

Town of Unionville  
February 16, 2026 Regular Council Meeting  
Meeting minutes

### Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Invocation

The invocation was led by Commissioner Jeff Broadaway.

### Welcome and Call to Order

Mayor Randy Baucom welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order.

### Public Comments

Mayor Baucom opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were made.

### Consideration of Minutes of the January 19, 2026, Regular Meeting

Council members reviewed the minutes from the January 19, 2026, meeting.

*Motion: Gene Price moved to approve the minutes. Andrew Benton seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

### Financial Report – Darrell Baucom

Finance Officer Darrell Baucom presented the financial report, noting the town remains in a strong financial position. Total revenue year-to-date is \$464,000, primarily from ad valorem taxes and franchise taxes. Total expenses are \$327,000, with payroll expenses, legal fees, and UDO implementation being the largest items. He reviewed recent transactions, which were mostly personnel-related and ad valorem tax deposits.

Baucom highlighted pending bills totaling several thousand dollars, with major items including \$8,917 for Piedmont Recreation, N-Focus payments for zoning enforcement and UDO implementation, and a \$4,000 contribution to the county for critical design work approved last year.

*Motion: Gene Price moved to pay the bills. Jaren Simpson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

### Presentation of 2026 Miss Unionville Pageant Winners – Julie Gregg

Julie Gregg presented the 2026 Miss Unionville Court winners, introducing each title holder and their families. The pageant awards \$1,900 in cash scholarships to deserving high school seniors through private interviews and on-stage competitions. Each senior contestant answers the question "What does patriotism mean to you?"

2026 Miss Unionville Maggie Keziah, 17-year-old daughter of Danny and Wendy Keziah of Monroe, delivered her patriotism statement to the council. Her thoughtful response emphasized gratitude to veterans, the importance of protecting the right to have a voice, listening to understand rather than just respond, and turning thanks into action through community service.

Mayor Baucom praised Keziah's eloquent presentation and thanked Julie Gregg for her community involvement.

## Consideration of VC3 Quote for New Computer & Desktop Setup – Melody Braswell

Clerk Melody Braswell explained that her computer failed during a Windows 11 upgrade attempt, as Microsoft will no longer support Windows 10 after May. The computer was unable to handle the upgrade and is now back to its original state. Following Commissioner Benton's recommendation, she obtained a quote from VC3 for a complete setup, including a new computer, docking station, and dual monitors.

*Motion: Andrew Benton moved to approve the VC3 purchase, praising Braswell's reliability during the recent ice storm and noting the value of continuing with their current IT provider. Lana Kirkpatrick seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

## Updates on America's 250th Celebration – Gene Price

Councilman Gene Price reported on the planning committee's first meeting held the previous Monday, with 10 participants meeting for approximately 90 minutes. The group discussed numerous logistical requirements including permitting, security, emergency services, hospitality for performers, food vendors, facilities, restrooms, and parking.

Price announced the celebration will be a concert on June 27th starting at 6:00 PM at the ballpark, featuring beach music group Chairmen of the Board. The event will include inflatables, a light show, and food vendors. He expressed enthusiasm about the planning process and noted that more time is needed to finalize all arrangements, making the June timeline appropriate.

No action was required from the board at this time.

## Request for Charitable Contribution

### Union County American Legion Baseball (Vote Tonight)

No representatives from Union County American Legion Baseball were present for the scheduled vote. Clerk Braswell acknowledged forgetting to remind them that the item would be voted on tonight. Mayor Baucom deferred the matter to the next meeting.

## Other Business

Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Benton presented comprehensive compensation restructuring recommendations developed through research comparing positions across the county and state. The proposal establishes annual cost-of-living raises based on the NC League of Municipalities' recommendations and implements a merit-based system using annual self-assessments and personnel committee evaluations.

Specific salary recommendations include setting the full-time clerk position at \$60,000 annually within a \$50,000-\$80,000 range, recognizing her service and education. The deputy clerk rate would be set between \$25-\$40 per hour, with the current deputy recommended at \$40 per hour based on years of service. The finance officer position would have a range of \$50-\$125 per hour, with the current officer set at \$125 per hour as the base rate.

The changes would be retroactive to January 1st, requiring back pay for affected employees. Additionally, a long-term service recognition bonus system was proposed: \$1,000 annually for employees with up to 10 years of service, and \$2,000 annually for those with over 10 years.

These changes will be incorporated into the upcoming personnel policy revisions.

*Motion: Andrew Benton moved to approve the compensation restructuring proposal. Jeff Broadway seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

## Adjournment

With no further business, Mayor Baucom declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody Braswell  
Clerk/Tax Collector/Land Use Administrator

Approved as to form:

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R. Kenneth Helms, Jr., Town Attorney

Note: These minutes were drafted with the assistance of Clerk Minutes by HeyGov. All content was reviewed and approved by the Clerk/Tax Collector/Land Use Administrator prior to submission.