

# TOWNS COUNTY MINUTES

March 17, 2026, at 5:30 PM

A Regular County Meeting was held on March 17, 2026, at 5:30 PM in the courtroom of the Towns County Courthouse.

**I. Meeting Called to Order:**

Commissioner Bradshaw called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**II: Presentation and Adoption of Agenda:**

Commissioner Bradshaw presented the agenda, and it was adopted as read.

**III: Presentation and Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes from the Regular Meeting on February 17, 2026, were presented for approval and Commissioner Bradshaw approved and signed the same as presented.

**IV: Presentation/Reports/Proclamations:** Jerry Taylor and Tyler Osborn with The Towns County Historical Society presented a painting of the original Courthouse located on the square built in 1857. Marty Hayden, the artist and his wife Cynthia who made the frame, were present and gave historical information about the painting.

**V: Old Business:** Signed agreement with GMRC for the preparation of the Kevin & Avonte Program grant application. Signed FY-2027 Local Share Commitment Letter of \$128,257.00 for Legacy Link for operation of the Towns County Senior Center

**VI: New Business:** Signed the agreement with King Fire Equipment, Inc for the fire extinguisher maintenance for \$9,022.60. Signed agreement with Court Makers Inc. to resurface the Pickleball Court Complex for \$26,825.00. Signed the budget amendment resolution to add the \$5,735.28 funds received from Back the Blue Act for bonuses paid to peace officers. Transferred \$7300.00 between prisoner reimbursement and jail building maintenance for plumbing and light fixture replacement. Last year we replaced 20 light fixtures. We need to replace obsolete toilets. We have used skilled inmate labor for drywall and painting.

**VII: Commissioner's Report:** Commissioner Bradshaw invited everyone to the Easter Egg Hunt at the Rec baseball field, it will be staffed by Rec Department employees. The County is in line with revenue coming in and trying not to spend unless we must, however the rising cost of gas and inmate meals are things we have no control over.

**VIII: Public Questions and Comments:**



IX: Adjourn meeting.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Brenda McKinney", written over a horizontal line.

Brenda McKinney, County Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Cliff Bradshaw", written over a horizontal line.

Cliff Bradshaw, Sole Commissioner



# TOWNS COUNTY AGENDA

## County Meeting

March 17, 2026

5:30 pm

- Meeting Called to Order
- Presentation and Adoption of Agenda
- Presentation and Adoption of Minutes
  - County Meeting 2-17-2026
- Presentations/Reports/Proclamations
  - Historical Society- Jerry Taylor & Tyler Osborn
- Old Business
  - Sign agreement with GMRC for grant preparation
  - Sign FY-2027 Local Share Commitment Letter for Legacy Link for operation of the Towns County Senior Center
- New Business
  - Sign agreement with King Fire Equipment, Inc for Fire Extinguisher Maintenance
  - Sign agreement with CourtMakers Inc to resurface the Pickleball Court Complex for 26,825.
  - Sign the budget amendment resolution to Amend the 2026 budget:
    - Revenues:
      - Back the Blue Grant- 5735
      - Prisoner Reimb- 7300
    - Expenditures
      - Sheriff Salaries- 5735
      - Jail building main- 7300
- Commissioner's Comments
- Public Questions and Comments
- Adjourn meeting.

It is the policy of Towns County that all county sponsored public meetings and events are accessible to people with disabilities. If you need assistance in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the (706)896-2276 or email [financedirector@townscountyga.com](mailto:financedirector@townscountyga.com) prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation.





March 30, 2026

Mr. Cliff Bradshaw, Sole Commissioner  
Township  
48 River Street, Suite B  
Hiwassee, Georgia 30546

Re: U.S. Department of Justice - Bureau of Justice Assistance  
Kevin & Avonte Program

Dear Commissioner Bradshaw:

Enclosed please find a fully executed original of the above-mentioned contract between GMRC and Township. Our staff will perform services associated with the preparation of the Kevin & Avonte Program grant application.

GMRC looks forward to working with Township on this project and to serving you in the future.

Sincerely,

*Heather Feldman*

Heather Feldman  
GMRC Executive Director

HF/gk

Enclosure

Copy: GMRC Economic Development Department  
GMRC Finance Department

**PARTIES:** Georgia Mountains Regional Commission;  
Townns County

**SUBJECT:** U.S. Department of Justice- Bureau of Justice Assistance- Kevin & Avonte  
Program- Grant Preparation

**TERM:** February 16, 2026 through December 31, 2026

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**AGREEMENT  
GRANT APPLICATION PREPARATION**

THIS AGREEMENT entered into this 3rd day of March, 2026, between the GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION, a public agency, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission", and TOWNS COUNTY, hereinafter referred to as the "County".

**WITNESSETH**

WHEREAS, the County desires to engage the Commission to prepare a full grant application in connection with the U.S. Department of Justice's Kevin & Avonte Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to render such services and warrants that it possesses the capabilities to satisfactorily render such services.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the parties hereto do agree as follows:

1. **Engagement of the GMRC:** The County agrees to engage the Commission and the Commission agrees to perform services associated with the preparation of the Kevin & Avonte Program grant.
2. **Compensation:** The Commission shall perform the preparation of the grant application for a fee of \$2,000.
3. **Time of Performance:** The Commission will immediately initiate the preparation of the Kevin & Avonte Program grant for submittal.

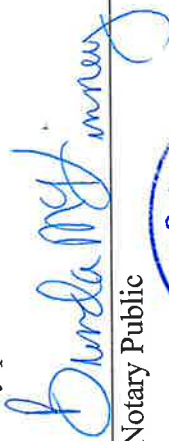


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

TOWNS COUNTY

By:   
Cliff Bradshaw, County Commissioner

Subscribed and sworn to  
in my presence:

  
Notary Public

(Seal)



GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL  
COMMISSION

By:   
Heather Feldman, Executive Director

By:   
Courtney Umbehant, Council Chairman

Subscribed and sworn to  
in my presence:

  
Notary Public

(Seal)





March 2, 2026

Mr. Cliff Bradshaw  
Towns County Sole Commissioner  
48 River Street, Suite B  
Hiawassee, Ga. 30546

Dear Mr. Bradshaw,

The Legacy Link, Inc. the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for the Georgia Mountains Region administers federal and state funds for the many services for older persons, persons with disabilities, and their families in Towns County. Local match is also required to draw down these funds in addition to other local funds needed to provide the services the Towns County Senior Center projects to provide each year.

The Towns County Senior Center staff are planning fund raisers for FY-2027 (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027). They have also projected donations from clients, their families, local organizations and Churches to help meet the local funds needed for FY-2027.

Attached for your review and approval is the FY-2027 Local Share Commitment Agreement for the Towns County Senior Center. Please fill in the amount the Towns County Commission will pay towards the match and additional funding required to operate the Towns County Senior Center in FY-2027. Please let us know by Friday, May 1, 2026, the amount of funding the Towns County Commission will commit to the Senior Center.

We appreciate your continued support of The Legacy Link, Inc. and the Towns County Senior Center. We value your commitment to our partnership to benefit the citizens of Towns County. If you have any questions about this request, please call me at (770) 538-2650 or email me at [parylee@legacylink.org](mailto:parylee@legacylink.org).

Sincerely,

Pat Rylee  
C.F.O.


cc: Gail Bradley  
Ashley Pitts

attachment

The Legacy Link, Inc.  
Towns County Senior Center  
Local Share Commitment Agreement  
FY-2027

The FY-2027 projected local share required to operate the Towns County Senior Center from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, will be 128,257. These funds will be used to match and supplement federal and state monies for Congregate Meals at the Senior Center, Home Delivered Meals, Wellness Programming and Transportation for Towns County Seniors.

The Towns County Commission hereby approves the services to be offered for the older adults and for individuals with disabilities of Towns County in FY-2027. The Towns County Commission agrees to pay the necessary local share monies in the amount of \$128,257.00 to secure the federal and state monies.

Approved:   
Cliff Bradshaw  
Towns County Sole Commissioner

Date: March 17, 2026

Return by May 1, 2026, to:  
Pat Rylee, C.F.O.  
The Legacy Link, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1480  
Oakwood, GA 30566

*Mailed 3-24-26*

Re: Fire extinguisher Estimate TOWNS County

← *emailed 3-24-26*

From: King Fire (kingfireeq@outlook.com)  
To: bradshawcommissioner@yahoo.com  
Date: Sunday, January 4, 2026 at 10:09 PM EST

Please Review the Attached Estimate, Initial each location signifying approval, sign, date, and return. Once received we will put you on the schedule.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to do business with you and your company.

Christy

King Fire

828-837-5877

**From:** cliff bradshaw <bradshawcommissioner@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 30, 2025 3:29:19 PM  
**To:** kingfireeq@outlook.com <kingfireeq@outlook.com>  
**Subject:** Fire extinguishers


Hello,  
Happy New Year  
we must have an estimate before any services are done in Towns County.  
Thank You

Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw



ESTIMATE FOR TOWNS COUNTY COMMISSIONER JAN 2026.xlsx  
16.7 kB

**ESTIMATE FOR TOWNS COUNTY**

	ESTIMATE NUMBER	LOCATION	AMOUNT	INITIAL APPROVAL
1	11125	FIRE STATION (SIMS)	\$614.55	CB
2	11126	COURTHOUSE	\$159.70	CB
3	11127	WELCOME CENTER	\$119.90	CB
4	11128	CHILD DEVELOPMENT	\$139.80	CB
5	11129	HEALTH DEPT	\$129.85	CB
6	11130	FOOD PANTRY	\$249.85	CB
7	11131	FIRE & RESCUE 1-6	\$3,227.90	CB
8	11132	TRANSIT DEPARTMENT	\$115.00	CB
9	11133	ROAD DEPARTMENT	\$429.00	CB
10	11134	B.O.E / 4H BUILDING	\$129.85	CB
11	11135	TAX ASSESSMENT OFFICE	\$184.95	CB
12	11136	CIVIC CENTER	\$405.00	CB
13	11137	RECREATION DEPARTMENT	\$1,554.00	CB
14	11138	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$404.35	CB
15	11139	911/BUILDING DEPARTMENT	\$234.65	CB
16	11140	TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLE CENTER	\$139.80	CB
17	11141	SENIOR CENTER	\$129.85	CB
18	11142	LIBRARY	\$439.80	CB
19	11143	OLD RECREATION BUILDING	\$214.80	CB
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$9,022.60</b>	
	SIGNATURE:		DATE:	
	X 		3/11/26	

RESOLUTION

ADOPTING ALL BUDGET AMENDMENTS SET  
FORTH IN ATTACHMENT ITEMS ON THIS DATE


WHEREAS, Georgia Law, O.C.G.A. § 36-81-3 (b), requires each unit of government to operate under an annual balanced budget adopted by ordinance or resolution; and

WHEREAS, in official opinion dated February 24, 1999, the Attorney General of the State of Georgia concluded that all amendments to the budgets of local government must be adopted by ordinance or resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Towns County Commissioner does hereby adopt all such budget amendments as outlined in the meeting agenda which are adopted by the Commissioner without change this date, as well as other such budget amendments as shall be specifically detailed in motions adopted by the Towns County Commissioner this date.

SO RESOLVED, this 17 day of March, 2026.

  
Clerk, Towns County

  
Cliff Bradshaw  
Commissioner  
Towns County



# GEORGIA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

J. TERRY NORRIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MIKE MITCHELL, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
1000 Sheriffs Way • Madison, GA 30650 • Phone 770-914-1076 • www.georgiasheriffs.org

## OFFICERS

- RON FREEMAN  
Forsyth County  
*President*
- NOEL BROWN  
Bulloch County  
*1st Vice President*
- GERALD COUCH  
Hall County  
*2nd Vice President*
- GARY SISK  
Catoosa County  
*Secretary-Treasurer*
- LEWIS WALKER  
Crawford County  
*Immediate Past President*

## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

- MARK SCHRADER  
Chattooga County, Region 1
- CRAIG OWENS  
Cobb County, Region 2
- DAVID GABRIEL  
Oglethorpe County, Region 3
- DAN KILGORE  
Upson County, Region 4
- DAVID DAVIS  
Bibb County, Region 5
- JEFFREY BREWER  
Emanuel County, Region 6
- WILLIAM PRICE  
Early County, Region 7
- RAY PAULK  
Berrien County, Region 8
- CRAIG MOBILES  
Long County, Region 9
- BILLY HANCOCK  
Crisp County, Region 10

## ACTIVE PAST PRESIDENTS

- EZEL BROWN  
Newton County
- WILEY GRIFFIN  
DeKalb County
- ANDY HESTER  
Turner County
- GARY HUTCHINS  
Jefferson County
- STACY JARRARD  
Lumpkin County
- MIKE JOLLEY  
Harris County
- LOGAN MARSHALL  
McDuffie County
- WILLIAM C. MASSEE, JR.  
Baldwin County

- JIMMY MCDUFFIE  
Effingham County
- STACY NICHOLSON  
Gilmer County
- ASHLEY PAULK  
Lowndes County
- HOWARD SILLS  
Putnam County
- CARLTON SPEED  
Banks County
- STEVE WILSON  
Walker County
- CHAPLAIN  
ERIC BRYANT  
Sumter County

February 24, 2026

Dear Sheriff,

Enclosed is the 2025 disbursement from the Back the Blue Act which was initiated by Lt. Governor Burt Jones in 2024. You were advised in an email dated February 13, 2026, that the Association would be mailing to you a check in the amount of \$5,735.28 by the end of this month. The check is made payable to the sheriff and includes the county sheriff's office. (See O.C.G.A. § 40-2-26.1 enclosed)

These funds can ONLY be used for bonuses for peace officers as defined in O.C.G.A. § 40-2-26.1 and CANNOT be used in any manner to supplement or provide a bonus to YOUR salary. These funds can only be used for bonuses for deputy sheriffs and/or jailers. NOTHING ELSE!

Considering the above-referenced provision, each sheriff has complete discretion over how bonuses are determined and when they are given. Further, each sheriff determines whether the funds are remitted to the county for distribution through the county payroll process, deposited into a sheriff's foundation for distribution, or to a sheriff's office account and distributed directly to the affected employees. Of concern, however, is the matter of employee taxes which must be paid through the county payroll or an IRS Form 1099 issued by the sheriff or a sheriff's foundation if utilized to distribute bonuses. You are strongly urged to ensure proper control of these funds and to conduct an annual audit for public review as prescribed by approved accounting principles. A report on the use of these funds will likely be requested by the General Assembly.

We trust you will be mindful of the strict parameters governing the use of these funds and ONLY authorize bonuses for deputy sheriffs and jailers. To do otherwise threatens future initiatives of this nature and sheds a dim light on the Office of Sheriff and the Georgia Sheriffs' Association.

Thank you in advance for your close attention to rules governing the use of Back the Blue funds and please let us know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

J. Terry Norris  
Executive Director

Mike Mitchell  
Deputy Executive Director



Proud Sponsor of the GEORGIA SHERIFFS' YOUTH HOMES, INC.

\$337.36  
17- Full Time Supervisors

**O.C.G.A. § 40-2-26.1**

Current through the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

**Official Code of Georgia Annotated > TITLE 40 Motor Vehicles and Traffic (Chs. 1 — 16) > CHAPTER 2 Registration and Licensing of Motor Vehicles (Arts. 1 — 7) > Article 2 Registration and Licensing Generally (§§ 40-2-20 — 40-2-47)**

**40-2-26.1. [Repealed effective July 1, 2029] Voluntary contributions to Back the Blue Fund.**

- (a) This Code section shall be known and may be cited as the "Back the Blue Act."
- (b) The General Assembly finds that:
  - (1) It is in the best interest of this state to provide a mechanism to support a program that encourages the hiring and retaining of law enforcement officers and promotes public safety for the benefit of the citizens of Georgia;
  - (2) Hiring and retaining experienced law enforcement officers increases public safety, builds stronger communities, and restores trust and goodwill between communities and law enforcement officers;
  - (3) Evidence shows that supplementing pay and enhancing benefits attract better job applicants and improve the retention of experienced law enforcement officers; and
  - (4) Retaining experienced law enforcement officers means fewer hiring and training expenses for law enforcement agencies.
- (c) As used in this Code section, the term:
  - (1) "Back the Blue Fund" means the fund established by this Code section.
  - (2) "Sheriff" means the duly elected or appointed sheriff of each county in this state.
  - (d) There is created the Back the Blue Fund for the purpose of providing bonus payments to certified peace officers employed under a sheriff in this state. The state revenue commissioner shall be the custodian of the Back the Blue Fund and shall administer such fund as further provided in this Code section.
  - (e) No later than January 1, 2025, the state revenue commissioner shall include on the form provided for in Code Section 40-2-26 a place for an applicant to elect to contribute an amount of \$5.00 to the Back the Blue Fund. Any such voluntary contribution shall be made at the discretion of the applicant at the time of application in addition to the payment of any other fees required under this chapter.
  - (f) County tag agents shall hold voluntary contributions to the Back the Blue Fund collected pursuant to this Code section in a fiduciary capacity, and such money received shall be promptly accounted for, separated from other moneys received, and reasonably ascertainable. Such collected voluntary contributions shall be included in the weekly reports and remittances provided for in Code Section 40-2-34; provided, however, that any funds collected pursuant to this Code section shall not be deposited in the general fund of the state treasury.
  - (g) No later than January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the state revenue commissioner shall distribute moneys from the Back the Blue Fund to the Georgia Sheriffs' Association, which shall distribute such moneys in equal portions to the sheriff of each county in this state on a per county basis. The state revenue commissioner shall determine a reasonable amount, not to exceed 1 percent of the fund annually, that may be retained for actual administrative costs.



1011 Marble Mill Circle  
Marietta, Georgia 30060  
(770) 795-8400  
Fax (770) 795-0504  
www.courtmakers.com



AMERICAN SPORTS BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

## Pickleball Court Surfacing Estimate and Contract

### Towns County Parks and Rec

Attn: Stuart Nichols  
Tcrecreation2600@gmail.com  
Campground Rd,  
Hiawassee, GA  
762-294-9239

Contract Date: 2/23/2026

Dear Stuart,

We are pleased to submit our estimate for furnishing all labor, material and equipment necessary to complete the following:

**Scope of work: Pickleball Courts in fair condition**, resurfacing of (14) pickleball courts (measuring approximately 210' x 120'). This will include the following recommended work:

### **ACRYTECH**

#### Surfacing System Specifications

1. **Clean Courts** Blow, scrape and pressure clean court as necessary.
2. **Standard Crack Repair** Cracks will be thoroughly cleaned and dried and then hand trowled with **Acrytech** Acrylic crack patch. Since cracks are due to subsurface damage, there is no guarantee that cracks patched with acrylic will not reappear. *Please call to discuss permanent crack solutions.* Please read material "**The Life of a Tennis Court**". Initial
3. **Birdbaths** Level marked birdbaths with **Acrytech** Acrylic Deep Patch. Please realize that these water areas will still exist, but the depth will be greatly reduced. Standing water will be lessened 40-70% depending upon available surface drainage.
4. **Surfacing System** Apply one coat of **Black Acrylic Resurfacer**. Apply **three Acrytech** color coat applications, two coats fortified with 80B silica sand and the final coat being the finish coat to playing pads. Install two color coat applications to out of bounds area. The **Acrytech** system has been pace tested and is certified at an ITF court pace of medium speed. Any color combination may be selected from the **Acrytech** color chip card. New court color combination \_\_\_\_\_
5. **Lines** All court lines primed and painted with **Acrytech** textured line paint and marked in accordance with the rules of the United States Lawn Tennis Association.
6. Paint net posts and install new nets. Old nets will be thrown out unless otherwise notified. "Pickleball courts ready for play"

2/23/2026

## Special!!

**Every court resurfaced receives a FREE**

**3.0 Single Pickleball Net & Net Strap.**

**A Special Value of \$179.95 per court!**

**(When Contract is signed by March 28, 2026)**

**Initial to accept**

**Price:** The above resurfacing work (this does not include any additional options) will be completed for the sum of: **\$26,825.00**, Price includes any applicable federal, state, or local taxes.

**Please look over the "Resurfacing Special" sheet and include with your signed contract. Additional options (not included in above Resurfacing Price):**

1. Install **AT Sports FaultLine** (designed specifically for Pickleball courts) over cracks. **FaultLine** has a five year warranty and is included on all cracks repaired with **FaultLine**. If any areas fail, the cracks will be re-done and the area will be re-color coated. This warranty does not include any new cracks that may develop in the future. This warranty does not include failure as a result of subsurface water.  
Additional Price: \$14.50 per linear foot of cracks Initial to accept
2. Install 9' VCP windcreens on the ends of the tennis courts with (1) logo screen. Approx. 220' of screens. Price has been discounted 10%  
Additional Price: \$2,506.50 Initial to accept

**Warranty: Acrytech** products are guaranteed for one year against color fading, peeling and chipping. Court Makers Inc. makes no guarantee against cracks re-appearing or new cracks, under standard crack repair. Please read material (what should be expected from tennis court resurfacing). Lasting qualities will depend on present pavement conditions and traffic usage and thus, we cannot guarantee the unknown, but will guarantee this to be the best material available and our workmanship to be proper. Concrete tennis courts have no warranty!

**Payment:** A 0% Deposit due with signed contract. Final payment due upon completion of job.

**Acceptance of Contract:** This proposal becomes a contract when signed by an authorized representative of the above property.

**Court Makers Inc.**

  
Eileen Johnson

G. Marshall Dye

Date of Acceptance: March 17, 2026

Signature: 

Title: Sole Commissioner

**Towns County Parks and Rec**

Project Address:

Name: Stuart Nichols

Title: Director

Address: Project → 734 U.S. Hwy 76 W

Hinnessee, GA

Phone Number: 706-896-2600

Cell Number: 762-294-9293

Email Address: tcrc-stuart@gmail.com

*Contract is valid for 60 Days*

*If we are resurfacing these courts, please contact us a.s.a.p. so we can secure our prices!*