

MINUTES
FOXFIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL
Monthly Work Session
June 25, 2026 ~ 5:30 PM
Village Hall Meeting Room

Call to Order: Mayor Pro Temp Kragel called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Members present included Councilmembers Mary Gilroy, Stephen Gunn, and Kevin Robbins. Mayor Gregorich was absent. Others in attendance: Village residents.

1. Approval of Work Session Agenda

Councilmember Gilroy added *SB 876* under New Discussion, and Councilmember Robbins added a *Streets Update* to the agenda.

Councilmember Gunn **moved to approve the June 25, 2026 Work Session agenda as amended**, seconded by Mayor Pro Temp Kragel and unanimously carried.

2. Planning & Zoning Board Recommendation

Mayor Pro Temp Kragel said the Planning & Zoning Board Chair was not available to be here, however she did leave updated information for the council to review regarding Short-term Rentals and the table of permitted signs that would affect the proposed permanent notification sign. Brief discussion followed. No review or action taken.

3. Continued Disussion:

A. Foxfire Special Event Information, Policy, Application Permit

Councilmember Robbins presented a draft Special Event Information and Permit Application Packet, noting that it was a "strawman" proposal intended to begin discussion and was not being presented for approval. The draft establishes two categories of events: co-sponsored events, which are covered under the Village's insurance and subject to additional requirements, and independent special events, for which organizers must obtain their own insurance, assume liability, indemnify the Village, and comply with the Village's application process.

The proposal was developed after reviewing special event policies from neighboring municipalities, including Aberdeen and Southern Pines. Council discussed potential liability concerns associated with independent events, including risks involving inflatables, alcohol, and property damage. Council agreed that the draft requires further review and refinement. No action was taken, and the item will return for future discussion.

B. WEFD Contract

Council reviewed the proposed fire protection and rescue services contract between Foxfire Village and West End Fire and Rescue Department. The one-year agreement, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, provides for continued fire and rescue services, staffing, equipment, insurance coverage, and quarterly reporting.

Council discussed staffing language, facility maintenance responsibilities, and the proposed compensation based on the Moore County fire tax rate of 8.75%, totaling \$321,121. Discussion included concerns regarding major building repairs, including HVAC and other facility needs, as well as the decision not to include a "true-up" provision for additional tax collections. Council agreed that further clarification of long-term maintenance responsibilities may be needed but supported moving the contract forward.

Councilmember Gunn **moved to advance the contract to the regular council meeting for approval**, seconded by Councilmember Gilroy, and unanimously carried.

C. Emergency Disaster Plan

Councilmember Gunn requested feedback from council members and staff regarding the draft emergency disaster plan that was emailed to each person. Once all comments are received, the information can be compiled and prepared for council's review at the next meeting.

D. Permanent Notification Sign

Councilmember Gunn commented this was briefly addressed during earlier discussion of P&Z Recommendations. No further discussion this evening.

4. New Discussion/Work Items:

A. Service Contracts

Councilmember Gilroy reported that, following approval of the budget, work will begin on updating the purchasing policy in phases. While service contracts are not required to undergo a formal bidding process, efforts will be made to obtain additional quotes whenever practical and to document vendor outreach for procurement records. Identifying alternate vendors for specialized services will also help ensure continuity if a primary contractor becomes unavailable.

Gilroy added that the IT services contract is expected to be ready for Council consideration at the next meeting following the proposal deadline.

B. Rescind Budget Amendment #04-Water Fund

Councilmember Gunn moved to rescind Budget Amendment #04-Water Fund, seconded by Councilmember Gilroy and unanimously approved.

C. Budget Amendment #05-Water Fund

D. Budget Amendment #06-Capital Project Fund – Well #13

Councilmember Gunn moved to adopt Budget Amendment #05 – Water Fund and Budget Amendment #06 – Capital Project Fund – Well #13, seconded by Councilmember Robbins and unanimously carried.

E. Senate Bill 876

Councilmember Gilroy reported on Senate Bill 876, which would make municipal elections partisan. She expressed concerns that the bill could create barriers for unaffiliated candidates and cause voters to focus more on party affiliation than qualifications. Gilroy provided sample letters for those wishing to contact state officials regarding the legislation.

Councilmember Robbins commented that requiring partisan affiliation for local elected offices could discourage or disqualify qualified candidates whose employment limits political activity, including active-duty military personnel, government employees, and others subject to workplace restrictions. No action was taken.

5. Public Comments – Items Listed on Agenda Only

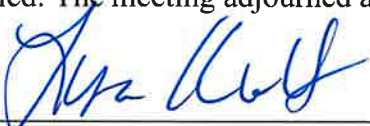
Dan Leary – 73 North Shamrock commented on the special event contract, requesting confirmation that insurance coverage is adequate and that the Village is properly protected under the agreement. He also asked for clarification on the proposed sign and whether it would be illuminated.

Leslie Frusco - Hillside Drive, commented on the special event permit, requesting that the agreement be reviewed by the Village's insurance carrier and Village Attorney to ensure the Village is fully protected and not held responsible for potential liabilities.

Karen Fellema – 7 Wedgwood commented on ongoing issues with short-term rentals, expressing concerns about noise, trespassing, and impacts on neighborhood safety and quality of life. She stated that despite contacting the Police Department, zoning officials, and the Council, the issues have continued and requested additional action to protect residents. She noted recent property damage, including bullet holes in a no trespassing sign.

6. Adjournment

Councilmember Gunn moved to adjourn, seconded by Maor Pro Temp Kragel and unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.



Lisa A. Kivett, MMC, NCCMC, CZO
Village Administrator/Clerk



Janice Gregorich
Mayor