

**A Regular Meeting of the  
VILLAGE COUNCIL OF SUGAR MOUNTAIN  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, June 17, 2025  
4:00 P.M.**

1. **Call to Order of Regular Meeting** – Mayor Gunther Jochl called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 4:00 p.m. with a quorum present as follows:

**Council Members Present:**

Mayor Gunther Jochl, Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown, Council Member David Ammann, and Council Member Dick Casey.

**Council Members Absent:**

Council Member Wade Wittman

**Village Hall Staff Present:**

Attorney Stacy Eggers IV, Chief Casey Turbyfill, Patrol Officer Tim Kiefer, Public Works Director Bill Daniels, Village Manager Susan Phillips, and Village Clerk Tammy Floyd who recorded the official meeting.

Approximately seven members of the public attended.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Chief Casey Turbyfill leads the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Moment of Silence** – Mayor Gunther Jochl announces a moment of silence.
4. **Adoption of Regular Meeting Agenda** – Village Manager Susan Phillips requested two additions to the agenda. Council Member Dick Casey moved to adopt the agenda with the two additions. Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the **motion carried** three (3) votes to zero (0).
5. **Approval of Minutes**

- **May 20, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- **May 20, 2025 Budget Workshop Minutes**

Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown moved to approve the minutes as written. Council Member Dick Casey seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the **motion carried** three (3) votes to zero (0).

6. **Public Hearing – Proposed 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget**

Mayor Gunther Jochl opened the public hearing. Village Manager Susan Phillips provided an overview and stated nothing has changed since the workshop. Resident CJ from Grouse Moor questioned federal funding. Resident Sue Auffinger wanted to make sure that beautification was still in the budget and received a response of yes. With no other public comments, Council Member Dick Casey moved to close the public hearing at 4:07 p.m. with a second from Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown.

7. **New Business**

- a. **Consider Adoption of the Proposed 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget**

Council Member David Ammann moved to adopt the budget as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the **motion carried** three (3) votes to zero (0).

- b. **Review Fee Schedule for Adoption**

Council Member Dick Casey made a motion to adopt the fee schedule with no changes. Council Member David Ammann seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried three (3) votes to zero (0).

**c. Adoption of the 2025-2026 Regular Meeting Schedule of the Council.**

Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown made a motion to keep the current meeting schedule as every third Tuesday of each month. Council Member David Ammann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried three (3) votes to zero (0).

**d. Re-Appointment of Winston Ammann to the High-Country ABC Board.**

Council Member Dick Casey moved to re-appoint Winston Ammann. Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried three (3) votes to zero (0).

**e. Adoption of 2024-25 Budget Amendment #8 to Provide Appropriated Funds to Both the General Fund and Golf & Tennis Fund.**

Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown moved to adopt the budget amendment with a second from Council Member Dick Casey. All were in favor and the motion carried three (3) votes to zero (0).

**f. Adoption of an Amendment to the NC Department of State Treasurer Cashflow Loan Agreement Repayment Terms.**

The terms have been updated to allow five years to repay. Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown moved to adopt the amendment. Council Member David Ammann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried three (3) votes to zero (0).

**g. Adoption of the NC Department of State Treasurer Cashflow Loan #2.**

This loan will provide an additional \$282,988.08. Council Member David Ammann made a motion to approve the loan. Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried three (3) votes to zero (0).

**h. Adoption of 2024-25 Budget Amendment #9 to appropriate fund from the cash flow loan.**

Council Member Dick Casey moved to adopt the amendment with a second from Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown. All were in favor and the motion carried three (3) votes to zero (0).

**8. Departmental Reports**

**a. Village Manager's Report – Susan Phillips**

The report provided gives an update on golf course repairs and stream restoration with an opening date of May 16<sup>th</sup> and a loss of \$150,000 in golf revenue is expected for the 2025-2026 fiscal year due to damage caused by Helene. The TDA met and will fund tennis professional, one police officer, beautification projects and infrastructure for golf and tennis for the 2025-26 fiscal year. The Board of Adjustments ruled on June 9, 2025 to uphold the administration decision to deny the re-construction of a billboard located at 2515 Tynecastle Highway. The Board of Adjustments also approved the amendment to the Special Use Permit issued to the Homewood Suites Project to subdivide the hotel lot from 22.76 acres to 8.56 acres and 14.20 acres.

**b. Police Chief's Monthly Report – Chief Casey Turbyfill**

Chief Casey Turbyfill reports the police department continues to patrol village streets and maintains an active presence in the community. On May 23<sup>rd</sup> Timothy Kiefer was sworn in as SMPD's newest police officer. Patrol Miles: 3,497 Business checks: 454 Residence Checks: 393

**c. Public Works Director's Monthly Report – Bill Daniels**

Bill Daniels reports great strides are being made in our recovery. The department is moving along with the ditch cleanouts on roadsides, roadside mowing, and line painting. Work continues the golf course renovation to include bunker project.

**d. Monthly Permits Issuance Log – Tammy Floyd**

7-Zoning Permits for Building and 1-Sign Permit

**e. Tax Collection Report**

FY 2024 Tax Collection Rate as of Friday, June 13, 2025 99.53%

FY 2023 100.00%

A list of FY 2024 Delinquent Taxes as of June 13, 2025 Provided.

**f. Finance Officer's Financial Report – Susan Phillips**

Financial Reports through May 31, 2025 provided.

**9. Public Comments**

Mr. & Mrs. Cohen asked about FEMA visiting private property and was thankful for the clearing of the roads since Helene.

**10. Mayor/Council Comments**

Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown provided gratitude for the board and staff.

Council Member David Ammann expressed thanks to the staff for their accomplishments with restoration and budget preparations without raising taxes.

Council Member Dick Casey congratulated Bill Daniels and his staff for getting the Golf Course open and in beautiful shape.

Mayor Gunther Jochl stated the area looks beautiful and the growth has covered a lot of the damage. This storm left more of a personal mark than COVID. We are now seeing the result of all community efforts and it is a privilege to be a part of this community.

**11. Adjournment**

A motion and second was received to adjourn. All were in favor and the **motion carried** four (4) votes to zero (0).

The meeting was adjourned at 4.32 p.m.

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Gunther Jochl, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy W. Floyd, Clerk

SEAL