



Lewisville Town Council
Special Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Lewisville Town Hall 1st Floor Council Chamber
6510 Shallowford Road

1. Call to Order:

A. Roll Call

Mayor Carter opened the special meeting at 6:00 PM. In attendance were Mayor Billy Carter, Mayor Pro-Tem Stacy Howard and Councilmembers Brady Allen, Fred Franklin, Gerry Gallagher, Suzanne Newsome and Mack Wilder. Also, in attendance were Town Manager Stacy Tolbert, Town Clerk Angie Lord, Finance Director Pam Orrell, Assistant Town Manager/Public Works Director Jon Hanna, Planning Director Lynn Cochran, and Town Attorney Al Andrews.

B. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councilmember Gallagher, seconded by Councilmember Allen to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

2. New Business

A. Censure Discussion – Mayor Carter spoke to the task of considering a fellow council member's action under the adopted Code of Ethics; stated as per policy and practice, he would serve as the Presiding Officer for the hearing; explained the matter under consideration was whether Councilmember Mack Wilder should be censured for actions occurring during the March 5, 2026 Town Council Briefing and Action Meeting.

Councilmember Newsome brought to the attention of Mayor Carter to include allegations for statements made in postings placed on social media. Mayor Carter stated Council could address social media postings should it be the pleasure of the Council. Councilmember Wilder requested the statements be made part of the censure. Mayor Carter voiced concerns regarding infringement of freedom of speech; and explained the need to focus on actions from the March 5th Council meeting. Councilmember Allen reminded Council of a motion to call the Censure hearing, stating it was specifically regarding actions that took place on March 5th; and shared the motion excluded social media intentionally. Councilmember Franklin requested Mayor Carter to utilize the script provided by Town Attorney Al Andrews. Discussion ensued regarding the script; and personal comments. Mayor Carter continued to explain the Censure investigation according to the Town of Lewisville Code of Ethics; stated all testifying witnesses, including Council members would give testimony under Oath as administered by the Town Clerk; outlined the procedure for the hearing; and highlighted the rights of Councilmember Wilder. Mayor Carter inquired if Councilmember Wilder had legal counsel for the hearing, to which Councilmember Wilder stated he did not.

Mayor Carter called on Town Clerk Angie Lord to administer an Oath to the Town Council. An oath to swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth was administered to all Council members.

Mayor Carter opened the floor for Council to formally offer the censure investigation into evidence. Councilmember Franklin offered into evidence the entire Investigative Report, pages 1 – 9 as provided by the Town Attorney dated May 13, 2026; and explained the document produced has been made available to the public. Councilmember Wilder explained screen shots of Facebook posts had been provided to Attorney Andrews; and referenced questions prepared for Council and staff.

Mayor Carter requested Attorney Andrews to read the Investigative Report into the record; and spoke to the need for transparency.

The floor was opened for Council to offer testimony and/or to call witnesses to testify.

Councilmember Franklin referenced the report provided; explained the difference between a censure and censor; voiced concern in addressing censor; and spoke to the need to focus on censure.

Councilmember Allen highlighted the events of the March 5, 2026 Town Council Briefing and Action meeting; referenced the Town Code of Ethics; referenced Sections that have been allegedly violated; voiced concerns and opinion regarding respect of other board members or the public in attendance; highlighted the code regarding public trust; and emphasized the need for public trust and respect of the Town Council.

Councilmember Gallagher for emphasis echoed and highlighted portions of the Code of Ethics; referenced the message Councilmember Wilder's actions sent to the public if not addressed; and expressed concerns with disrespect and derogatory comments toward staff.

Mayor Pro-Tem Howard stated she had not witnessed actions in town history such as those from the March 5th meeting; spoke to being respectful; and working together to run the Town of Lewisville.

Councilmember Newsome addressed recent revisions to the Town of Lewisville Social Media policy; referenced suggestions made to Attorney Andrews for inclusion; voiced concerns of allegations toward Councilmember Wilder's social media post; spoke to comments she made at the Runny Meade Homeowners Association meeting regarding the neighborhood pool; and referenced the newly adopted social media policy stating there wasn't language that would contradict Councilmember Wilder's postings other than the absence of the disclaimer statement. Councilmember Newsome continued by addressing the actions of the March 5th meeting; referenced anger management skills, quoting a suggested skill as "change your environment, take a brief physical timeout by stepping away from the situation or going for a brisk walk"; and stated with a censure of Councilmember Wilder, that Council would set a standard of behavior that Council is not meeting themselves.

Mayor Carter referenced a segment of the investigative report that states "*Councilmembers can discipline or censure a fellow elected official for online comments*"; voiced concern regarding freedom of speech; explained the need to focus on the March 5th meeting of Council; offered for residents in attendance at the March meeting the opportunity to provide testimony; provided background on the community pool item; and requested Town Manager Stacy Tolbert to outline staff research on the project.

Town Clerk Lord administered the Oath to the Town Manager.

Town Manager Tolbert outlined processes for staff research on projects and visions as directed by Council; stated a Bond Referendum for a pool had received three votes to move the project forward for research; explained the gathering of information among staff; referenced connections with the Forsyth County Board of Elections (BOE), the Local Government Commission (LGC), and the Town of Kernersville; spoke to requirements for the BOE and the LCG; and highlighted detailed research with Kernersville in regards to a similar project underway.

Mayor Carter called on Finance Director Pam Orrell as a witness.

Town Clerk Lord administered the Oath to the Finance Director.

Mayor Carter asked Finance Director Orrell to calculate a one cent on the tax dollar for the Town; and asked what tax increase would be required to cover \$12 million.

Director Orrell stated that one cent would bring in approximately \$267,000; and explained that 44.94 cents would be required to raise \$12 million.

Mayor Carter reiterated what the ask would have been to the residents for a bond referendum whether for \$6 million or \$12 million; referenced the lack of consensus by Council to move forward with the project; and stated for the record that "the price of the pool was not this issue".

Councilmember Wilder disputed the figures as discussed by Mayor Carter.

Attorney Andrews reminded Council on the procedures of the hearing for cross-examinations.

Councilmember Wilder spoke to Facebook references to calling members of the community names; provided a history of social media posts; referenced allegations of crushing cans; spoke to being

censured; expressed concerns with the staff pool presentation; referenced an estimation from North Wilkesboro; tax generation calculations; voiced concerns that generated funds for admissions were not included to offset management cost; referenced his pool location recommendation; alternate funding allocations; voiced concerns regarding the Lewisville Lift Station; referenced personal employment history and experiences; and inquired about how financing processes worked. Discussion took place regarding hearing procedures; and addressing the topic of the meeting. Councilmember Wilder shared his frame of mind at the March 5th meeting regarding funding allocations; referenced an audio recording of the meeting; criticized staff on presenting a “bloated” project; questioned the expertise of Council and staff; voiced concern regarding staff intention to “kill the project”; spoke to campaign trail topics; referenced swimming instructing experience; stated a goal to make Lewisville a better place; the need for him to remove himself from the room on March 5th; and inquired about communications with Town Manager Tolbert.

Town Manager Tolbert explained email and phone communications regarding the North Wilkesboro pool.

Councilmember Wilder reiterated the desire to listen to the audio recording from March 5th; spoke to practices of deleting audio recordings following the adoption of the meeting minutes; voiced concern that written minutes could not capture raised voices; referenced the cost of retrieval of the recording; voiced concern with providing a flash drive; echoed he did not raise his voice; and questioned Councilmember Gallagher regarding:

- texting and emailing between Councilmembers
- conversations during the campaign and the candidate’s forum
- being interviewed as part of the investigative report or if she was in attendance on March 5th
- her opinion on the interview process
- if she had seen media postings and opinion on said postings
- recollection to the use of “we”, profanity, and/or threats
- her opinion on the destruction of meeting recordings

Councilmember Wilder called into question Town Clerk Lord’s minute taking skills.

Councilmember Gallagher responded negative to the texting question; confirmed they had communicated via telephone at times; campaigned champion issues as a pool and fireworks; explained she was not interviewed as part of the report; confirmed her attendance at the March 5th meeting; deferred to the Town Attorney’s expertise on interviewing witnesses; confirmed seeing media postings; voiced opinions of the postings; and deferred to the expertise of the Town Clerk and town policies regarding recordings.

Councilmember Wilder called Steve Thompson as a witness.

Town Clerk Lord administered the Oath to Mr. Thompson.

Councilmember Wilder referred to Mr. Thompson’s attendance at the Council retreat; and explained Mr. Thompson being upset on an issue at the end of the retreat.

Mr. Thompson clarified the robust conversation that took place following the adjournment of the retreat; and spoke to following communications to clear the air with Councilmember Wilder.

Discussion took place regarding varying political affiliations.

Councilmember Wilder highlighted people losing their temper; and inquired about Councilmember Franklin’s response to a topic regarding Representative Jeff Zenger.

Councilmember Franklin responded he did not recall the conversation as referenced.

Councilmember Wilder inquired about Mayor Pro-Tem Howard getting upset in meetings.

Mayor Pro-Tem Howard voiced concerns regarding the financial standings of the town; and spoke to being passionate about protecting resident tax dollars.

Councilmember Wilder referenced a zoom meeting with Representative Zenger in attendance; and spoke to an alleged obscene gesture.

Mayor Pro-Tem Howard voiced concerns with staying on the topic of the special meeting.

Councilmember Wilder continued to highlight various people's temperaments; voiced the desire to play the March 5th recording to which there was opposition; and suggested Council move forward with a vote.

Mayor Carter called for a motion to close testimony.

Moved by Councilmember Franklin, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher to close the testimony portion of the hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Carter stated it was the time to receive any motions and debate the same; and reminded Council that any motion for a non-binding resolution of censure must be stated clearly for the record. Mayor Carter clarified that upon a vote of any motion, the vote would not include Councilmember Wilder as the subject of the censure.

Councilmember Franklin stated he moved for a "motion for a Non-Binding Resolution of Censure of Councilmember Mack Wilder for his actions that occurred during the March 5, 2026 Briefing and Action Meeting of the Lewisville Town Council; specifically, let this motion reflect that Councilmember Wilder committed violations of the Lewisville Town Council Code of Ethics: Section 2, Section 3b, and Section 4, as presented in the Section I., C. Findings: of the Censure Investigation Regarding Lewisville Council Member Mack Wilder that was prepared and dated May 13, 2026 by our attorney that was previously admitted into evidence earlier tonight and has been available for public inspection". The motion was seconded Councilmember Allen.

Mayor Carter opened debate of the motion; spoke to Councilmember Wilder's stance on the purpose of a pool; referenced swim lessons as an option; inquired how much the retrieval of the recording costs; and if additional fees were being charged for the Sheriff representative.

Councilmember Wilder voiced opposition to the swim lessons; and with a 10 – 15-year pool plan.

Town Manager Tolbert stated the cost of the recording retrieval was \$195; and clarified there were no additional fees for the law enforcement presence.

Councilmember Wilder expressed his opposition to the censure process; highlighted that Council had called for the proceedings; costs associated with staff overtime; the importance of the recording; stated the recording was evidence; and reiterated restrictions on capturing tone and actions by the Town Clerk.

Mayor Pro-Tem Howard commended Town Clerk Lord on being articulate; the staff on professionalism; and spoke to Councilmember Wilder insulting others.

Councilmember Allen referenced comments for Councilmember Wilder to make Lewisville a better place; and offered words of wisdom to which Councilmember Wilder compared his age to Councilmember Allen's youth and spoke to the bestowment of wisdom.

Councilmember Gallagher referenced the issue around raised voices; voiced concerns with Councilmember Wilder's abrupt behavior; concerns with another human being in crisis; regarding Councilmember Wilder not rejoining the Council; reiterated the issue of inappropriate behavior; stated he appeared angry; and referenced comments that led Council to believe he was going to quit.

Councilmember Wilder offered an apology to Town Clerk Lord.

Mayor Carter declared the debate as closed; and called for a vote for the motion on the floor.

The motion carried by five (5) votes in the affirmative and one (1) vote in the negative. Mayor Carter, Mayor Pro-Tem Howard, Councilmember Allen, Councilmember Franklin, and Councilmember Gallagher voted 'Yea'. Councilmember Newsome voted 'Nay'. Councilmember Wilder was not included in the vote.

Mayor Carter stated there was no other business before Council; and spoke to the character of Councilmember Wilder.

(A copy of the Censure Investigation Regarding Lewisville Councilmember Mack Wilder is filed in Exhibit Folder July 2026, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

3. Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Allen, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Howard to adjourned the meeting. The Town Council adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Billy Carter, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela Lord, Town Clerk