

**VILLAGE OF TOBACCOVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
April 6, 2026**

Mayor Mark Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Member Chris Copeland gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The following elected officials and staff were present: Mayor Mark Baker, Mayor Pro Tem Carla Hall, Council Member Chris Starling, Council Member Chris Copeland, Council Member Jennifer Stone, Village Administrator Lori Shore, Attorney Amy Lanning, and Clerk Kimberly Keen. Total in attendance: 13

**PUBLIC COMMENT TIME**

Mayor Mark Baker opened the floor to receive public comment:

1. Arthur Wilt – 2422 Eagle Creek Court, Winston-Salem, NC 27103. Mr. Wilt is the Pastor for Old Richmond Evangelical Methodist Church. He wanted to introduce himself to the Council and relay the pledge that he and the church are making to work together and support the Village of Tobaccoville and its leaders.

2. Linda Hutchinson – 4220 Tobaccoville Road, Tobaccoville, NC 27050. Mrs. Hutchinson inquired about the status of the sale of the rental house owned by The Village at 4140 Tobaccoville Road.

Mrs. Hutchinson also inquired if the Council had any insight into the proposed data center plant for the Rural Hall area. Mayor Mark Baker is planning on attending an upcoming meeting at Rural Hall in hopes to gain more information on this matter.

Being no one gave any further written or verbal requests wishing to address the Council, Mayor Mark Baker closed the meetings public comment portion.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

Mayor Mark Baker added set Budget Workshop date for May 2026.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

Administrator Lori Shore updated the Council on the following items:

- Village Park hours of operation are now 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- National Day of Prayer – Thursday, May 7, 2026 at noon at the Village Gazebo, led by Pastor Art Wilt of Old Richmond Evangelical Methodist Church.
- The Annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the PARC Committee on Saturday, April 4, 2026 was a huge success.
- The *Villager* Spring Newsletter has been published on the Village of Tobaccoville webpage. Copies may also be obtained from Village Hall or residents can call to be added to the mailing list to receive a copy in the mail.
- Pulliam Appraisal Services, Inc. came and assessed the property at 4140 Tobaccoville Road to supply the Village with the fair market value of the property. The fair market value price will be relayed to the individual that inquired about the sale of the property to see if they are still interested in the property at the fair market value price.

The next event to be hosted by the PARC Committee will be a Movie in the Park on June 12, 2026 featuring *Lilo & Stitch*.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Carla Hall made a motion to approve the March 5, 2026 Budget Workshop Minutes and the March 5, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Council Member Chris Copeland seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. (attachment)

The monthly financial update was presented by Administrator Lori Shore. Mayor Mark Baker conducted an internal audit of the records for the month of February 2026 and found no discrepancies. (attachment)

It was the consensus of the Council to declare Thursday, May 7, 2026 as a day of prayer in the Village of Tobaccoville. Pastor Arthur Wilt of Old Richmond Evangelical Methodist Church will conduct the service at the Village Gazebo at 12:00 noon.

It was the consensus of the Council to set a budget workshop meeting for Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. to be held at Village Hall.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Mark Baker made a motion to go into closed session per North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11 (a) (3) To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. Council Member Jennifer Stone seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. The Council went into closed session at 6:20 p.m.

Council Member Chris Starling made a motion to exit closed session and return to regular session at 6:56 p.m. Council Member Jennifer Stone seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Pro Tem Carla Hall made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Chris Copeland seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Minutes Prepared By:

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Kimberly L. Keen, Village Clerk

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Mark Baker, Mayor

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