

**TYRONE TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
MINUTES
April 16, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

Eric Dial, Mayor
Billy Campbell, Mayor Pro Tem, Post 3

Jessica Whelan, Post 1
Dia Hunter, Post 2
Maureen Wheeler, Post 4

Brandon Perkins, Town Manager
Dee Baker, Town Clerk
Dennis Davenport, Town Attorney

Also present:

Krista McClenny, Recreation Manager
Phillip Nelson, Police Major

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS: *Comments are limited to three (3) minutes. Please state your name & address. Comments that require a response may not be answered during this time. The Council or staff may respond at a later date.*

Rebecca Griffin, who lives on Berry Hill Lane, spoke on behalf of her and her husband, Matt Griffin, and their business Action Wrestling. They were entering into their 8th year of live performances and have given tens of thousands of dollars back to communities and local organizations. She added that Matt also worked on the Netflix series, Heels, a show dedicated to wrestling. Ms. Griffin invited everyone out to their anniversary and live performance at the Roger Spencer Recreation Center in Tyrone on April 24th, beginning at 8:00 pm. She thanked Recreation and Public Works staff for their assistance throughout the years.

Zach Eyster, who lives on Briarwood Road, shared that he was pleased with the new roundabout at Palmetto/Spencer/Arrowood. He added that Briarwood Road was unsafe and that, due to the grade, it was difficult for the police to monitor. It was unsafe for his kids and neighbors to travel on bikes or golf carts. He suggested that the Town strongly consider a golf cart path along Briarwood, and that citizens should have a safe route to downtown. He also shared that the Town needed townhomes for more affordable housing.

Pennie George, who lives on Gaelic Way, spoke regarding questions involving the data center. She understood the function of public comments; however, she wished for public responses. She asked if the Town had initiated contact with Microsoft before the public was notified of the project name.

She mentioned transparency and asked, since the NDA ended on March 18, 2026, would unredacted information be released between the mayor's office and the Fayette County Development Authority from 2022? She also asked for a meeting to be set regarding the data center so the community could participate.

Mayor Dial shared that they were working on a meeting date and that they would be made aware. He added that he would stay after tonight's meeting to answer her questions.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the agenda with moving Tyrone Soccer Field Use Agreement for discussion under New Business.

Motion made by Council Member Campbell, Seconded by Council Member Whelan.
Voting Yea: Council Member Campbell, Council Member Whelan, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Wheeler.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA: *All matters listed under this item are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately.*

1. Approval of minutes from March 31 and April 2, 2026.
2. Approval of Eagle Scout Service Project "Tyrone Inclusive Discovery Path" for Russell Emmanuel LaGrande, Troop 79.

A motion was made to approve the revised consent agenda.

Motion made by Council Member Whelan, Seconded by Council Member Wheeler.
Voting Yea: Council Member Campbell, Council Member Whelan, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Wheeler.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

- 3 a. Approval of the Tyrone Soccer (TSL) Field Use Agreement for 2026.

Council Member Wheeler began a discussion regarding researching the possibility of obtaining additional fees from the sports organizations for the use of the Town's fields. She suggested having more oversight into reviewing their books and revenue from using our fields. She added that the field use fees have not increased since 2022. She also shared that the Town also needed to review their board meetings and minutes. We are looking for more revenue sources, and they have a monopoly on our fields.

Mr. Davenport stated that if the town wishes to review the books, the language needs to be within the field-use contract. Council Member Whelan shared that youth sports should not be evaluated for additional revenue, and it would take staff time to review their books.

The additional costs would be filtered down to the kids. Council Member Hunter shared that the baseball fields were being maintained by Tyrone Youth Baseball Association (TYBA), which saved the Town money.

Council Member Campbell stated that most participants were not from Tyrone. Council agreed that the contracts needed to be reviewed and discussed further. Mr. Perkins stated that he would reach out to the organizations regarding Council's concerns. The Town would need to know how many kids were registering for baseball and soccer. Council Member Hunter mentioned that we do need kids from surrounding areas and that SPLOST funds raised benefit all our parks. Council Member Wheeler suggested charging more for out-of-town sports participants. Council Member Hunter shared that we need to be more inclusive. Council Member Wheeler agreed that Tyrone citizens did not have enough participants to fund the program.

A motion to approve the Tyrone Soccer Field Use Agreement for 2026.

Motion made by Council Member Hunter, Seconded by Council Member Whelan.
Voting Yea: Council Member Campbell, Council Member Whelan, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Wheeler.

3. Approval of an updated lease agreement with WOW! Internet, Cable, and Phone for its facility located at 145 Commerce Drive. Brandon Perkins, Town Manager

Mr. Perkins informed everyone that WOW! Internet service has leased a small building on Town property for years. As part of the agreement, WOW! provides internet services to Town facilities. He added they have agreed to also provide services to our new pavilion and the Public Works building at Handley Park, which requires an agreement update.

A motion was made to approve the updated lease agreement with WOW! Internet, Cable, and Phone.

Motion made by Council Member Wheeler, Seconded by Council Member Campbell.
Voting Yea: Council Member Campbell, Council Member Whelan, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Wheeler.

- XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** *The second public comment period is for any issue. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes. Please state your name & address. Comments that require a response may not be answered during this time. The Council or staff may respond at a later date.*

Mayor Dial asked Eagle Scout candidate, Mr. Russell LaGrande, to speak about his project.

Mr. LaGrande shared that he lives on Peaceful Way and that he was from Troop 79. His project was to create a sensory path and music wall between the Tyrone recreation center and library. He handed out flyers with QR codes. Council thanked him, and he shared that he loved music and his brother had an engineering background, which gave him inspiration.

Zach Eyster returned to discuss the difficulty in obtaining field time at the Handley fields. Most kids are from Sandy Creek and are African American in a white sport. The fields are exclusive to the clubs involved. He reached out to Mr. Perkins for an opportunity to practice. Mr. Perkins clarified that he emailed Mr. Eyster to reach out to Ms. McClenny and Mr. Trocquet for field time. Both tried to reach out to Mr. Eyster.

To no avail. He added that the Redwine field use goes through recreation, and the Handley fields go through TYBA. Mayor Dial mentioned that the Tyrone Recreation ball players also get priority before the clubs.

XII. STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Perkins stated that he was approached by Council Member Wheeler regarding the Town's auditors. He stated that they have served the Town for several years and that it would not be a bad idea to go through the bidding process. Discussion ensued regarding timing for the next audit and the bidding process. Mayor Dial mentioned that the cost could also increase with the process.

A motion was made to begin the bidding process for audit services.

Motion made by Council Member Wheeler, Seconded by Council Member Whelan.

Discussion continued regarding timing. Council Member Hunter mentioned that there were a lot of unanswered questions: what software would they use, and would there be a learning curve?

Council Member Wheeler amended her motion to place auditing services on the next agenda. Council Member Whelan seconded the amended motion.

Voting Yea: Council Member Campbell, Council Member Whelan, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Wheeler.

Ms. Baker reminded everyone about early voting for the General Primary Election on May 19th. Early voting begins on April 27th at Town Hall for three weeks, including two Saturdays. The election includes federal, legislative, judicial, and state positions. She added that voting on election day would take place at the Tyrone Library, located at 143 Commerce Drive. Please check myvoterpage.com for your election day polling place and contact the Fayette County Elections office for more information.

Mr. Trocquet announced that the next Talk of the Town was next Tuesday at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers. The main discussion will focus on the 5-year Comprehensive Plan Update.

XIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Hunter announced that Flat Rock Middle School won gold at SkillsUSA State conference. Flat Rock also placed 1st in the state track and field competition. Our schools do a fine job.

Council Member Whelan announced that Tyrone had a new Veterans Committee and gave a shout-out to Mr. Perkins for his work with the committee. She recognized Mr. Will Wynn in the audience as a member of the committee. Their goal was to obtain a static piece for Veterans Park, among other improvements. She also announced the Banner Program. Banners would be displayed along Senoia Road from Memorial Day to Veterans Day and would then be presented to the family after the Veterans Day celebration. She shared the website, tyronega.gov/veterans-banners. The banners were \$150 for Tyrone residents. She invited everyone to visit the Wreaths Across America booth during the Spring Festival at Shamrock Park on Saturday, April 18th. She then announced the America 250 Celebration at Shamrock Park on July 4th, which would include a small parade, fireworks, live music, and vendors including food, games, and prizes. There would also be a flyover from the War Birds. She thanked Ms. McClenny and Council Member Hunter for their work. She shared that the committees were always looking for volunteers, and to please speak with Krista McClenny at the recreation center.

Council Member Wheeler also shared her concerns regarding safety along Briarwood Road. She stated that a couple of years back, she was struck by a Hummer while walking along Briarwood Road. She would like to explore a cart path expansion along Briarwood Road.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion made by Council Member Campbell.

Voting Yea: Council Member Campbell, Council Member Whelan, Council Member Hunter, Council Member Wheeler.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.

By: _____
Eric Dial, Mayor

Attest: _____
Dee Baker, Town Clerk