

# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING | JANUARY 5, 2026

## THE MANAGERS *Message:* CHARTING THE PATH FORWARD

### THE ADMINISTRATION

As we enter the new year, we do so upon a solid foundation of progress that has been built within our municipality. With a new Board of Commissioners and a renewed commitment to service, we move forward together with purpose, focus, and confidence in the path ahead. In the year to come, we will continue prioritizing infrastructure and capital improvement projects that elevate the quality and reliability of the services we provide to our citizens. We remain committed to strengthening public safety through ongoing evaluation and enhancement of Police and Fire operations, while also advancing quality-of-life initiatives through community engagement, responsible governance, and continued investment in Parks and Recreation. Equally important is our commitment to collaboration. We will continue to strengthen partnerships with our state and federal delegation, neighboring municipalities, and regional agencies to ensure our collective efforts toward growth and development are coordinated and impactful.

From an infrastructure standpoint, our Public Works Department will maintain close coordination with the North Carolina Department of Transportation on several major roadway projects currently underway. The Golfview Road/Rockfish Road project is progressing ahead of schedule and will widen both corridors to two lanes, incorporating a dedicated median and roundabouts. In partnership with NCDOT, we are also emphasizing beautification efforts, including enhanced landscaping and increased lighting, to ensure this project serves as a welcoming gateway and anchor for our municipal campus. Our Capital Improvement Program remains focused on five core functional areas: General Government, Public Safety, Transportation, Economic Development, and Cultural Recreation. Transportation efforts will continue in coordination with FAMPO and FAST, working alongside the City of Fayetteville, Cumberland County, and the Town of Spring Lake to advance regional transportation initiatives. Economic Development efforts are well underway with continued progress on the Hope Mills Area Land Use Plan. This plan will play a critical role in guiding and shaping future growth, particularly with the completion of the I-295 loop. In Parks and Recreation, the Town has recently secured \$500,000 in grant funding through the PARTF program and is preparing to apply for an additional \$500,000. If successful, this investment will further demonstrate our commitment to creative and responsible governance by advancing high-quality projects while minimizing reliance on the General Fund. Planned improvements include expanded parking and the redesign of Hope Mills Lake, both of which will provide lasting benefits to our residents. From the exploration of potential Police and Fire substations, to the completion of the Municipal Government Complex Master Plan, expanded sidewalks, and ongoing stormwater and street projects, our focus for the coming year is clear and deliberate.

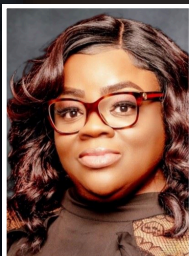
As we enter budget season, we will work collaboratively to prioritize the needs of our community and determine the most effective path forward in achieving these goals. As your Town Manager, I sincerely thank you for your continued support. I am both excited and confident that, working together, we will successfully move our community forward.



CHANCER F. MCLAUGHLIN  
Town Manager



ASHLEY WYATT  
Town Clerk



CORONDA REGAN  
Deputy Town Clerk



BETTY JO MERRITT  
Receptionist



ANTOINETTE DAVIS  
Receptionist

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## TOWN OF HOPE MILLS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS *Our Elected Officials*

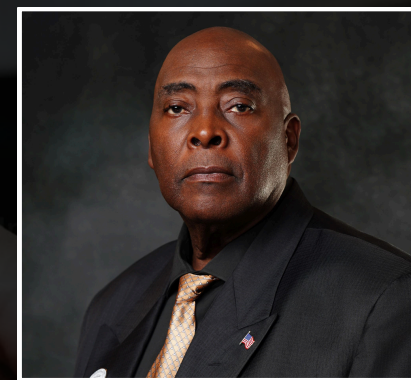
Following the November 4, 2025 election, the Town of Hope Mills marked an important milestone on December 1, 2025, with the swearing-in of our Mayor and five Commissioners. Serving under four-year staggered terms, this leadership team is aligned and ready to move the town forward with a shared sense of purpose. With several initiatives already gaining momentum, the Board is focused on leading through collaboration, accountability, and innovation. United as one team, we are building a strong foundation for the future and positioning Hope Mills for sustained growth and meaningful community impact.



JESSIE BELLFLOWERS  
Mayor  
TERM: 4 years



BYRAN MARLEY  
Commissioner  
TERM: 4 years



GRILLEY MITCHELL  
Commissioner  
TERM: 4 years



HOPE PAGE  
Mayor ProTem  
TERM: 4 years



CYNTHIA HAMILTON  
Commissioner  
TERM: 2 years



LISA TREMMEL  
Commissioner  
TERM: 2 years

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## PUBLIC SAFETY *Our Staff*

Our public safety teams operate from the John W. Hodges Public Safety Center, now open 24 hours a day. This expanded availability ensures our residents and citizens can rely on our first responders at any time, day or night. Below is the leadership team that guides and supports the dedicated men and women of our Police and Fire Departments:

### POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF



**STEPHEN DOLLINGER**  
Police Chief



**DERWIN BRAYBOY**  
Deputy Police Chief



**MITCH DEAVER**  
Captain



**DEREK ROLLAND**  
Captain

### FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF



**MATTHEW CAIN**  
Fire Chief



**ROBERT HURLBURT**  
Deputy Fire Chief



**ROBERT CARTER**  
Fire Marshall

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## PUBLIC WORKS & STORMWATER *Our Staff*

Both our Public Works and Stormwater Departments play a critical role in meeting the Town's infrastructure needs. From street maintenance and waste management to curb and gutter systems and stormwater runoff management, these departments serve as the backbone of the foundation upon which Hope Mills stands. Below are the leaders that guide these two divisions:

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT STAFF



**DON SISKO**  
Public Works Director



**BRUCE CLARK**  
Deputy Public Works Director

### STORMWATER DEPARTMENT STAFF



**ELISABETH BROWN**  
Stormwater Director



**TYLER RIDDLE**  
Deputy Stormwater Director

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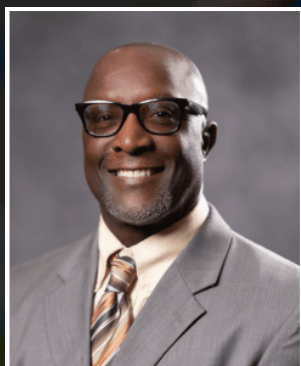


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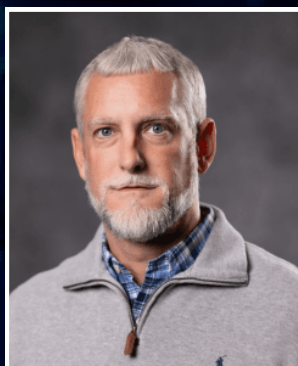
## PARKS AND RECREATION *Our Staff*

The wide range of activities offered in Hope Mills that enhance our quality of life can be directly attributed to our Parks and Recreation Department. With a stellar staff specializing across a variety of program areas, this department continues to be a regional leader in providing meaningful opportunities for our residents and visitors to enjoy living in Hope Mills. Our team of leaders in Parks and Recreation is listed below:

### PARKS AND RECREATION LEADERSHIP STAFF



LAMARCO MORRISON  
P&R Director



MAXEY DOVE  
Deputy P&R Director



MEGHAN FREEMAN  
Assistant Director



BRANDON MCLEAN  
Programs Coordinator



CHRISTA WILLOUGHBY  
Athletics Coordinator



TEANDREA WILKINS  
Rec. Operations Supervisor



BRENDA WILLIAMS  
Administrative Assistant



KEITH BRYANT  
Field Maintenance Sup.



JAMES GONZALES  
Bldg. Maintenance Sup.



MEAGAN MERENESS  
Special Events/Comm  
Coordinator



JUSTIN BALDWIN  
Athletics Supervisor

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INSPECTIONS & PLANNING/ZONING

*Our Staff*

Many would agree that our Inspections Department and Planning Department are the unsung heroes of our municipality. In many cases, the first point of contact during development is our Planning team, guiding projects from concept to coordination. By the same token, the Inspections Department serves as the anchor for all construction activity in Hope Mills, ensuring compliance, safety, and quality throughout the process. Together, these two departments are vital to the responsible growth and continued development of Hope Mills. Below is the leadership team that guides these two divisions of our staff:

## INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT STAFF



KENNY TATUM  
Chief Building Official

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT STAFF



EMILY WEIDNER  
Planning Department Director



XAVIER ROBINSON  
Town Planner

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## FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES *Our Staff*

Our Finance Department continues to set the standard for fiscal responsibility. With six consecutive years of CAFR Awards for clean audits, our Finance Director leads the Town's commitment to sound financial management and responsible governance. Our Human Resources Department likewise continues to push the envelope in recruitment and retention, fostering a supportive and productive work environment for our staff. The leadership staff in each department is below:

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT STAFF



**DREW HOLLAND**  
Finance Director

### HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT STAFF



**LEEANNE CARLUCCI**  
Human Resources Director



**SHANIECE SMITH**  
Human Resources Specialist

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## NCDOT CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

The following construction projects are being completed by NCDOT and will have an effect on the Town of Hope Mills. The contract number, state transportation improvement program (STIP) number, project description, and estimated completion date as well as project let dates are listed below:

### ACTIVE PROJECTS:

Contract#: C204043

STIP#: U-2519AA, U-2519AB

Project Description: Fayetteville Outer Loop construct new freeway from I-95 in Robeson County to South of SR 1003 (Camden Road) in Cumberland County.

Project Cost: \$129,749,000

Estimated Completion Date: 7/1/2025 CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS IS AT 93%

Project ID#: HL-0036

Project Description: NC 59 (North Main Street) Replace existing sidewalk and construct new sidewalk along NC 59 (North Main Street).

Project Cost: \$449,000

LET Date: 3/15/2024

PROJECT ID#: U-3422A

Project Description: SR 1003 (Camden Road) From Fayetteville outer loop to just west of SR 1112 (Rockfish Road)

Project Cost: \$420,241,370

LET Date: Project was advertised and let 12/17/2024

STATUS: 16%

PROJECT ID#: U-3422B

Route and Limits: SR 1003 (Camden Road), b/w west of SR 1112 (Rockfish Road) and SR 1596 (North Main Street)

Project Description: Widen to multi-lanes

Project Cost: \$55,000,000

LET Date: 12/2025

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**PROJECT ID#:** U-4709

**Project Description:** SR 1112 (Rockfish Road) from SR 1115 (Golfview Road) to NC59 (North Main Street) and SR 1115 (Golfview Road) from SR 1112 (Rockfish Road) to NC 59 (North Main Street). Widen to mutli-lanes.

**Project Cost:** \$33,031,000

**LET Date:** 6/18/2024 Contractor has been selected: Fred Smith Co.

**STATUS:** 11%

**PROJECT ID#:** U-6073

**Project Description:** SR 1107 (Fisher Road) from SR 1104 (Strickland Bridge Road) to NC162 (Bingham Drive). Widen 2.1 miles of Fisher Road to four lane divided with a 19.5 foot median, a 5 foot sidewalk on the westbound side, and a 10 foot multiuse path on the eastbound side. A roundabout is also proposed at the McKinnon Farm intersection. Feedback can be provided at [www.ncdot.publicinput.com](http://www.ncdot.publicinput.com) through November 8, 2024.

**Project Cost:** \$65,000,000

**Award for Construction Date:** 2028

## NCDOT DIVISION 6 FUTURE CORRIDOR PROJECTS

**PROJECT ID#:** BL-0130

**Route and Limits:** SR 1131 (Cameron Road), b/w Hope Mills Middle School to NC 59 (South Main Street) in Hope Mills.

**Project Description:** Sidewalk construction

**Project Cost:** \$574,000

**LET Date:** FY 2027