved quality of life for older adults; and

WHEREAS, All older adults can participate in activities that improve and maintain their health;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 27, 2026, as NATIONAL SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS DAY in the town of Wake Forest, NC, and urge all our citizens to support the efforts of local organizations that encourage older adults to enhance their lives through regular physical activity.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 19th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:



Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor

Evelyn Wright, Town Clerk

3.E. Proclamation Chronic Illness & Medical Advocacy Awareness Month May 2026

PROCLAMATION
Chronic Illness & Medical Advocacy Awareness Month
May 2026

WHEREAS, chronic illnesses affect millions of individuals across the United States, many of whom experience complex, multi-system symptoms that can be difficult to diagnose and manage; and

WHEREAS, individuals living with chronic illness often face significant delays in diagnosis, barriers to proper care, and challenges navigating the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness and education surrounding chronic illness can lead to earlier recognition of symptoms, improved patient outcomes, and greater support within communities; and

WHEREAS, medical advocacy plays a vital role in empowering individuals to understand their health, communicate effectively with healthcare providers, and seek appropriate care; and

WHEREAS, fostering a community that supports education, awareness, and advocacy helps ensure that individuals living with chronic illness feel seen, heard, and supported;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as “Chronic Illness & Medical Advocacy Awareness Month” in Wake Forest, and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of awareness, education, and advocacy in supporting those affected by chronic illness.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 19th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:

Evelyn Wright, Town Clerk



Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor

3.F. Proclamation for Mental Health Month*

PROCLAMATION
RECOGNIZING MAY 2026 AS “MENTAL HEALTH MONTH”

WHEREAS, there is a proven connection between good mental health and overall personal health, and mental illnesses affect almost every family in America; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illnesses recover if given the necessary services and support in their communities, and people with mental illnesses make important contributions to our families and our communities; and

WHEREAS, millions of adults and children are disabled by mental illnesses every year only one out of two people with a serious form of mental illness seeks treatment for his or her mental illness; and

WHEREAS, stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help, research shows that the most effective way to reduce stigma is through personal contact with someone with a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, good mental health is critical to the well-being of our families, communities, schools, and businesses, greater public awareness about mental illnesses can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illnesses;

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, and the Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as “**MENTAL HEALTH MONTH**”. As the Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, I also call upon all Town of Wake Forest citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.*

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 19th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:



Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor

Evelyn Wright, Town Clerk

3.G. Tourette's Syndrome Day Proclamation

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING TOURETTE'S SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, Tourette Syndrome is an inherited neurological disorder that is characterized by involuntary physical and vocal tics that occur many times a day; and

WHEREAS, Tourette Syndrome is often accompanied by other mental health disorders such as attention deficit and obsessive-compulsive disorder, learning disabilities, and anxiety; and

WHEREAS, Tourette Syndrome and persistent tic disorders affect 1 in 50 children.

More than 46,000 children ages 5-17 in the State of North Carolina alone are dealing with Tourette Syndrome or Tic disorder, and although some of these cases are aided by medication, there is no standard treatment or known cure for the disorder; and

WHEREAS, there is an important need for more professional help with interest and expertise to identify, counsel, and treat people with Tourette Syndrome, a disorder that is often misdiagnosed and misunderstood; and

WHEREAS, positive actions to assist children and families living with Tourette Syndrome would result from a broadening of public and professional knowledge and acceptance of Tourette Syndrome; and

WHEREAS, the Tourette Association of America is actively providing services to families, educating medical professionals and teachers, and supporting research to better understand the signs and treatments of TS;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor of City of the Town of Wake Forest, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim June 4, 2026, Tourette Syndrome Awareness Day in the Town of Wake Forest as a special day to promote understanding, compassion, and acceptance for all of our fellow citizens who deserve and need our support to break the stigma that surrounds Tourette Syndrome.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 19th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:



Ben C. Clapsaddle, Mayor

Evelyn Wright, Town Clerk

4. Public hearings / Public Comment

- 4.A. Public hearing on a contiguous annexation submitted by property owners, Ritchie Family Properties, located at 1313 N White Street being Wake County PIN 1851089042 being approximately 7.76 acres.

Benjamin Ho, representing the developer under contract to acquire the property,

advised that he was available to answer any questions from the Board or staff regarding the proposed annexation. However, Mr. Ho respectfully requested that the Board delay action on the annexation request for approximately one month. Mr. Ho explained that the developer's due diligence process was taking longer than anticipated and that work on the site plan was still ongoing. The developer wanted to avoid finalizing the annexation before completing the necessary planning and evaluation efforts. Mr. Ho indicated that he would be happy to address any questions from the Board, though none were raised at that time. Mayor Clapsaddle determined that the public hearing should remain open allowing additional time for the developer to complete its due diligence and provide further information. Mayor Clapsaddle noted that the hearing would be continued for approximately 30 days and invited comments from the Board, though none were offered.

4.B. Public Hearing to receive public comment on the proposed FY 2026-2027 Annual Operating Budget

Mayor Clapsaddle opened the floor for public comments.

Public Comment:

Abby Black – 520 S Main Street – Wake Forest, NC 27587

Jennifer Amyx – 9908 Calvados Dr – Wake Forest, NC 27587

Margaret Watkins – 407 Belmellen Ct – Wake Forest, NC 27587

Mayor Clapsaddle declared the public hearing closed.

- 4.C. Public Comment: If anyone would like to address the Board of Commissioners on an item other than a public hearing item during the time of public comment, please sign up with the Town Clerk prior to the meeting. Each speaker is asked to limit comments to 3 minutes. Please provide the clerk with copies of any handouts you have for the Board. Although the Board is interested in hearing your concerns, speakers should not expect Board action or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the Public Comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate Town Staff and may be scheduled for a future agenda. Thank you for your consideration of the Board of Commissioners, staff, and other speakers.

Mayor Clapsaddle opened the floor for general comments.

Public Comment:

Sara Lind – 907 S Franklin Street – Wake Forest, NC 27587

Jennifer Amyx – 9908 Calvados Dr – Wake Forest, NC 27587

Margaret Watkins – 407 Belmellen Ct – Wake Forest, NC 27587

Mayor Clapsaddle declared the public comments closed.

5. Consent Agenda

(A Consent Agenda is a group of items passed with a single motion and vote. These matters are of a generally routine nature. No debate is allowable on any item included on the Consent Agenda. If a commissioner or any citizen of Wake Forest or its ETJ wants separate consideration of any item, it may be removed from the Consent Agenda by request.)

5.A Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment # 5 - FY 2026-2027

ACTION:

Mover: Commissioner Wright moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Seconded: Commissioner Sliwinski

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

6. Legislative Items

No Legislative Item presented.

7. Planning Items

No Planning Items presented.

8. Administration and Financial Items

No Administrative and Financial Items presented.

9. Public Services Items

No Public Service Items presented.

10. Parks and Recreation Items

No Parks and Recreation Items presented.

11. Public Safety Items

No Public Safety Items presented.

12. Other Business

12.A. Department Monthly Reports

Received.

12.B. May Tax Report

Received.

12.C. Commissioners Report

Commissioner Wright advised that he had been absent from the previous meeting due to illness but had several updates to share. Commissioner Wright advised he served as master of ceremonies for the recent Friday Night on White event featuring the Sleeping Booty Band. Commissioner Wright praised Town staff for their efforts in organizing and executing the event, describing it as another successful community gathering. Commissioner Wright noted that attendance appeared to be exceptionally strong. Commissioner Wright also provided an update on the recent STEM event organized by the Town's Technology Advisory Board. He described the event as a success and expressed appreciation for the community participation and support it received. Commissioner Wright shared that organizers are already exploring ways to expand and enhance the event for next year. He noted that new connections had been established with state museums and other organizations, which could lead to additional exhibits and interactive opportunities for participants. Commissioner Wright expressed optimism that these partnerships would allow the event to continue growing and provide even more educational experiences for students and families in the future. Finally, Commissioner Wright announced that he would be serving as master of ceremonies for the upcoming "Six Sundays in Spring" concert at Joyner Park and thanked those involved in making Wake Forest's public programs successful.

Commissioner Cross advised she attended one of the recent "Six Sundays in Spring" concerts, noting that despite very warm weather conditions, the event was well attended and successful. Commissioner Cross also announced an upcoming "Coffee with the Commissioner" gathering scheduled for Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. and encouraged residents to attend and engage in conversation about community issues. In addition, Commissioner Cross highlighted the upcoming meeting of the Town's AARP

Age-Friendly Committee. Commissioner Cross advised of the recent National Day of Prayer activities, explaining that although the official outdoor event was canceled because of weather conditions, approximately 37 individuals still gathered in the rain to participate in prayer. She described the turnout as encouraging and thanked the local seminary for hosting a breakfast associated with the observance, noting that the event was well organized and appreciated by attendees. Commissioner Cross also shared that she attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Wake Forest Exchange. She noted that one of the new businesses opening at the development will be a burrito restaurant. Commissioner Cross concluded expressed appreciation for the community events and activities taking place throughout Wake Forest.

Commissioner Fatmi informed the Board and public that the meeting was likely to be his final meeting as a member of the Wake Forest Board of Commissioners due to an anticipated transition to state-level public service. Commissioner Fatmi announced that he had recently been nominated and selected to fill the vacant Senate seat of Senator Terence Everitt and that he expected the appointment process to be finalized by the end of the week or early the following week., Commissioner Fatmi advised, upon confirmation of the appointment, he anticipates resigning from his position as commissioner. Commissioner Fatmi expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve the community and described his tenure on the Board as a rewarding experience. He thanked his fellow Commissioners for their partnership and support and commended Town staff for their professionalism and dedication. Commissioner Fatmi specifically recognized Town Manager Kip Padgett for his leadership and behind-the-scenes work in ensuring the Town's operations run smoothly and effectively. Commissioner Fatmi stated that Wake Forest functions as a well-managed organization due to the efforts of its staff and leadership and expressed his hope that he had served the community well as a commissioner. Commissioner Fatmi advised that he would continue to do so in his new role, thanking everyone for their support and confidence throughout his service.

Commissioner Sliwinski advised that he was looking forward to hosting the Six Sundays in Spring event on May 31st, highlighting it as an upcoming community gathering. Also, Commissioner Sliwinski attended the Northeast Community Coalition meeting, where discussions focused on planning for the Town's Juneteenth celebration scheduled for June 20th. Commissioner Sliwinski explained that this year's celebration would include some changes due to ongoing construction at Taylor Street Park. Rather than holding the traditional outdoor event at the park on the evening before Juneteenth, organizers plan to host a program from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. inside the Alston-Massenburg Center. Commissioner Sliwinski noted that the change was influenced by the park construction, the anticipated opening of Joey McCrea Wiggins Park, and expected summer heat conditions, including the availability of the sprayground.

Commissioner Shackelford shared his recent experience participating in the Wake Forest Fire Department's CPR and First Aid training program. He praised the program as outstanding community service and noted that the classes, which are offered monthly with limited enrollment, appear to consistently reach full capacity.

Commissioner Shackelford specifically commended the instructors, including Lieutenant Lamberti, Firefighter First Class Haag, and other fire department personnel, for presenting the material in a clear, informative, and engaging manner. He stated that the instructors effectively answered questions from participants and made the training easy to understand, particularly for individuals with little or no previous CPR experience. Commissioner Shackelford extended appreciation for the Fire Department's commitment to public education and encouraged the continuation of the program. Chief Early thanked Commissioner Shackelford for participating in the CPR and First Aid training program and for his positive feedback. He explained that the program has been successful because Town leadership and management have supported the Fire Department's efforts to provide CPR education to residents. Chief Early noted that the classes are offered to the public at minimal cost, with participants essentially covering only the expense of certification materials. Chief Early emphasized the value of CPR training as an important life-saving skill and expressed hope that more Wake Forest residents would take advantage of the opportunity. A member of Troop 500 requested that the class be better publicized to the community as he was unaware that a CPR class was available to the community.

Deputy Town Clerk Ella Downtin had no updates.

Town Manager Kip Padgett had no updates.

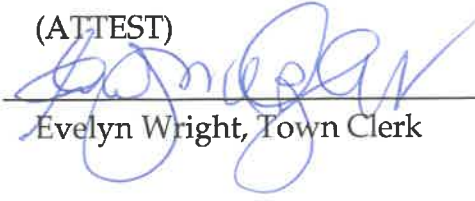
Mayor Clapsaddle extended appreciation to Fire Chief Early and the members of the Wake Forest Fire Department for their service to the community. Mayor Clapsaddle advised he attended the department's annual awards banquet and the event was both meaningful and inspiring. Mayor Clapsaddle noted that hearing the stories of firefighters, their families, retirees, and former department members highlighted the dedication and professionalism of the department. Mayor Clapsaddle was particularly moved by testimonies from individuals whose lives had been saved through the actions of firefighters and emergency responders. He commended Chief Early's leadership and expressed appreciation for the department's continued commitment to protecting the community. Mayor Clapsaddle acknowledged the many celebrations and observances occurring throughout the month, including graduation season and the accomplishments of students and families entering new stages of life. Mayor Clapsaddle recognized several national and community observances, including Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Mental Health Awareness Month, Military Appreciation Month, Small Business Month, and Teacher Appreciation Week.

He also highlighted National Public Works Week, emphasizing the important contributions of public works employees who help maintain essential services and infrastructure throughout the Town. Mayor Clapsaddle recognized Wake Forest's 2026 Public Works Employee of the Year, Craig Winley. He explained that the award was especially meaningful because it was based on nominations and support from fellow employees. Mayor Clapsaddle read portions of the nomination, noting that Mr. Winley was praised for his dedication, professionalism, teamwork, and willingness to go above and beyond in service to the Town. Although Mr. Winley was not present, Mayor Clapsaddle asked those in attendance to join him in recognizing the achievement and expressing appreciation for his contributions. Mayor Clapsaddle also recognized two important memorial observances during the month. He noted that Peace Officers Memorial Day, on May 15th, honored law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty and reminded attendees of the significance of Memorial Day, which honors the men and women of the armed forces who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the nation. Mayor Clapsaddle encouraged residents to take time during the holiday weekend to reflect on and remember those who gave their lives for the freedoms enjoyed today. Reflecting on the proclamations and recognitions presented throughout the meeting, Mayor Clapsaddle stated that they demonstrated the resilience, diversity, and promise of the Wake Forest community. He highlighted several outstanding young residents whose accomplishments brought distinction to the Town. Mayor Clapsaddle recognized Azaria Astor and Candace Honeycutt, both members of the Boys & Girls Club of Wake Forest, for earning Youth of the Year honors at the local and organizational levels. He praised the young women for exemplifying hard work, strong character, leadership, and service to others, noting that their achievements reflected positively on the community. Mayor Clapsaddle also recognized Gabrielle Pendola, a senior at Franklin Academy, for receiving an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. He described the appointment as an extraordinary accomplishment that reflected her academic excellence, leadership abilities, discipline, athletic achievements, and commitment to public service. Mayor Clapsaddle noted that her selection represented both a personal achievement and the beginning of a path dedicated to serving the nation. Mayor Clapsaddle encouraged residents to enjoy the upcoming summer season while prioritizing safety and looking out for one another. He thanked everyone who attended the meeting and all those who had been recognized throughout the evening. Mayor Clapsaddle also expressed appreciation to the leaders and volunteers of Boy Scout Troop 500 for their efforts in mentoring young people and helping develop future community leaders and responsible citizens.

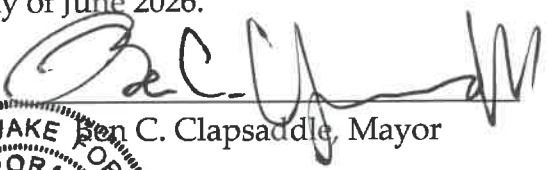
Mayor Clapsaddle adjourned the meeting at 7:02 pm.

Duly approved in open session this 16th day of June 2026.

(ATTEST)


Evelyn Wright, Town Clerk




Ron C. Clapsaddle, Mayor