



Public Property Naming/Dedication Policy

Section 1. Purpose and Intent of Policy.

The Wadesboro Town Council believes that the naming of public property, such as buildings, structures, parks, or features within those properties, is a matter of great importance and deserves careful consideration. Special consideration may be given to names that help tell the story of Wadesboro and help preserve and honor the history, geographical location, and cultural background of our community. The Town Council, therefore, enacts this policy to establish a systematic and consistent methodology for the naming of Town-owned property.

Section 2. Naming synonymous with dedication.

For purposes of this policy, naming a Town-owned property is synonymous with dedication.

Section 3. Properties Included Within Policy.

The following categories of Town-owned property are included within the scope of this policy:

1. Town-owned buildings and structures;
2. All Town-owned real property, including Town open space and parks, unless specifically included in Section 3, below;

3. Major features of a Town-owned property (including, for example, a secondary component of a piece of Town-owned property, such as a picnic shelter or ball field within a park);
4. Town-maintained streets; and
5. Amenities (examples include: Park benches, small furnishings, tables).

Section 4. Properties Excluded From Policy.

The Town Council, therefore, enacts this policy to establish a systematic and consistent methodology for the naming of Town-owned property. This policy does not apply to the naming of the following categories of Town:

1. Historically registered properties for which a name has been indicated on a nomination form and accepted for use on a historic register;
2. Newly developed streets not already possessing a name; and
3. Public art, the naming of which will be approved and overseen through the Anson County Arts Council.

Section 5. Submission of Suggestion.

1. Suggestions for names of property may be solicited from organizations, residents, and individuals. Suggestions shall be prioritized based on these guidelines and submitted to the Town Council for consideration.
2. Any local community organization, individual, or entity may submit, without being first solicited by the Town to do so, a suggestion of a name for a certain property if such a submission comes with 500 signatures of adult citizens residing in the Wadesboro city limits (or if the property primarily relates to the Fire Department then residing within the Wadesboro Fire District) and, in addition to signatures, printed names and addresses.
3. Any member of the Town Council, Town Manager, or department head-level staff member may submit a suggestion for naming public property.
4. To be considered by the Town Council, an entity must submit the fully completed Appendix A Submission Form along with corresponding required paperwork (if any) to the Town Clerk. The Town Council will

consider any suggestion within 2 months of all documentation being fully completed and submitted within these guidelines.

Section 6. Guidelines For Naming Town-Owned Property.

When considering naming any Town-owned property to which this policy applies, the Town Council may consider the following guidelines:

- A. Priority may be given to names carrying geographical, historical, and/or cultural significance to the area in which the property is located, or to the Town as a whole.
- B. Property may be named after an individual(s) when the individual(s) has a historical association with the property, or the area in which it is located within the Town of Wadesboro, or where individual(s) has contributed in a significant way to the public life and well-being of the Town.
- C. Consideration for the naming of a property honoring a deceased individual should not occur until the person has been deceased for at least one (1) year, and the person's historical significance and good reputation have been secured in the history of the Town.
- D. Names should be chosen in a manner that avoids duplication, confusing similarity, or inappropriateness.
- E. Prior to a Town Council's decision to name a Town-owned property, there shall be a public hearing to ensure community input. The public hearing will be placed on the agenda beforehand and the agenda distributed to media and others in the typical manner.
- F. The Town Council shall approve any naming of Town-owned property only by resolution approved by the unanimous vote of all voting members of the Town Council.

Section 7. Naming In Connection With Fund-Raising Effort.

The naming of Town-owned property in connection with an effort to raise private funds for the construction, improvement, or purchase of such property presents a unique situation. In such circumstance, the Town Council may agree to

name a property, or any portion of the property upon the Council's considered determination that such action is appropriate and in the best interests of the Town. When naming a Town-owned property, or any portion of such property, in connection with a fund-raising effort, the provisions of this policy shall not apply unless the Town Council determines otherwise.

Section 8. Right to Change Name.

If the Town Council determines, in its reasonable and good faith opinion, that the circumstances have changed since the naming of a Town-owned property such that continued association of the Town with the name would adversely impact the reputation, image, mission, or integrity of the Town, or is otherwise in the Town's best interest, the Town Council may change the name of the Town-owned property including, without limitation, the person for whom a Town-owned property has been named has been convicted of a felony or other crime of moral turpitude under state or federal law.

Section 9. Policy Only a Guide.

This policy is only a guide. Nothing in this policy limits the Town Council's ultimate authority to vary from the terms of this policy, and to use its discretion in naming a Town-owned property or related decisions based on the unique facts of a particular circumstance.

Section 8. Effective Date.

This resolution is effective upon adoption.

Adopted by resolution on this the 6th day of February, 2017.

ATTEST:

Bill Hatcher
Mayor

Cynthia A. Pope
Town Clerk

(Seal)





Appendix A SUBMISSION FORM

Public Property Naming/Dedication Policy

Individual(s)/Organization Submitting Name:

Contact Name:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Specific Identification & Description of Town-owned Property:

Suggested Name:

Applicant shall attach:

1. Where submitting a name of an individual (individual or family name, living or deceased), please submit written documentation confirming the consent of a family member or estate if the individual is deceased.
2. Written rationale for the suggested name including written history of contribution made, historical significance, etc. and related documentation.
3. If required, signatures of required adult citizens with addresses.
4. Applications from an organization must include an official letter of support from that organization.

Please return completed applications by hand delivering to the Town Clerk at Wadesboro Town Hall during normal business hours or by sending via USPS to: Attn: Town Clerk, PO Box 697, Wadesboro, NC 28170.