

Town of Independence

Town Council Meeting

05/13/2026 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Bonnie Wilson, **Councilmembers** Gary Ryan, Will Duke and Jim Tolbert. Councilmember Tracy Sabey was excused.

Staff attendance: Jodi Hoffman and Cathy Bingham

Others in attendance: Lauren Bolger and Kim Tolbert

1. Mayor Pro Tem Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. Prayer. Councilmember Tolbert offered the prayer.
3. Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Ryan offered the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Discussion and possible adoption of draft minutes for April 8, 2026.
 - Councilmember Tolbert moved to approve the draft minutes for April 8, 2026.
 - Councilmember Duke seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
5. First consideration of and possible recommendations regarding the proposed amendment to the FY2025-2026 Town Budget and the proposed FY2026-2027 Town Budget.
 - Ms. Hoffman explained the Budget worksheet.
 - FY2024-25 ended with revenues coming in higher than what was in the budget, resulting in \$114,000 being transferred to the Capitol Reserve Fund.
 - Some of the additional revenue came from interest earned in the PTIF fund, an increase in general sales tax and the RTIF (new road fund tax) which generated about \$8,500 which was not budgeted for. The telecommunication tax saw a slight decrease in revenue from previous years.
 - FY2025-26 is an estimate of revenues and expenses through the end of the Fiscal Year (June 2026).
 - It is projected that the expenses and revenues should be as budgeted. It is estimated that \$100,000 could be transferred to the Capitol Reserve Fund.
 - FY2026-27 is similar to prior year's budget.
 - This budget includes a transfer from the Capitol Reserve Fund to cover road projects. Council had a discussion on possible road projects.
 - Council would like more of Duke Lane repairs included in the Little Sweden Road project.

- Council discussed possible ideas for repairs on the gravel road at the top of Center Creek. They felt like grading isn't a very good way to repair it. One idea was to dig a bar ditch to help run off.
 - Council felt that repairing roads within the areas of homes was the top priority and will rely on the LiDar system to determine the areas of focus for the upcoming year. Chuck Richins with Horrocks engineering is preparing a report within the \$300,000 proposed budget showing the priority of roads needing repaired.
 - Councilmember Tolbert would like funds budgeted for public outreach in the FY2026-27 budget to help the public become more informed of issues in the Town. Ms. Hoffman will increase the administration budget to include \$5,000 for this.
6. Public Hearing on proposed Town Budget.
- Mayor Pro Tem Wilson opened the Public Hearing at 8:20 p.m.
 - No public comments.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Wilson closed the Public Hearing at 8:21 p.m.
7. Discussion regarding civility in public meetings and public outreach.
- Mayor Pro Tem Wilson asked for this item to be continued.
8. Review of General Plan Chapters 3,4 and 5.
- Ms. Hoffman and the Council reviewed chapters 3, 4 and 5.
 - Chapter 3 is the Transportation Plan. This plan shows 2 main entrances to the Town from Highway 40 leaving Little Sweden Road as a 3rd entrance where it is. Negotiations between UDOT and Daniel Town will probably result in a re-alignment of Little Sweden Road. The plan was designed to keep traffic from any proposed rezone off of Center Creek Road.
 - Chapter 4 is the Economic Development Plan. This section explains why the Town wants to retain a Resort Town status. Since the Town was incorporated there has been no property tax assessed.
 - Chapter 5 is the Open Space, Ridgeline Protection, and Recreation Plan. By planning clustered density for development, open space is created. Density results in less infrastructure: fewer pipes and pumps, road miles, etc. Clustered density is more cost effective to build and Open Space is more cost effective to maintain. Trails and certain types of Open Space would be dedicated to the Town for the use of the public.
9. Roads Update.
- This item was discussed with the Budget.

10. Development Update.

- A few cell phone companies have received building permits for improvements in the Daniels Summit Lodge.

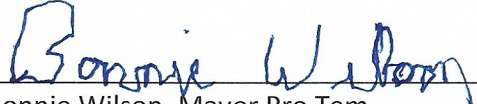
11. Public Comments.

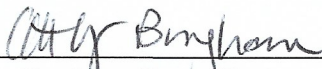
- No public comments.

12. Adjourn.

- Councilmember Duke moved to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.
- Councilmember Tolbert seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved unanimously.

Dated this 10th day of June 2026.


Bonnie Wilson, Mayor Pro Tem


Cathy Bingham, Town Clerk