



*Mayor and Town Council
Town of Friendsville
Founded 1765*

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Friendsville Mayor & Town Council Minutes
March 16, 2026

Attendance:

Spencer R. Schlosnagle, Mayor

Wanda Guard, Administrative Assistant, Clerk-Treasurer

Council Members: Pamela Humberson, Michael Artice, James Hook, Edward Kelley, & Robert Sines.

Absent: Council Member Bittinger

Citizens/Guests: Lynn Aycok, Jennifer Uphold, Tristin DeValk and Melissa Custer

Call to Order: Pamela Humberson, Council President, called the meeting for March 16, 2026, at 6:03 p.m. to order.

Openings: All attending the meeting recited the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of the Agenda – March 16, 2026

Motion #1: (Council member Sines/Council member Hook) Motion to approve accepting the March 16, 2026, agenda. 5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

Approval of the General Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2026

Motion #2: (Council member Hook/Council member Kelley) Approval of accepting the general meeting minutes for March 2, 2026, with no corrections. 5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

To The Floor

Jennifer reported that during the most recent zoning ordinance work session, comments were made regarding the food truck present at the December event. She clarified that the food truck was not registered with Greater Friendsville Business Association and was not part of the official event.

There were no other members of the floor who offered comments or remarks this evening.

Unfinished Business

Real Estate Tax

Wanda explained the process for real estate tax collection, as it had been questioned at the previous meeting. She stated that the County currently bills \$0.41 per \$100 of assessed valuation as provided by the Town of Friendsville. The verification of the correct tax revenue on the County's side is a straightforward process. Each June, the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) provides the County with a file containing property assessments, which is imported directly into their billing software. SDAT also provides a summary page with totals for each municipality. The County then enters the tax rate provided by the Town into their billing system to calculate the town tax bills. They also manually verify the calculations using the SDAT assessment report and the Town's tax rate to ensure the

rate was entered correctly and that the imported file matches the reports provided by SDAT. On a monthly basis, Wanda receives a report from the County along with the tax payment. Any unpaid taxes are reflected in the uncollectible line of the Town's budget for the year. For Fiscal Year 2025, 8% of the taxes were not collected, and for the current fiscal year, as of February, 21% remains uncollected. She noted that many residents pay their taxes after receiving their income tax refunds.

Softball Restroom/Utility/Storage Room

Mayor Schlosnagle reported that GC Public Utilities is scheduled to turn on the water at the Community Park on Monday, March 23, 2026. Once the water is on, Jeremy Beitzel will coordinate with MEGCO to complete inspections of the electrical and plumbing systems. Following these inspections, a walkthrough will be scheduled with Council for final approval.

Mayor Schlosnagle noted that approximately \$1,500.00 will remain in the project budget, provided no additional building costs are incurred. A proposal has been received for the installation of a water bottle filling station, contingent upon no further expenses. Council also indicated that funds may be needed for installation of a camera and replacement of the memorial monument. After discussion, Council agreed to table the proposal until it is confirmed that no additional costs will arise.

Mayor Schlosnagle pointed out that each door is key separately and it would cost \$135.00 - \$150.00 to re-key the 4 locks and obtain two keys.

Motion #3: (Council member Kelley/Council member Sines) Approval of purchasing a lockbox up to \$50.00 and installing it on the new softball building, between the electrical room and storage room, with the four non-duplicable keys secured inside and the combination code only given to Central Garrett Baseball, President Ryan Savage. 5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

Ryan Savage also requested permission to relocate the existing shed to the upper softball field near the batting cages and to purchase a new shed for the lower softball field at its current location.

Motion #4: (Council member Kelley/Council member Hook) Approval to grant permission to relocate the existing shed to the upper softball field near the batting cages and for them to install a new shed for the lower softball field at its current location.

5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

Community Legacy Grant – Friend Family Museum/Library

Jose is scheduled to begin work on the building within the next week. Beside the work that we have contracted, Jose is going to install a standard light in the furnace room that Ron Nair has purchased for the building. The zoning permit application for the sign has been approved, and a quote was received from Jesse's Signs & Designs for a two-sided sign 20" x 28" at \$280.00, plus \$90.00 to sandblast and repaint the bracket, for a total of \$370.00, to be covered using grant funding.

4-Wheel drive Riding Tractor Review and Feedback

Follow up discussion to the email sent to council members on March 2, 2026, regarding review and feedback requested – Tractor Purchase Quotes. It was decided to continue to use the present equipment at this time as much as much. Orange Book can be used to explore the value of the present equipment.

Seasonal Maintenance Worker Announcement

Mayor Schlosnagle spoke with Josh, and he is hoping to be able to come back. He also noted that the three other applicants indicated they would potentially be available for seasonal work.

Garrett County/Deep Creek Lake Activities Guide and Visitdeepcreek.com

Wanda shared that on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, that she notified Stacey Munsell that the Town of Friendsville and the Greater Friendsville Business Association will not be able to move forward with submitting an advertisement for the 2026 guide.

Proposal – Pickleballcentral.com

Motion #5: (Council member Hook/Council member Sines) Approval to purchase a pickleball court net in the amount of \$2,599.00, from Pickleball Central, with the Friendsville Pickleball Group contributing \$1,000.00 toward the cost of the purchase, leaving the Town responsible for the remaining balance of \$1,599.00 using community park funds.

5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

New Business

NHS After-Prom 2026

Motion #6: (Council member Sines/Council member Hook) Approval to donate \$200.00 to the 2026 Northern High School After-Prom.

5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

Friendsville Spring Clean-up (April 27, 2026, through May 2, 2026)

Motion #7: (Council member Hook/Council member Kelley) Approval to have Friendsville Spring Cleanup on April 27, 2026, through May 2, 2026.

5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

Committee Appointments

Mayor Schlosnagle shared the committee appointments. Wanda will update the documents and have them ready for distribution to council members at the next meeting. She will also update the website and post the information on Facebook. Council members concur with the mayor's appointments.

Tree Committee

Mayor Schlosnagle will verify the list with and present once he receives confirmation.

Mayor's Report

- Follow up with SHA regarding 68 bridge to start by May 1st.
- Council President & the Mayor met with Rick at the Library regarding the construction site.
- Attended the Maryland Mayor's Conference in Annapolis, MD.
- Participated in the 5th Grade Poster Contest presentation with Melissa Custer.
- Attended the Maryland Allegany Garrett Municipal League Chapter dinner and meeting along with Council members Humberson and Kelley.
- A follow up email was received from Diane with GC Public Utilities regarding the following:
 - County Roads will start blacktopping areas in town this spring.
 - 3 fire hydrants are on the schedule for repairs.
 - Water notice for Town of Friendsville
- Working with Jose to replace the shingles that have blown off the Community Center building.
- Shared email from Sheryl Jordan regarding broken pipes at the 709 Morris Avenue Friendsville, MD.
- Maintenance team will be evaluating the banners and flags for the Town of Friendsville; we may need to purchase new ones.

- Program Open Space Grant – projects for future:
 - Dog Park (Check with Oakland regarding their park)
 - New Town of Friendsville Banners
 - Sun/Wind Sails for Community Park
- A resident shared with the mayor that she had a dog issue in our Community Park this past weekend; she was advised to contact the GC Sherriff Department.
- Need council thoughts what would be the next steps regarding the property located at 272 Maple Street; Jarrett Mahoney has attempted to contact property owners and citizens are complaining about the property.

Committee's Reports

- **Buildings:** Nothing
- **Safety:** Nothing
- **Streets & Sidewalks:** Nothing
- **Community Park:** Nothing
- **Trees & Shrub:** Nothing
- **Economic Development:** The next Greater Friendsville Business Association meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at The Root Café. The first Makers Market will be held on May 16th 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. They will be holding three Makers Markets this year.
- **Recreational Parking Lot:** Lynn shared that the committee met last week; they talked about shade and access to water; it was mentioned that the boaters would like to keep the green grassy area located at the trees; also request that steps be built.

Concerns of Council Members

- Council President Humberson shared that residents are concerned that the Post Office is going close.

Important Date(s)

- Mayor & Town Council Meeting – April 6, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
- Zoning Ordinance Revision Work Session – April 14, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion #8 (Council member Hook/Council member Artice): Approval of adjourning the meeting.
5 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstention. Motion carries.

The meeting was adjourned for 7:42p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wanda M. Guard

Wanda M. Guard,
Administrative Assistant, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:
Samuel Schlomach
Mayor
4/06/2026