TOWN OF GORDONSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

Monday, February 23, 2026
6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Ronald Brooks

Mayor Brooks called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Vice-Mayor Winkey gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brooks led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ronald E. Brooks III
Vice-Mayor Emily Winkey
Councilmember Cynthia Black
Councilmember Stevean Irving II
Councilmember Nicholas Paxton

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice-Mayor Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to adopt the agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:		
	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

Nancy Beasley, 305 S. High Street, Gordonsville, VA

Mrs. Beasley stated she was disappointed that the names listed for the memorial Christmas tree were not read in 2025. Mrs. Beasley stated it has always been tradition to read the memorial names and requested that it continue.

Beate Casati, owner of Cavallo, 117 S. Main Street, Gordonsville, VA

Ms. Casati stated she was concerned about having the street closed during Town events due to customers not being able to get into the shops on Main Street.

Ms. Casati thanked Town Council for planning the Town events.

Ms. Monica Garrett, Director of Gordonsville Merchants Association, stated she is requesting a meeting with Town Council to discuss budgetary concerns. Ms. Garrett stated that the association mission statement is for all businesses in the Town not just the ones on Main Street. Ms. Garrett stated they are turning Christmas back to the stores to coordinate. Ms. Garret further stated it is time for everyone to start working together for the good of the Town.

Pastor Debra Yarde, Everlasting Beauty Outreach, 406 N. Main Street, Gordonsville, VA

Pastor Yarde stated her church had taken over the Gordonsville Presbyterian Church building and has been in Gordonsville for a few years. Pastor Yarde stated her church currently has a food pantry and offered to help with whatever is needed for the Town.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mayor Brooks

Gordonsville Town Council will hold a work session on Monday, March 2, 2026, starting at 6:00 p.m.

The March Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 16, 2026.

Mayor Brooks stated the Monday, March 2nd meeting Town Council hold its first Town Council Quarterly Community meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – Mayor Brooks

Consideration of minutes for January 26, 2026, regular meeting and February 2, 2026, Council special meeting.

Presentation of bills paid for the month of January 2026.

Vice-Mayor Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Fred Rollins, Airport Operations Manager, stated the Gordonsville Airport Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 24th.

Ms. Anna Pillow Director of Community and Economic Development briefed Council on grant research and applications submitted.

Mr. Andrew Valdez, Parks and Recreation Manager, briefed Council on pool activities.

Chief Christopher Votaw, Deputy Town Manager – Chief of Department of Public Safety briefed Council on the activity of his department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*Consideration of rescinding the Declaration of a Local Emergency Due to Severe Winter Weathe*r.

Mayor Brooks presented for consideration of rescinding the Declaration of a Local Emergency Due to Severe Winter Weather.

Councilmember Paxton stated during the Gordonsville Town Code review he is requesting that snow removal be reviewed and amended.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Winkey, to rescind the Declaration of a Local Emergency Due to Severe Winter Weather made by Mayor Brooks on January 24, 2026.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of recommendation of Gordonsville Representative on the Orange County Economic Development Authority.

Mayor Brooks presented for consideration the recommendation of Gordonsville Representative on Orange County Economic Development.

Council briefly discussed and agreed to defer the appointment for another month to see if other applications will be submitted.

Mayor Brooks stated this item will be placed on March 16, 2026, Town Council agenda for further review and recommendation for appointment to the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

Consideration of appointment or reappointment to Board of Architectural Review.

Mayor Brooks presented for consideration of appointment or reappointment to Board of Architectural Review.

Councilmember Irving made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to reappoint Theo van Groll of 16366 Edgefield Road, Gordonsville, VA to the Town of Gordonsville Board of Architectural Review, with a term expiration of January 1, 2030.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Councilmember Irving made a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Winkey, to reappoint Will Stewart of 305 N. Main Street, Gordonsville, VA to the Town of Gordonsville Board of Architectural Review, with a term expiration of January 1, 2030.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Consideration of Authorization for Use of Airport Property for Cub Scout Aviation Day.

Mayor Brooks presented for consideration of Authorization for Use of Airport Property for Cub Scout Aviation Day.

Mr. Damen Irby spoke on the Cub Scout Aviation Day request for authorization to use the Gordonsville airport property for this event.

Council briefly discussed the request.

Councilmember Irving made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to authorize the Monticello District Cub Scouts to hold Cub Scout Aviation Day at Gordonsville Municipal Airport on August 29-30, 2026.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Discussion of dates for FY27 Budget Work Sessions.

Mayor Brooks presented for discussion of dates for FY27 Budget Work Sessions.

Council discussed the FY27 budget work session and reached a consensus to meet at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16th to have the proposed budget presented by the Town Manager.

Consideration of Adoption of Resolution Recognizing, Protecting, and Defending the Constitutional Rights of All Persons Within the Town of Gordonsville.

Mayor Brooks presented for consideration the Adoption of Resolution Recognizing, Protecting, and Defending the Constitutional Rights of All Person Within the Town of Gordonsville.

Mayor Brooks stated he worked with Mr. Schienschang, Town Manger on the proposed resolution.

Council briefly discussed the resolution recognizing, protecting, and defending the constitutional rights of all people within the Town of Gordonsville.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Irving, to adopt the resolution recognizing, protecting, and defending the constitutional rights of all people within the Town of Gordonsville.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Consideration of Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Virginia Main Street Program by the Town of Gordonsville.

Mayor Brooks presented for consideration the Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Participation in Virginia Main Street Program by the Town of Gordonsville.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Irving, to authorize the Town Manger to sign and submit an application for the Town to become an Exploring Main Street community.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Schienschang stated the Gordonsville Public Works Department worked hard during the recent snowstorm.

Mr. Schienschang stated the final payment for phase 1 of the park redevelopment project has been made and we have a few items still on the punch list to be worked on.

Mr. Schienschang stated a meeting will be held with Rapidan Service Authority (RSA) later this week.

Mr. Schienschang stated Chris Tipton is the employee of the month.

NEW MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC AND COUNCIL

Mayor Brooks stated a check presentation at Gordon Barbour Elementary School led by Congressman Eugene Vindman will be held on Thursday, February 27, 206 at 10:00 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Town Council will convene in Closed Session pursuant to Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711 paragraphs (A1) – discussion, consideration of specific officers or employees of a public body and (A7) consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Winkey, that the Town Council convene into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 paragraphs (A1) – discussion, consideration of specific officers or employees pf a public body and (A7) consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Winkey, to certify that only matters lawfully exempted under Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 paragraphs (A1) and (A7) as identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed meeting.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Black	Aye
	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Vice-Mayor Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

NEW MATTERS BY COUNCIL

There were no new matters by Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Brooks adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

Ronald E. Brooks III, Mayor

Janet W. Jones, Town Clerk