

Narrows Town Council

Special Called Meeting

June 2, 2026

Mayor Tom Spangler called the meeting to order. Council Members present were John Hale, Sara Bowles, Jonathan Creger, John Mills, and Alicia Lane.

Staff members present were Terry Nicholson and Debbie Thomas.

Councilman Mills gave the invocation.

Council and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Mills made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters (interviews for town manager position) (Sec. 2.2-3711.A.1). Councilman Creger seconded the motion.

Ayes: Hale, Bowles, Creger, Mills, and Lane

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilman Mills made a motion to return to open session. Councilman Hale seconded the motion.

Ayes: Hale, Bowles, Creger, Mills, and Lane

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Certification

WHEREAS, the Town of Narrows, has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative-recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act: and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification of the Town Council that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Town of Narrows hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies: and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Town Council.

ATTEST: _____

Councilman Mills made a motion to accept the certification. Councilman Hale seconded the motion.

Ayes: Hale, Bowles, Creger, Mills, and Lane

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilman Creger believes there needs to be discussion concerning the budget because all of council is present.

Councilman Mills said he supports Councilman Creger on almost everything he suggests but if the public learns that council met concerning the budget and were not invited to attend that would not be good. The most effective use of council’s time would be for Councilman Creger to meet with Terry Nicholson and either John Hale or Alicia Lane to discuss potential changes to the budget.

Councilman Creger said there were things he understood and there was value gained by talking in pairs. It was unfortunate that the timeline came to this. He was not sure how this was passed over because there was discussion in a previous public meeting that council would hold a work session meeting.

Councilman Mills said he was not opposed to having a budget work session.

Councilman Creger said he was only calling for it now because of the timeline crunch. They need to figure out how to have a budget work session.

Councilman Mills said he did not believe council had time to hold a budget work session before the June 10th meeting.

Terry Nicholson stated they did not have time to give appropriate public notice.

Mayor Spangler said the committee that had been involved in all of this have dug into what council could and could not do to put the budget more in line with what they wanted it to be. He did not know if they wanted to start all over and come up with ideas to change that. He believed everyone knew what was going to be presented next week and he was agreeable to it.

Councilman Mills said when you ask people to be on a committee and then spit in their face when you give them a result, he would not blame them if they never served on another committee. It is a tough time. He was also against fractures in council's unity.

**Councilman Creger made a motion to hold a budget work session.
Motion died for lack of a second.**

Councilmember Bowles asked if there was going to be a time after the public hearing concerning the budget on June 10th where council could discuss the budget.

Terry Nicholson said the plan for Wednesday's meeting was to hold a public hearing and then, based on the public hearing, council can discuss what they want to do concerning the proposals that he, John Hale, and Alicia Lane have come up with, and talk about the reductions they feel they would be able to make. Council would then recommend the budget for adoption (which would happen at least one week later).

Councilman Creger said his motion died for lack of a second but council could have that discussion right now and be fruitful. He was not against what he has heard but he wants to hear what others have to say. They are over a barrel.

Councilmember Bowles said she gave Councilmember Alicia Lane her recommendations and she knows they reviewed those.

Councilmember Lane said she believed the challenge for getting into some of the weeds tonight was they were speaking of reductions and this is a public meeting. Some people that may be impacted by these reductions have not been told personally, like reductions in funding and programs.

Terry Nicholson said if any council member wants to talk about the budget changes with another council member, he would be glad to sit down and discuss the changes.

Councilman Mills said he believed Councilman Creger deserved that.

Councilman Mills made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Creger seconded the motion.

Ayes: Hale, Bowles, Creger, Mills, and Lane

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0