

**A Regular Meeting of the  
VILLAGE COUNCIL OF SUGAR MOUNTAIN  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, February 17, 2026  
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, Public Works Director Bill Daniels, Village Manager Susan Phillips, and Village Clerk Tammy Floyd who recorded the official meeting.

Approximately five 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** – Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown moved to adopt the agenda with a second from Council Member Dick Casey. All were in favor and the **motion carried** three (3) votes to zero (0).
5. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. **January 20, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Council Member Dick Casey moved to approve the minutes as written. Council Member David Ammann seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the **motion carried** three (3) votes to zero (0).
6. **Old Business**
7. **New Business**
  - a. **Village of Sugar Mountain FY 2024-25 Audited Financial Statement – Misty Watson, CPA**

Highlights of the 2024-25 Audit reported the General Fund decreased \$150,948, Unassigned fund balance over expenditures is 26.3% due to awaiting Hurricane Helene reimbursements and year-end. Strong investment earnings were \$87,125 and the Tennis and Golf Fund decreased \$275,473 due to Hurricane Helene’s impact on activities and awaiting reimbursement for expenditures. The Village received an unmodified clean opinion.
  - b. **Review and Consider Approval of FY 2026 Audit Contract with Misty Watson, CPA - \$17,500**

The Village Manager reported an increase in the contract price due to an outside individual that is required to write the financials. Council Member David Ammann motioned to approve the contract. Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the **motion carried** three (3) votes to zero (0).

**c. Review and Consider Contract Extension with Insight Planning & Development for Comprehensive Disaster Recovery Consulting Services.**

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

**d. Consider Re-Appointment of James Fitzpatrick, Janet Anderson, and Erin Shu to the TDA Board.**

Mayor Pro Tem Scott Brown moved to re-appoint all three members to another term with a second from Council Member Dick Casey. 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 states that Tri-County Paving has begun the repairs on Timber Ridge Road and is expected to be completed within 30 days depending on the weather. Wildlands Engineering is expected to have the final plans delivered to the Village for stream restoration, culvert replacement, and cart path reconstruction on the golf course in early March. The Tourism Development Authority approved cooperative promotions with Sugar Mountain Ski Resort and addition of crosswalks. Occupancy tax showed an increase of 20% in comparison to December 2024. The Courtyard Marriott at the Grandfather Center is expected to open in late March. FEMA project expenditures submitted \$2,934,490 and FEMA reimbursements received \$1,236,139.

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

Several parking citations were issued during recent weather events. There were a couple of mishaps involving NCDOT during inclement weather due to roadway treatment materials not being loaded onto contractors' plow trucks. The issue was corrected relatively quickly but still caused some traffic incidents. GPS changes for Cross Park Drive have assisted in our traffic operation. The Chief provides an update on officers training and scheduling and a list of incidents. Patrol Miles: 4,418 Residence Checks: 291 Business Checks: 338

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

The department has had staff on the job for 39 consecutive days. It has taken a toll on our overtime and our stockpile of material for the roads. Chief Casey Turbyfill and I maintained contact with DOT and worked through problems and kept traffic moving during the most critical times. We began cleaning limbs and brush from the ice storm on the upper part of the mountain. We hope to restart the removal of some trees and begin cleaning up on the golf course soon to prepare for mid-April opening.

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

Zoning Permits for Building: 2 for decks Sign Permits: 2

**e. Tax Collection Report**

2025 Tax Collection Rate as of Friday, February 13, 2026 %95.65  
2024 Remaining Balance to Collect \$3,368.39 or %99.77

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

Financial Reports provided through January 31, 2026

**9. Public Comments**

Dedy Travor provided an update on the upcoming primary elections and polling places and expressed thanks to the Public Works and Police Department for keeping the roads clear.

**10. Mayor/Council Comments**

Mayor Gunther Jochl commented on the unbelievable weather and commended the public works and police departments for being prepared and ready to go.

**11. Adjournment**

Council Member David Ammann moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Dick Casey seconded the motion. All were in favor and the **motion carried** three (3) votes to zero (0).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.  
0

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gunther Jochl, Mayor

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

SEAL