MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE
TOWN OF STALLINGS, NORTH CAROLINA

The Town Council of the Town of Stallings met for its regular meeting on September 28, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Stallings Government Center, 321 Stallings Road, Stallings, North Carolina.

Those present were: Mayor Pro Tempore Brad Richardson; Council Members Steven Ayers, Mike Couzens, Graham Hall, Jon Van de Riet, and Laurie Wojtowicz.

Those absent were: Mayor David Scholl.

Staff present were: Alex Sewell, Town Manager; Erinn Nichols, Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk; Chief Dennis Franks; Kevin Parker, Engineering Director; Jessie Williams, Finance Officer; and Melanie Cox, Town Attorney.

Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and meeting called to order

Mayor Pro Tempore Brad Richardson welcomed everyone to the meeting and delivered the invocation. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order.

Public Comments

No one was present who wished to give public comment.

1. Consent Agenda
   A. NCDOT Agreement – Town Street Signs at Potter/Pleasant Plains Intersection

Council Member Ayers made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was passed unanimously by Council after a second from Council Member Hall.

2. Agenda Approval

Council Member Ayers made the motion to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Wojtowicz and passed unanimously.

3. Solicitation Ordinance

Town Attorney Cox explained the Stallings Code of Ordinances Chapter 113 currently regulated panhandling/begging, canvassing, and commercial solicitation as three separate categories, each subject to different rules depending on what the speaker was saying. However, the ordinance needed to be brought into compliance with current First Amendment law and to substantially reduce the Town's exposure to a

constitutional challenge. Courts have held that any ordinance which applied different rules depending on the topic or content of the speech was "content-based" and must survive the highest level of judicial scrutiny, a standard content-based speech restrictions almost never meet.

Council Member Van de Riet made the motion to approve the Solicitation Ordinance as presented in order to come into compliance with the First Amendment. The motion passed unanimously by Council after a second from Council Member Wojtowicz. The Solicitation Ordinance is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

4. Balanced Scorecard FY 25-26 Annual Report

Town Manager Sewell reminded the Council that the Balanced Scorecard was a Council priorities guide for the departmental work and the use of Town resources creating a tool for performance measures. He then reviewed the Balanced Scorecard FY 25-26 Annual Report with the Council. The *Balanced Scorecard FY 25-26 Annual Report* is available for inspection on the Town's website.

5. Fiber Advocacy Letter

Town Manager Sewell reminded Council that at its last meeting, Council discussed ongoing concerns related to fiber and broadband deployment in Stallings neighborhoods, including resident communication, restoration issues, private-property impacts, utility strikes, contractor responsiveness, and the limits of local government authority. Following that discussion, staff prepared the requested draft advocacy letter. The draft letter had been reviewed individually by the Council and the Town Attorney. Council held consensus to add the topic of multiple providers digging at different times to the letter and bring the letter back to Council for approval with that addition.

6. Landscaping Options for Potter/Pleasant Plains Intersection *(Ayers)*

Council Member Ayers explained that he had received some complaints about the landscaping at the Potter/Pleasant Plains Intersection. He requested Staff determine some options and bring it back to Council.

7. Adjournment

Council Member Couzens moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Ayers, and the motion received unanimous support. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Approved on October 26, 2026.

s/David Scholl
David Scholl, Mayor

s/Erinn Nichols
Erinn E. Nichols, Town Clerk

Approved as to form:
s/Cox Law Firm, PLLC
Cox Law Firm, PLLC