

Mayor

Doris Underwood

Commissioners

Christopher Carlson

Edward Lowery Jr.

Daniel McColl

Tony McVickers

Benjamin Mahaffey

Attorney

Sarah Price



Town Clerk/Finance Officer

Raymie Day

Utility Clerk

Lana Penfield

Interim Chief of Police

John Micheals

Public Works Director

Joe Penfield

Code Enforcement Officer

Tina Odom

**MEETING MINUTES
October 7, 2025**

Called to order by Mayor Underwood 7:00PM

Invocation by Tony McVickers

Pledge of allegiance led by Mayor Underwood

The following members of the board of commissioners were present:

Mayor Underwood

Commissioner Carlson

Commissioner Lowery

Commissioner McVickers

Commissioner McColl

Commissioner Mahaffey

Overview

Approved minutes from September 2, 2025 and September 16, 2025 and the FAMPO consent agenda.

Announced and introduced new full-time police chief, Hudson Chitwood.

Major update on town maintenance building: ownership transfer, renovation plans, and cost-saving measures.

Public comments included a proposal for alcohol sales license as well as concerns about building access for meals on wheels.

Department reports.

Meeting Minutes

- Meeting Minutes from September 2, 2025 and September 16, 2025 were introduced.
- Commissioner McVickers motioned for the approval of the meeting minutes and Commissioner Lowery seconded the motion. All in favor.

Consent Agenda

- Consent agenda included a previously discussed item for FAMPO.
- Motion was made by Commissioner Carlson to approve the item and Commissioner McColl seconded the motion. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Introduction

- Mayor Underwood Announced the hiring of the new full-time police chief, Chief Hudson, he will be starting work tomorrow on 10/8/2025.
- Current interim chief remains until new chief is cleared and sworn in by the state.

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- Acknowledged assistance from DV8 and team in the hiring process.
 - Commissioner Carlson thanked Chief Micheals and DV8 for their assistance in the hiring process.
 - Chief Chitwood introduced himself to the board, employees and citizens of the town.

OLD BUSINESS

Maintenance Building

- Received bids for maintenance building repairs; lowest bids are highlighted.
- Tina Odom announced the Town of Parkton was given the old EMS building from Robeson County and the town now officially owns the EMS building.
- Roof repair needs prioritized due to ongoing leaks in the building.
- Estimated total repair cost is approximately \$21,000; (see attached documentation for bids) with the understanding the final amounts could differentiate based on findings.
- Motion was made by Commissioner McVickers to approve the highlighted estimates and begin work on the maintenance building and Commissioner Carlson seconded the motion. Commissioner McColl opposed the motion. Motion passed 4/5.
- Town clerk (Ms. Day) requested confirmation that the maintenance building repairs are to be funded out of capital management and the board confirmed.

Sewer Project Update

- There are no new updates.
- Board requests the presence of Mr. Honeycutt from McGill at the workshop on 10/21/2025.

Ruritan Property Update

- The board states it will be transitioning to a closed session for legal discussions with Sarah Price.

Public Comments

Robyn Merkle

- Concern was raised by Mrs. Merkle about the adjustment of the meals on wheels program now that they are no longer permitted to use the maintenance building kitchen.
- She stated the door security is an issue during meal deliveries and is worried about the building being left unlocked for up to 1 hour due to the room having some valuable equipment.
- The current process requires someone to unlock/lock door which she will not be able to do on Fridays and that the keypad lock was the best option.
- Mrs. Penfield stated the request was made for an improved locking system (e.g., keypad) but the commercial door limits keypad options.
- A locksmith has already been consulted, and solutions are being pursued.

Al McMillian

- Mr. McMillian proposed the town implement alcohol sales within the town limits.

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- He stated that the town of St. Paul generated \$60,000+ in one year from similar licensing.
 - These funds could be used for community projects, grants etc. throughout the town of Parkton.
 - Alcohol consumption already occurs; not licensing it in the town does not change the fact it is already consumed within town limits.
 - Mr. McMillian suggested public support for licensing if polled.

David Dyer

- Resident Mr. Dyer reported that his property is partially within city limits; inquired about city water connection and associated fees.
- He states that the well water is becoming unacceptable and knows that his neighbor is already on city water.
- Because his property is partial in town, he feels he should be permitted to tap into the water system.
- Commissioner McVickers thanked Mr. Dyer for speaking and they would be discussing it.

Department Reports

Public Works

- Public works reported 19 new water accounts: 6 new homes sold, 5 new homes permitted, 4 resold homes, 4 rentals, 10 cut offs but all are back on.
- Lift station #2s generator has been installed and is up and running.

Police Department

- Police Department Reported 6 traffic stops, 7 citations, 1 warning, 1 felony arrest, 3 suspicious person calls, 2 requests to speak with an officer, 2 vehicle unlock calls, 1 disorderly conduct, 1 larceny, 1 fraud, 1 911 hang up call, 1 motor vehicle collision, 1 alarm response and 1 domestic violence.
- Chief Micheals welcomes Chief Chitwood.

Administration Department

- Received first POW bill deposit for fiscal year approximately \$14,000.
- Lift station #2s generator was paid.
- Repayment for the well project was approved (approximately \$103,000) expected within 7 days.
- The next sewer grant repayment is pending in the system.

Legal

- No updates or reports

Zoning

- Issued permits: 3 fences, 1 carport, 1 storage building, 1 dig, 5 new homes/driveways.
- \$680 revenue from permits only this month.

Commissioner's comments

May 6, 2026

Re:

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- Commissioner McVickers states that ongoing economic development has a proposal for medical center/mental health facility, and possibly a pharmacy; 2 of these are likely to start within 60 days.
 - Commissioner Lowrey states that he has been talking with Dollar General to possibly bring in a Dollar General Market.