



# Town of Mars Hill

## MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

John L. Chandler  
*Mayor*  
Nicholas A. Honeycutt  
*Vice-Mayor*  
Robert W. Zink  
*Treasurer*  
Stuart L. Jolley  
*Clerk*  
Larry H. Davis  
*Secretary*

### MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Mars Hill Town Hall – Conference Room April 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

The Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Mars Hill Town Hall.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor John Chandler; Aldermen Larry Davis, Stuart Jolley, and Robert W. (Bob) Zink. Alderman Nicholas Honeycutt was absent.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Nathan R. Bennett, Town Manager; Larry Leake, Town Attorney; and Chad Wilson, Police Chief

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Doug Hattaway, Trust for Public Land; Theresa Gang, Barbara Hussy, Larry Smith, Gail Kase, Tom Panek, Monica Buckner, Karen Paar, Carissa Cartas, Cathy Guthrie, Anna Rawlins, Bill Sewell, Robert Allen, Elizabeth Colvard, Nick Spero, Ryan Bell, Barbara Pautz, Jeffrey Owen, Alan Ray, Wanda Ray, Robert Woodson, and other members of the general public.

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Chandler. Mayor Chandler welcomed those in attendance.

#### Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Chandler asked the Board to review the proposed agenda for approval. Upon review of the agenda, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Stuart Jolley made a motion that the agenda be approved as presented.** Alderman Larry Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the agenda was unanimously approved. (Attachment A)

#### Approval of Minutes

Mayor Chandler then asked the Board to review the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 2, 2026. There being no modifications to the minutes, **Alderman Davis made a motion that the minutes for March 2, 2026, be approved as presented by management.** Alderman Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the minutes were unanimously approved.

#### Old Business

Mayor Chandler then moved to address old business. There was no old business.

#### New Business

Mayor Chandler then moved to address new business.

### **AGREEMENT – Bone Camp Acquisition Project**

Mayor Chandler recognized Town Attorney Larry Leake to provide information regarding the proposed “donation agreement” between the Town of Mars Hill and the Trust for Public Land (TPL) regarding the Bone Camp property acquisition project. Mr. Leake provided a history of the legal matters concerning the agreement, referring to prior correspondence between he and TPL. Mr. Leake expressed concern with certain aspects of the draft agreement, particularly an extended period of time to bring the property to closing, as well as the absence of language the town has requested to be included in the agreement to memorialize the Towns consistent position that the Town will not be required to contribute funds to the cost of acquisition. He further described other points of concern with certain provisions and any proposed date associated with the future purchase and transfer of the property to the Town. Mr. Leake stressed that the Town continues to be supportive of the project and will continue to vigorously advocate for this project generally and, specifically, any grant application to fund this property acquisition, in particular the those pending with Land and Water Conservation Fund and the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) submitted by the Town of Mars Hill. Mr. Leake advised the Board in his opinion that the current version of the donation agreement is not acceptable and as such there is no final agreement at this time for the Board to consider, and there is no additional action to be taken at this time.

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Doug Hattaway with the Trust for Public Land. Mr. Hattaway delivered a PowerPoint presentation summarizing TPL involvement with the Bone Camp property project. Mr. Hattaway provided a publication of the TPL that highlights projects and programs they do across the country. Mr. Hattaway provided a summary of the project and why it is important to the Mars Hill community, and what benefits this property will provide. Mr. Hattaway provided a description of the property, including the roadway to the top of the ridge, numerous viewsheds, viewing platform, trails, and other opportunities to enjoy the habitat. Mr. Hattaway stated the TPL business model is that they act as an interim owner to conduct necessary fundraising to acquire property for conservation and then transfer the conserved property to the permanent owner. This has been the intent of TPL from the beginning of this endeavor. In this case, TPL proposes to acquire the property and then transfer to the Town of Mars Hill to be added to the current Bailey Mountain Park and Preserve. Mr. Hattaway introduced the current property owners, Alan and Wanda Ray, as well as the real estate agent Robert Woodson, who were present. Mr. Hattaway discussed the real estate history of the property, detailing the option to purchase agreement that allows TPL site control which allows time to complete due diligence on the property. He stated this process also allows time to raise funds to purchase the property and other community engagement activities. Mr. Hattaway stated the budget for the project is \$1.622 million which includes the purchase price, due diligence costs, development of a property management plan, and the retrofit of former bike trails to hiking trails. Mr. Hattaway discussed the funds currently in hand, including an ARC grant and other private foundation grants, and the additional grant applications the Town is sponsoring that are either pending decision (LWCF stateside) or pending submission (PARTF). He discussed the strategy shift from the purchase and sale agreement to a “donation agreement.” Mr. Hattaway stated the TPL management board required him to ensure that certain provisions were in place in order to proceed with the purchase, including confirming the “commitment” that the Town is interested in accepting title to the property. The donation agreement would serve as the legal vehicle to satisfy these requirements by the TPL board. Mr. Hattaway requested that if the Town still endorses this project and the intent is the same and that nothing has changed, and is willing to continue forward under the parameters previously described, he would request the Board to direct town staff to prepare and present an acceptable agreement with TPL. Mr. Hattaway took questions from the Board and town attorney. Mr. Leake asked Mr. Hattaway why there was a delay between June 2025 and March 2026. Mr. Hattaway stated they provided the template of an agreement at the Town’s request. He advised throughout this period TPL has been working hard raising funds, submitting applications, and working with the community to move the project forward. The Mayor asked if there were any further questions from Board. There being no further questions. The Mayor moved to the next agenda item.

**PRESENTATION – LETTER OF SUPPORT – River Island Gym**

Mayor Chandler recognized Mr. Matt Lucas, founder of the River Island Gym (RIG) project. Mr. Lucas presented information concerning his plans to renovate the former school building housing the gym on the island in Marshall into a modern facility to include a fitness gym, swimming pool and sauna, indoor skate park, climbing gym, playground, basketball court, slides, arcade games, and event space. Mr. Lucas says RIG is about creating opportunities for kids, families, and the community in general, to have a welcoming space to gather year-round for recreation, social connection, and continued resilience. He states that while the facility is located in Marshall, it will reinvent the historic community asset into a nonprofit institution designed to serve all of Madison County for generations to come. Mr. Lucas discussed the obvious need for such a facility in Madison County, as there is no public YMCA, indoor pool, or other multi-use recreation center available to the broader community. He also stated there will be a positive economic impact as RIG will create local jobs and draw consistent year-round traffic to the county and Main Street. Mr. Lucas stated they are working on a capital campaign to raise the funds necessary to implement this vision. He stated that he is not asking the Town for any financial contribution. Mr. Lucas advised the Board he was here to make the Town aware of this initiative and to request the Town provide a letter of support for the project that may be used in showing potential funders there is support throughout the county and particularly, Mars Hill. Town Manager Nathan Bennett advised the Board that a proposed letter of support has been prepared for consideration by the Board. Mayor Chandler asked the Board to review the proposed letter. Alderman Zink stated it has been years since he has been in that gym and that it would be nice to see it come back to life and this sounds exciting. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Jolley made a motion that the Board be in agreement to provide a letter of support for the River Island Gym project as presented by Mr. Matt Lucas.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Lucas thanked the Board for their support and for providing a letter embracing the mission this project has for the community.

**LETTER OF SUPPORT – AdventHealth Weaverville Hospital**

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide information concerning a proposed letter of support for AdventHealth and the Weaverville hospital project. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that AdventHealth continues to take certain actions to develop the comprehensive hospital project for the community. Currently, AdventHealth is preparing a new certificate of need (CON) application to the NC Division of Health Service Regulation to develop 92 additional acute care beds at the new hospital in Weaverville. The Town has fully supported this project from inception and AdventHealth has now asked the Town to consider providing a letter of support for this CON application. Mr. Bennett advised that a proposed letter of support has been prepared for consideration by the Board. Mayor Chandler asked the Board to review the proposed letter. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Davis made a motion to approve the letter of support for the AdventHealth Certificate of Need application for 92 acute care beds at the Weaverville hospital, as presented.** Alderman Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION OF AWARD / NOTICE TO PROCEED: Calvin Edney Road/Exit 11 Water/Wastewater Extension Project**

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide information concerning the resolution of award and notice to proceed for the Calvin Edney Road/Exit 11 Water/Wastewater Extension Project. Mr. Bennett provided an update on the subject project to extend water and wastewater lines at the immediate vicinity of I-26 Exit 11. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that the project was advertised for bids, and the respondent bids were opened on March 10, 2026, at the Town Hall Conference Room. The Town received four (4) bids and those have been reviewed and verified by the town's engineer McGill Associates. Bids received are as follows: (1) Carolina Specialties Construction, LLC - \$346,362, (2) DanGrady Company, LLC - \$372,474, (3) T.P. Howard's Plumbing

Co. Inc. - \$388,000, and (4) Huntley Construction Company - \$441,221. Upon review, McGill has provided a recommendation of award to the Town to recommend acceptance of the lowest bid provided by Carolina Specialties Construction for \$346,362. Mr. Bennett advised the Board he concurs with the engineer's recommendation and requested the Board consider approval of the proposed resolution of award and authorize staff to issue a notice to proceed to the contractor. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Jolley made a motion to approve the "RESOLUTION OF AWARD – Mars Hill Exit 11 Water & Sewer Extension Project," and authorize the notice to proceed to the contractor, as presented.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved. (Attachment B)

#### **RESOLUTION – NCDEQ Grant – Mars Hill/Marshall/Hot Springs Partnership Study**

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide information concerning the proposed Mars Hill/Marshall/Hot Springs Partnership Study grant application. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that NCDEQ has approached the three Madison County towns to determine interest in a partnership study to look for ways all three towns could help each other become more resilient, improve service delivery, and potentially save money. The things this study could investigate could include operational equipment sharing, emergency equipment sharing, emergency communications, GIS management, bulk purchase agreements, shared staffing, and the drafting of interlocal agreements to formalize any such arrangements. Mr. Bennett stated that he, Hot Springs Mayor Abigail Norton, and Marshall administrator Ryan Cody have met jointly with NCDEQ staff to discuss this proposal. NCDEQ staff told the towns that \$50,000 in state grant funding is available to hire a consultant to facilitate this discussion to explore and develop the concepts the towns want to pursue. Grant applications are due April 30, 2026. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that given the current restraints and lack of capacity of Marshall and Hot Springs to administer this grant due to Helene recovery, he has tentatively agreed for Mars Hill to be the lead applicant and to provide administration of the grant if the Board agrees to move forward. Mr. Bennett requested the Board consider approval of the proposed resolution authorizing the grant application. Mayor Chandler asked if Mr. Bennett would pursue this independently or would it be a joint effort involving all three towns. Mr. confirmed this will be a group effort involving participation from all three towns, including elected leadership and operational staff with Mars Hill being the project lead. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Davis made a motion to approve the "RESOLUTION – Authorizing a Grant Application to the N.C. DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure for the Mars Hill/Marshall/Hot Springs Partnership Study," as presented.** Alderman Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved. (Attachment C)

#### **PROCLAMATION – AMERICA 250**

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide information concerning the proposed proclamation recognizing America 250, a national celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of Declaration of Independence. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary is being recognized at the national and state levels, with communities across the nation encouraged to honor the achievements and civic spirit of those who have contributed to the American story over the past 250 years. Mr. Bennett explained that Governor Cooper created the America 250 NC committee to engage all local communities in North Carolina to plan, develop and coordinate programs, projects, and events to commemorate the occasion. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that planning is underway by the Town for an expanded Independence Day Celebration event, our signature America 250 NC event. The Town is coordinating with Mars Hill University, Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, and the Bailey Mountain Internation Folk Festival to facilitate live entertainment performances throughout the festival. The Town will also partner with First Fridays and other organizations throughout the remainder of the year to highlight the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that a proclamation commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Independence has been prepared for consideration by

the Board. Mr. Bennett read the proclamation. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Jolley made a motion to approve the “PROCLAMATION - Commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Declaration of Independence,” as presented.** Alderman Zink seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved. (Attachment D)

### **Town Manager Report – Nathan Bennett, Town Manager**

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide the Town Manager Report.

### **FPIC Information**

Mr. Bennett provided FPIC information. Mr. Bennett advised that the Town received a Financial Performance Indication of Concern (FPIC) as part of the FY 2025 Audit. He explained that this FPIC from LGC is due to the town’s water and sewer assets are now greater than 50% depreciated. This FPIC was noted by our auditor, Travis Keever, during the audit presentation in December. A letter to LGC is required to provide a response to the LGC acknowledging this condition exists and provide and what action the Town will take to address it. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that the Town is continually evaluating the condition of its water and sewer assets and is financially prepared to make any necessary repairs, improvements, capacity expansions, or replacements as those needs may arise. Furthermore, Mr. Bennett reminded the Board that when the NC 213 waterline project is complete and formally added to the town water system, that will result in a higher valuation of the assets. He also noted that the NCDEQ Asset Inventory and Assessment grant projects currently underway will further allow the Town to conduct extensive assessment work and identify areas to target for improvement. Mr. Bennett recommended approval of the proposed response letter to LGC addressing the FPIC with the indicated response. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Davis made a motion to approve the letter to LGC acknowledging the FPIC and provide the Town response plan to same.** Alderman Zink seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Hoffman Property Donation to Town**

Mr. Bennett then provided information regarding the donation of real property by the Richard L. Hoffman Foundation to the Town of Mars Hill. Mr. Bennett gave the Board a summary of the history of preservation efforts on the slopes of Bailey Mountain, particularly the two properties acquired by the Richard L. Hoffman Foundation in the late 1990s that served as the beginning of preservation efforts leading to the Town’s purchase of the adjacent Smith Farm located on Forest Street. Mr. Bennett reminded the Board that those two Hoffman properties, each approximately 100 acres, have been pledged as in-kind match by the Hoffman Foundation to the Town for certain Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grants to develop park amenities at the Smith Farm and acquire the adjacent West Farm property. Mr. Bennett advised that the PARTF projects have advanced to the point that title to the Hoffman properties need to be transferred to the Town. Mr. Bennett recommended the Board formally vote to accept the donation of the Hoffman properties to the Town as match to the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Funds grants. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Zink made a motion to accept the Hoffman property as a donation to the Town of Mars Hill as presented.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved.

### **General Update**

Mr. Bennett then provided a general update. Mr. Bennett advised the Board the Athletic Street has been resurfaced and restriped as part of the ongoing waterline project. He advised that in addition to the street work, an elevated crosswalk was installed across Athletic Street connecting pedestrian walkway connecting Chambers Gym to the Renfro Library and the rest of the upper campus. In the interest of safety in the high pedestrian area

along Athletic Street, the Town also removed all on-street parking, except handicap spaces, along Athletic Street and extended the pedestrian walkway the entire length of the street.

Mr. Bennett provided the Board with a summary of other activities, ongoing projects, and items of interest to the Board. Mayor Chandler thanked Mr. Bennett for his report and hard work.

### **Public Comment**

Mayor Chandler then moved to public comment. Mayor Chandler recognized Theresa Gang who provided positive comments regarding the Town's commitment and support of the Bone Camp acquisition project. She also thanked the Trust for Public Land for their efforts to secure the Bone Camp property for preservation and conservation. She urged the Town to continue those discussions with TPL to move forward with an agreement. Mayor Chandler then recognized Robert Allen, president-elect of Madison County Rotary, who spoke in support of the acquisition of the Bone Camp property. Mayor Chandler then recognized Cathy Guthrie who provided comments in favor of the Bone Camp property acquisition, stating that although she does not live in Town, all of her commerce activities are in Mars Hill, and emphasized how beneficial preservation of the Bone Camp project will be for the entire community and how Bailey Mountain can be the future of Mars Hill. Mayor Chandler then recognized Monica Buckner who stated she is a Madison County girl who loves Mars Hill and provided comments in favor of preservation efforts of the Bone Camp property. Mayor Chandler then recognized Robert Woodson, realtor for the owner of the Bone Camp property. Mr. Woodson provided comments supportive of the Bone Camp property acquisition, providing an observation of housing growth in Reems Creek and Buncombe County and how that growth is coming to Mars Hill. He also spoke favorably of the Trust for Public Land and Doug Hattaway and emphasized this is an opportunity that will not come again. Mayor Chandler then recognized Ryan Bell who thanked the Town, the town manager, police department, and others for the great support of the First Fridays events. He stated that the first First Fridays of the year was this past Friday and everything went great and encouraged everyone to come out each month to these events that support community businesses. Mr. Bell then provided comments supporting the Bone Camp property acquisition. Mayor Chandler then recognized an unknown female speaker who stated she and her family live directly across from the property on Bone Camp Road. She stated her family enthusiastically supports the purchase of the Bone Camp property for preservation. Mayor Chandler then recognized Bob Padgett(?) who was supportive of the DEQ resolution for the town partnership study. He states that it is beneficial and important that each town and community in the county work together to have a vision that protects the county and guides the growth coming to the county.

There were no other public comments.

### **Closed Session (Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(2) & (3))**

Mayor Chandler advised the Board that there is a need for a closed session to consider an honorary award that requires a closed session to prevent premature disclosure of same. **Alderman Zink made a motion to enter closed session to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary award and to consult with legal counsel pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(2) & (3).** Alderman Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved.

### ***CLOSED SESSION***

Upon completion of discussion of the matter subject to the closed session, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to return to open session. **Alderman Zink made a motion that the Board end the closed session and return to open session.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved.

**Open Session**

Upon returning to open session, Mayor Chandler announced there was action to take subject to the closed session.


**PROCLAMATION – MHU President Tony Floyd Day**

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide information regarding a special proclamation to recognize the retirement of Mars Hill University President Tony Floyd. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that President Floyd will retire from his position at the end of the academic year in May. MHU trustees have notified Mr. Bennett that a special retirement celebration will be held on April 15, 2026, and have invited Town officials to participate in that event. Mr. Bennett then presented the proposed proclamation recognizing the contributions President Floyd has made to the Mars Hill University and to the Town of Mars Hill and community, thanking him for his service, and, further, declaring Wednesday, April 15, 2026, Tony Floyd Day in the Town of Mars Hill. Upon completion of discussion of the proclamation, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Jolley made a motion to approve the “PROCLAMATION - Honoring Tony Floyd, J.D., President, Mars Hill University,” as presented.** Alderman Zink seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved. (Attachment E)

**Adjourn**

There being no further business before the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to adjourn. **Alderman Zink made a motion to adjourn.** Alderman Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

Approved and authenticated this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

  
John L. Chandler, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nathan R. Bennett,  
Town Manager





ATTACHMENT A

# Town of Mars Hill

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

John L. Chandler

*Mayor*

Nicholas A. Honeycutt

*Vice-Mayor*

Robert W. Zink

*Treasurer*

Stuart L. Jolley

*Clerk*

Larry H. Davis

*Secretary*

## AGENDA

### REGULAR MEETING

Mars Hill Town Hall Conference Room

April 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Mayor John L. Chandler
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: March 2, 2026 – Regular Meeting
4. Old Business
5. New Business
  - a. **AGREEMENT** – Bone Camp Acquisition Project – Trust For Public Land, Doug Hattaway
  - b. **PRESENTATION / LETTER OF SUPPORT** – River Island Gym – Matt Lucas, Founder
  - c. **LETTER OF SUPPORT** – AdventHealth – Weaverville Hospital Certificate of Need
  - d. **RESOLUTION OF AWARD / NOTICE TO PROCEED** – Calvin Edney Road/Exit 11 Water/Wastewater Extension Project
  - e. **RESOLUTION** – NCDEQ – Division of Water Infrastructure Merger/Regionalization Feasibility Grant – **Mars Hill/Marshall/Hot Springs Partnership Study**
  - f. **PROCLAMATION** – America 250
6. Town Manager Report – Nathan Bennett, Town Manager
  - a. FPIC Information
  - b. Hoffman Property Donation to Town
  - c. General Update
7. Public Comment

[Policy: Each speaker shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The public comment period is not intended to require the Board of Aldermen or staff to answer any impromptu questions. The Board will not take action on an item presented during the public comment period. The Board may refer inquiries made during the public comment period to the Town Manager to address as appropriate. If necessary, the item may be placed on the agenda of a future meeting.]
8. Closed Session (*Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)*)
9. Adjourn

## Mars Hill Town Hall

280 North Main Street • P.O. Box 368

Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754

Phone: (828) 689-2301 • Fax: (828) 689-3333



# Town of Mars Hill

## RESOLUTION OF AWARD MARS HILL EXIT 11 WATER & SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT (ARC NC-20189-302-21)

**WHEREAS**, the **Town of Mars Hill**, North Carolina has received bids, pursuant to duly advertisement notice therefore, for construction of the **MARS HILL EXIT 11 WATER & SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT (ARC NC-20189-302-21)**; and

**WHEREAS**, **McGill Associates, PA**, the Town's Consulting Engineers have reviewed the bids; and

**WHEREAS**, **Carolina Specialties Construction, LLC**, was the lowest bidder for the **MARS HILL EXIT 11 WATER & SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT** construction contract, in the total bid amount of **\$346,362.00**; and

**WHEREAS**, the Consulting Engineers recommend **AWARD** to the lowest bidder.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the **AWARD** is made to the lowest bidder for the **MARS HILL EXIT 11 WATER & SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT, Carolina Specialties Construction, LLC**, in the Total Bid Amount of **\$346,362.00**. The Mayor, town manager, town attorney, and other necessary town officials are authorized to execute all contractual documents required to facilitate the administration of this project.

<b>Name of Contractor</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Carolina Specialties Construction, LLC	\$346,362.00
2. DanGrady Company, LLC	\$372,474.00
3. T.P. Howard's Plumbing, Co., Inc.	\$388,000.00
4. Huntley Construction Company	\$441,221.00

**ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026, by the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen, in regular session at Mars Hill, North Carolina.

  
John L. Chandler, Mayor

Attest:

  
Stuart L. Jolley, Town Clerk





# Town of Mars Hill

## RESOLUTION

### AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE N.C. DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE MARS HILL/MARSHALL/HOT SPRINGS PARTNERSHIP STUDY

**WHEREAS,** The **TOWN OF MARS HILL** has need for and intends to construct, plan for, or conduct a study in a project described as **MARS HILL/MARSHALL/HOT SPRINGS PARTNERSHIP STUDY**, and

**WHEREAS,** The **TOWN OF MARS HILL** intends to request State loan and/or grant assistance for the project,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF MARS HILL:**

That the **TOWN OF MARS HILL**, the **Applicant**, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That the **Applicant** will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That the **Applicant** will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the **Applicant** agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the **TOWN OF MARS HILL** to make a scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the **TOWN OF MARS HILL** any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

If applying for a regional project, that the **Applicant** will partner and work with other units of local government or utilities in conducting the project, including the **TOWN OF MARSHALL** and the **TOWN OF HOT SPRINGS**.

That **NATHAN R. BENNETT, TOWN MANAGER** for the **TOWN OF MARS HILL**, the **Authorized Representative** and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the **Applicant** with the State of North Carolina for a loan and/or grant to aid in the study of or construction of the project described above.

That the **Authorized Representative**, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such




# Town of Mars Hill

application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the **Applicant** has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and funding conditions applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

**ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026, by the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen, in regular session at Mars Hill, North Carolina.

  
John L. Chandler, Mayor

Attest:

  
Stuart L. Jolley, Town Clerk





# Town of Mars Hill

## CERTIFICATION BY THE RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting **TOWN CLERK** of the **TOWN OF MARS HILL** does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of North Carolina, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the **TOWN OF MARS HILL MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN** duly held on the 6<sup>TH</sup> day of APRIL, 2026; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 6<sup>TH</sup> day of APRIL, 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stuart L. Jolley, Town Clerk

SEAL





# Town of Mars Hill

## PROCLAMATION

### COMMEMORATING THE 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

**WHEREAS**, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed, marking the birth of the United States of America and affirming that all people are endowed with inherent rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

**WHEREAS**, the year 2026 marks the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this defining moment in our nation's history, providing an opportunity to reflect upon the ideals that shaped the founding of the United States and continue to guide our democracy today; and

**WHEREAS**, the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary is being recognized at the national and state levels, with communities across the nation encouraged to honor the sacrifices, achievements, and civic spirit of those who have contributed to the American story over the past 250 years; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments play a vital role in upholding democratic values, encouraging civic participation, and preserving community history for current and future generations; and


**WHEREAS**, the Governor of North Carolina created *AMERICA 250 NC* to engage all North Carolinians and local communities to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States through programs, projects and events;

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Mars Hill desires to engage our citizens to commemorate this special occasion through officially recognized events to celebrate contributions to the nation since 1776.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen that July 4, 2026, and the year 2026, be recognized as a time to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. **BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the Town of Mars Hill will commemorate this milestone through civic engagement, educational, and community-oriented events throughout the year to reaffirm our commitment to the ideals upon which the United States was founded.

**ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026, by the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Attest:

  
Stuart L. Jolley, Town Clerk



  
John L. Chandler, Mayor

**Mars Hill Town Hall**  
280 North Main Street • P.O. Box 368  
Mars Hill, North Carolina 28714  
Phone: (828) 689-2301 • Fax: (828) 689-3333  
[www.townofmarshill.org](http://www.townofmarshill.org)



# Town of Mars Hill

## PROCLAMATION HONORING TONY FLOYD, J.D. PRESIDENT, MARS HILL UNIVERSITY

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Tony Floyd, was appointed President of Mars Hill University on June 1, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, President Floyd has dedicated himself to the highest standards of professionalism and excellence in leading Mars Hill University; and

**WHEREAS**, President Floyd has focused first and foremost on serving the students of Mars Hill University with caring and compassionate leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, President Floyd has been a valuable and instrumental partner with the Town of Mars Hill by becoming involved with many Town initiatives and projects that have brought the community together; and

**WHEREAS**, President Floyd has been a model servant leadership by his inspiration to his colleagues and all of those who have had the privilege to know him; and

**WHEREAS**, because of the many important contributions that President Floyd has made to the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina, and Mars Hill University, he is deserving of special recognition.


**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina,  
**IT IS ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED:**


- Section 1.** On behalf of the citizens of the Town of Mars Hill, this Board recognizes and thanks President Tony Floyd for his exceptional leadership, service, and stewardship of Mars Hill University and his unwavering commitment of partnership to the Town of Mars Hill.
- Section 2.** The Town of Mars Hill offers best wishes on the occasion of his retirement from Mars Hill University.
- Section 3.** That April 15, 2026, is hereby proclaimed in the Town of Mars Hill as:

## TONY FLOYD DAY

**ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, N.C.

  
JOHN L. CHANDLER, Mayor

  
STUART L. JOLLEY, Alderman

  
LARRY H. DAVIS, Alderman



  
NICHOLAS A. HONEYCUTT, Alderman

  
ROBERT W. ZINK, Alderman

  
NATHAN R. BENNETT, Town Manager