

# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## THE *Community* CORNER "Be the reason your community grows stronger"

THE 3RD ANNUAL HOPE MILLS JUNETEENTH LIBERTY AND LEGACY CELEBRATION IS COMING!!

The Hope Mills Police Dept has received \$11,704 for a TrafficAlert System to reduce distracted drivers.



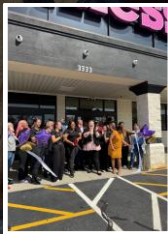
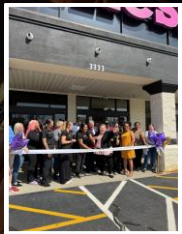
The annual Kiwanis Club of Hope Mills BBQ Fundraiser is set for Friday April 24, 2026!! The event will take place at the John W. Hodges Public Safety Center from 10am to 1pm. Plates include pulled pork, baked beans, cole slaw, and a roll. Orders of 10 plates or more will be delivered.

# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

THE *Community* CORNER "Change begins with neighbors who get involved"



The Hope Mills Chamber of Commerce facilitated a ribbon cutting for the new Planet Fitness in Hope Mills!!! The entire management team participated with the Hope Mills elected to welcome this new facility to our Town.

## GRILLING FIRE SAFETY

KNOWING A FEW FIRE SAFETY GRILLING TIPS WILL HELP EVERYONE HAVE A SAFE SUMMER.

**Only use your grill outside.**

Keep it away from siding and deck rails.

Keep a 3-foot safe zone around your grill and campfire.

This will keep kids and pets safe.

Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.

Place the coals from your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.

Open your gas grill before lighting.

Keep an eye on your grill, fire pit or patio torches. Never leave any of them unattended.

**STAY FIRE-SAFE THIS SUMMER!**

For more information and resources, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov) and [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).

## SPRING LITTER SWEEP 2026

**Saturday**  
April 18, 2026  
9:00AM - 1:00PM  
Town-Wide

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

- vests, gloves, pickers, trash bags provided
- meet at the recreation center @ 8 am
- must be 18 yrs. old to register a motor

REGISTRATION REQUIRED REGISTER UNTIL APRIL 17

Scan to Register

For more information on events, please visit [www.townofhopemills.com](http://www.townofhopemills.com)

## 2026 SPRING COMMUNITY YARD SALE

**Saturday**  
April 25, 2026  
and/or  
**Sunday**  
April 26, 2026  
9:00AM - 1:00PM

**REGISTER YOUR YARD SALE!**

REGISTRATION FEE: \$5 (THIS INCLUDES YARD SALE PERMIT FEE)

YOU WILL BE ADDED TO THE TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE VIRTUAL MAP

\*Must reside in Hope Mills Municipal Town limits to participate.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED REGISTER UNTIL APRIL 23

Scan to Register

For more information on events, please visit [www.townofhopemills.com](http://www.townofhopemills.com)

# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## DEPARTMENT HEAD 2026 BUDGET *Priorities* MEETING

### DEPARTMENT HEAD BUDGETS

As we lead into the upcoming 2026–2027 fiscal budget year, the Town of Hope Mills stands on its strongest foundation to date. For the first time in our history, we are operating under an adopted Strategic Plan that is in alignment with our updated Community Investment Plan (CIP). This ensures that every capital project directly supports the goals and objectives established by our governing body. At our recent Council Retreat our elected officials engaged in thoughtful and strategic discussions to identify their Top Priorities and Secondary Priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. This collaborative effort further reinforces our commitment to transparency, focus, and responsible governance.

In response to the guidance from our elected officials, our department heads presented recommendations along with supporting data that can be utilized in decision making as we move forward through the budget process.

### **BUDGET PRIORITIES**

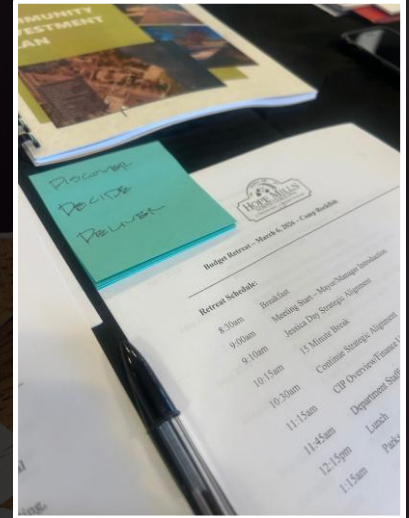
The following priorities were presented:

#### Top Priorities:

- Department Staffing
- Recreation Center
- Sports Complex
- Lake Parking Lot
- Senior Center
- Bond Referendum
- Police Substations
- Fire Substations
- Police Vehicle Rotation
- Infrastructure
- Transportation

#### Secondary Priorities:

- Department Staffing
- Recreation Center
- Sports Complex
- Lake Parking Lot
- Senior Center
- Bond Referendum



# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

NORTH CAROLINA *Main Street* CONFERENCE: NEW BERN, NC

## 2026 MAIN STREET CONFERENCE

Each year, the NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center, the Rural Economic Development Division, and the North Carolina Department of Commerce facilitate the annual NC Main Street Conference. The NC Main Street Program serves as a Main Street America Coordinating Program, helping to lead a powerful grassroots network consisting of more than 40 Coordinating Programs and over 1,200 neighborhoods and communities across the country. These communities share a common commitment to creating high-quality places and building stronger local economies through preservation based economic development.

Celebrating its 25th year, the conference continues to focus on strategies that help revitalize and sustain historic downtown districts throughout North Carolina. The event brings together community leaders, planners, elected officials, and economic development professionals to share best practices and innovative approaches to downtown revitalization.

This year's conference was hosted by the historic city of New Bern, providing attendees with the opportunity to experience firsthand the impact of thoughtful preservation, strategic investment, and community engagement in strengthening local downtown districts.



# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

NORTH CAROLINA *Main Street* CONFERENCE: NEW BERN, NC



The annual NC Main Street Conference provides attendees with valuable opportunities to network with professionals and community leaders who share a passion for downtown development. Participants also benefit from educational sessions facilitated by a carefully selected lineup of notable speakers who provide insights and best practices related to economic development, historic preservation, and community revitalization.

Hosted each year in the downtown district of a North Carolina community, the conference is a three-day event that highlights the host city while providing hands-on learning experiences. The conference is open to anyone interested in learning more about downtown economic development and strategies for strengthening local communities.

One of the original Main Street communities, the City of New Bern has been a leader in downtown revitalization efforts since 1980 through its participation in the NC Main Street Program. Through public engagement, historic preservation, and strategic economic development initiatives, the City has successfully transformed its historic downtown into a vibrant, walkable, and bike-friendly destination.

Downtown New Bern is enhanced by cultural events, beautification projects, and public art installations that celebrate the city's unique character and history. Historic buildings have been rehabilitated, new development has been thoughtfully integrated to complement the city's heritage, and local businesses have flourished. As a result, New Bern has become a model for successful Main Street revitalization across North Carolina.



# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



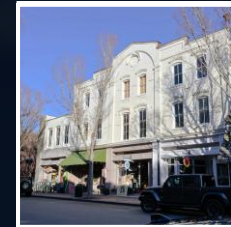
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## NORTH CAROLINA *Main Street* CONFERENCE: NEW BERN, NC

During the conference, keynote speakers provided insight on a number of critical topics related to downtown revitalization and economic development. These presentations focused on themes such as how strong communities begin with strong downtown districts, the economic impact and power of vibrant downtowns, leveraging anchor destinations to energize downtown areas, and understanding the true value and investment behind creating meaningful places. In addition to keynote presentations, the NC Main Street Conference featured Downtown Tool-Kit Sessions, which provided more in-depth learning opportunities for attendees. These sessions focused on practical strategies and tools that communities can use to strengthen their downtown districts.

### Topics included:

- The Art of Crafting Smart Incentives
- Pop-Ups, Placemaking, and Temporary Activation for Economic Bursts
- Mapping the Future: Integrating Strong Planning for Downtown
- Creating a “Friends of Downtown” Movement That Matters
- Curb Appeal Counts: The Power of Storefront Design
- Decoding Downtown: Codes and Ordinances for Revitalization
- Retail Promotion Strategies: Driving Downtown Sales and Engagement
- Main Street is Economic Development
- Culture That Clicks: Authentic Events That Drive Downtown Buzz
- Inclusive by Design: Diversifying Main Street Participation
- Pocket Parks, Alleys, and Plazas: Leveraging Small Spaces for Big Impact
- Partnering for Place: Driving Change with Destination Agencies



These sessions provided attendees with practical case studies, real-world examples, and actionable strategies that communities can use to strengthen their downtown districts, encourage investment, support local businesses, and create vibrant places where residents and visitors alike want to gather.



# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## *Our Staff* CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF *Fred Ferreyra*



### FRED FERREYRA

The Town of Hope Mills mourns the loss of Fred Ferreyra, who passed away after a long health battle.

Fred retired from the Hope Mills Police Department in 2023 after many years of dedicated and honorable service to the community. Following his retirement, his commitment to serving the citizens of Hope Mills did not end. Fred continued his dedication to public service by joining the Hope Mills Fire Department, once again answering the call to serve.

Fred's legacy is one of service, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the community he loved. His contributions to the Town of Hope Mills will not be forgotten, and he will be deeply missed by colleagues, friends, and the many citizens whose lives he impacted throughout his years of service.



# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## THE TOWN OF HOPE MILLS *Parks and Recreation*

### SPRING LITTER SWEEP 2026

**Saturday April 18, 2026**  
**9:00AM - 1:00PM**  
**Town-Wide**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**  
 - vests, gloves, pickers, trash bags provided  
 - meet at the recreation center @ 8:45am  
 - must be 18 yrs. old to register a voter

REGISTRATION REQUIRED REGISTER UNTIL APRIL 17

Scan to Register

### SAVE THE DATE

TOWN OF HOPE MILLS

## JUNETEENTH LIBERTY & LEGACY CELEBRATION

**20 JUNE 2026**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND GET READY FOR A JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

**MORE INFO:**  
 WWW.TOWNOFHOPEMILLS.COM  
 (910) 426-4107

### HOPE MILLS PARKS & RECREATION CENTER AND NAMI CUMBERLAND, HARNETT, AND LEE COUNTIES

Presents:

## A.I. WORKSHOPS

LEARN HOW TO USE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Curious about **Artificial Intelligence** but not sure where to start? Join **Coach Billie C.** for an exciting and interactive introduction to the **world of AI!**

In partnership with the **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**, these sessions are designed to remove the fear and mystery surrounding AI and instead show you how to use it responsibly, creatively, and effectively in **everyday life.**

Coach **Billie C.** will guide participants through:

- What Artificial Intelligence actually is
- How to use AI tools to save time and boost creativity
- Ways AI can help with school, work, and everyday tasks
- Tips for using AI responsibly and safely

Whether you're a **student, professional, parent,** or simply curious about technology, this class is for all ages and all skill levels. Don't be **intimidated by AI**—come learn, explore, and discover how powerful and helpful these tools can be!

**Cost: FREE**

Don't be intimidated by AI—come learn, explore, and discover how powerful and helpful these tools can be!

**WORKSHOP DATES:**

- MARCH 19, 2026 6:30PM - 7:30PM
- MARCH 27, 2026 5:00PM - 8:00PM

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO!

HOPE MILLS PARKS & RECREATION CENTER  
 910-426-4109

**NAMI** Cumberland, Harnett and Lee Counties

### HOPE MILLS PARKS & RECREATION CENTER AND NAMI CUMBERLAND, HARNETT, AND LEE COUNTIES

Presents:

## Poetry Workshop

EXPRESS YOURSELF THROUGH WORDS

Discover the power of words and creativity in our **Poetry Workshop** led by **Yolanda Barnes**, presented in partnership with the **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).**

This welcoming and inspiring workshop invites participants of all experience levels to explore poetry as a form of self-expression, storytelling, and emotional wellness. Whether you've written poetry before or are trying it for the first time, this workshop will guide you through the creative process in a supportive environment.

**Participants Will Learn:**

- Different styles and forms of poetry
- Techniques for expressing thoughts and emotions through writing
- How poetry can support mental wellness and creativity
- Opportunities to share and celebrate your work with others

**COST: FREE**

Find Your Voice. Tell Your Story. Heal Through Words.

**WORKSHOP DATES:**

- APRIL 4, 2026 10:00AM - 2:00PM
- APRIL 6, 2026 10:00AM - 12:00PM
- APRIL 11, 2026 10:00AM - 2:00PM

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO!

HOPE MILLS PARKS & RECREATION CENTER  
 910-426-4109

**NAMI** Cumberland, Harnett and Lee Counties

### 2026 SPRING COMMUNITY GARDEN SALE

**Saturday April 25, 2026**  
**Sunday April 26, 2026**  
**9:00AM - 1:00PM**

REGISTER YOUR GARDEN SALE! REGISTERATION FEE: \$10 (INCLUDES TARD) (SEE PARKING LIST)  
 YOU WILL BE ASKED TO TAKE HOME YOUR OWN GARDEN WARE!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED REGISTER UNTIL APRIL 23

### COACHES NEEDED

## BASEBALL SOFTBALL INDOOR SOCCER

CONCILIUM  
 CUMBERLAND, HARNETT AND LEE COUNTIES  
 WWW.COACHESNEEDED.COM

### HOPE MILLS YOUTH BASEBALL ASSESSMENTS

BROWER PARK | MARCH 2 - 4

**50 ASSESSMENTS**  
 MONDAY, MARCH 2 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**100/170 ASSESSMENTS**  
 TUESDAY, MARCH 3 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**MAKE-UP ASSESSMENTS**  
 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

FOR NEW PLAYERS & NEW TO PLAYER PITCH

### HOPE MILLS PARKS & RECREATION CENTER WITH NAMI PRESENTS:

## MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS

Join in partnership with **NAMI** to explore mental health topics. **FREE** color booklet. **FREE** color booklet. **FREE** color booklet.

**HOPE MILLS PARKS & RECREATION CENTER**  
 910-426-4109

**MARCH 24, 2026 8:30AM - 5:00PM**  
**MAY 5, 2026 8:30AM - 5:00PM**

### Cotton Tail Trail 2026

A FREE trail race in support of the **Hope Mills "Big Bunny" Easter Egg Hunt** and to raise money for the **Hope Mills Food Bank**. Race will be a 5K and a 10K. **FREE** color booklet. **FREE** color booklet.

**MARCH 28TH**  
 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

### TRUCKS 'N STUFF

FREE TRUCKS 'N STUFF

May 2, 2026

Selfless Germany  
 1000 Highway 101  
 Hope Mills, NC 28348

Food Trucks On-site

NO TRUCKS! EMERGENCY VEHICLES  
 CONSTRUCTION APPOINTMENTS! HAZARDOUS WASTE!  
 & MORE!

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## HOPE MILLS *Chamber of Commerce*

HOPE MILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
**WOMEN**  
MEAN BUSINESS  
*Educate Advocate Empower*

### UnLOCKing UNAPOLOGETIC LEADERSHIP POWER

An Empowering Networking Event for Women

- Inspiring Speakers
- Powerful Connections
- Empowerment & Networking

Date: March 19  
Time: 9am - 1pm  
Location: Gates Four Golf and Country Club

CONFIDENCE + COURAGE + SUCCESS

Early Bird Tickets on sale NOW!!

The Hope Mills Chamber of Commerce facilitated a ribbon cutting for the new Planet Fitness in Hope Mills!!! The entire management team participated with the Hope Mills elected to welcome this new facility to our Town.



The next Hope Mills Chamber Business Breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday March 24, 2026 at Harmony at Hope Mills Assisted Living Facility. The event starts at 8:30am.

The next workshop in the 3D Branding: Creating an Authentic Business Identify Series is set for March 19, 2026 at the Hope Mills Parks & Rec. Center.

CONTINUING-EDUCATION

## 3D Branding

CRAFTING AN AUTHENTIC BUSINESS IDENTITY

Define. Develop. Display  
(IDENTITY, CONSISTENCY, CREATIVITY.)

### 4 WEEK BRANDING WORKSHOP

March 5	March 19
March 12	March 26

TIME: 5:00 PM - 7:000 PM  
LOCATION: HOPE MILLS PARKS & REC  
CHAMBER MEMBER: \$75 | NON-MEMBERS: \$100  
HOPE MILLS TIFFANY HAYWOOD | JFH

RESCHEDULED

# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## 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

# THE TOWN *Manager's* REPORT



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING | MARCH 18, 2026

## 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:

**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