

**Town of Eastover - Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Eastover Community Center**

**x☐Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Presiding.
Council Members: x☐Bruce R. Sykes, x☐E. Wayne Beard, x☐Kimberly F. McPhail,
x☐Frederick A. Williams, x☐M. Stan Crumpler, and x☐Lisa Sessoms-Lewis**

MINUTES OF MEETING – April 14, 2026

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly McPhail, Frederick A. Williams, Lisa Sessoms-Lewis, Bruce R. Sykes, E. Wayne Beard and M. Stan Crumpler attended the April 14, 2026, Eastover Town Council Meeting. A quorum was present at the Town Council Meeting. Also, in attendance were Mr. Ronald Autry, Town Administrator, and Mr. Donald Hudson, Town Attorney. Ms. Elizabeth Bass, Town Clerk, was absent from the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Charles McLaurin called the April 14, 2026, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Council Member Wayne Beard gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/deny the agenda. Council Member Kimberly McPhail made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stan Crumpler. The vote was unanimous for approval.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Members of the public may address the Town Council on items not listed on the printed agenda. Please state your name and address and observe the three (3) minute time limit. The total comment period will be 15 minutes or less. Citizens should sign up with the Clerk to speak prior to the start of the meeting.

Mr. Danny Matthews, President, Eastover Fire Department Board of Directors.

Mr. Danny Matthews stated he would like to sign residents up for free smoke detectors at the concerts. Mr. Matthews stated the fire department would install them for the residents.

The Eastover Fire Department will be hosting a movie night for Elementary aged children on June 6, 2026, at the Eastover Ballpark.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Consider approval of the Town Council Meeting Minutes for March 10, 2026.**
- 2. Consider approval of the February 2026 Financial Reports.**

Mayor McLaurin asked the Council if they had any questions concerning the Consent Agenda. There were none. Council Member Bruce Sykes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lisa Sessoms-Lewis. The vote was unanimous for approval.

VI. DISCUSSION AGENDA:

Agenda Item #1:

Cumberland County Community Development

Cumberland County's Community Development Department acts as the grant administrator for entitlement funds awarded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In compliance with HUD regulations, the County must prepare an Annual Action Plan detailing proposed projects for the Program Year (PY)/Fiscal Year (FY). This plan is a necessary component of the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan (5-Year Strategic Plan), outlining priority needs, goals, and objectives that Cumberland County plans to accomplish to meet the needs of the community over the five-year period. This Annual Action Plan covers the PY2026 grant cycle, marking the second year towards the goals set in the Consolidated Plan. The grant cycle will run from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

Agenda Item #2:

S. Preston Douglas FY 2026 Audit Contract

The new contract will cost \$15,750.00 plus \$4,000.00 if a special audit is needed. The contract will not exceed \$19,750.00. The Fiscal Year 2025 contract totaled \$14,500 plus \$3,750 if a special audit was needed.

After a brief discussion, Mayor McLaurin asked the Council if they had any questions concerning the FY 2026 Audit Contract. There were none. Council Member Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve the FY 2026 Audit Contract. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lisa Sessoms-Lewis. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Agenda Item #3:

Cash Disbursement for Powell Bill

Due to the cost of Destiny Drive project costing more than projected, the Powell Bill Account in expenses shows a negative. The following steps will adjust the Powell Bill Account and the Fy 2025-2026 Budget:

- New Line Item: Powell Bill Fund Balance Appropriated on the Revenue side to read \$75,000.
- Reduce Powell Bill Fund on the Revenue side of the budget from \$150,000 to \$100,000.
- Increase the Powell Bill Expenses line item from \$150,000 to \$175,000.

This will give new budget totals of \$2,349,750 in revenues and \$2,649,750 in expenses.

After some discussion Council Member Kimberly McPhail made a motion to amend the FY 2025-2026 Budget that will adjust the Powell Bill Line items. Council member Stan Crumpler seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Agenda Item #4:

Update on Parks and Recreation Meetings

- County and Fayetteville Parks and Recreation are still working on the contract
- Meeting with Assistant County Manager, Ms. Faith Phillips and Mr. Michael Gibson-requested Town of Eastover list 5 needs for the Eastover Ballpark
- Future Purchases by Fayetteville Parks and Recreation will have be completed by using purchase orders
- Parks and Recreation cleaning of the bathrooms schedule starts right before ball season and ends the first of June

VII. RECEIVE MAYOR'S UPDATE:

- Opening ceremonies for the Eastover Ballpark are on April 18th starting at 9am with a parade.
- Community watch is the 2nd Monday of each month

VIII. RECEIVE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE:

- None

IX. RECEIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE:

- President of the Eastover Ballpark Association requested the Town of Eastover purchase the rental of a couple of port a john for opening day at the Ballpark
- Eastover Fire Department update: letter was sent to Cumberland County Manager requesting the release of Vander Fire District within the Town of Eastover Town Limits. Response was it would be placed on the Agenda for April at the Cumberland County Commissioners meeting

X. CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fred Williams. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Town of Eastover

Charles G McLaurin, Mayor

Attest: _____,
Elizabeth S. Bass, Town Clerk