

Mayor

Ed Lowery

Commissioners

Christopher Carlson

Tony McVickers

Kristen McVickers

Kelly Grant

Attorney

Sarah Price



Town Clerk/Finance Officer

Raymie Day

Utility Clerk

Lana Penfield

Chief of Police

Hudson Chitwood

Public Works Director

Joe Penfield

Code Enforcement Officer

Tina Odom

**MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2026**

Called to order by Mayor Lowery 6:32PM

Invocation by Mr. Merkel

Pledge of allegiance led by Commissioner Carlson

The following members of the board of commissioners were present:

Mayor Lowery

Commissioner T. McVickers

Commissioner Carlson

Commissioner Grant

Commissioner K. McVickers (virtual)

Overview

- Fourth of July parade committee formed — Commissioner Carlson appointed to lead.
- Approval given for the local water supply plan resolution; permit deadline 1 April necessitates immediate action.
- Acknowledged commissioner vacancy (Commissioner Mahaffey resigned due to relocation); applications to be distributed starting tomorrow and a structured, transparent filling process adopted (NCGS 160A-63).
- Infrastructure updates: sewer open bid 24 Mar, well project start 2 Jun; Ruritan property finalization expected this week.
- Public safety actions: Narcan kits to be placed in every local business; county provided \$3,000 for police and \$1,000 for parade support.
- Financial update: audit completed with minor supplemental-pay correction.

Approval of minutes from February 17th, 2026.

- Motion made by Commissioner Carlson to approve the minutes from February 17th, 2026 with no changes. Commissioner K. McVickers seconded the motion. All in favor.

New Business

Fourth of July

- Mayor Lowery states that the 4th of July planning event for 2026 has begun.
- Parade scheduled for July 4th.
- Band was booked to perform.
- Wrestlers will set up a ring and perform.
- Tent has been ordered.

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- Mayor Lowery states that someone from the board will need to take over heading up the 4th of July celebration.
 - Commissioner McVickers made a motion for Commissioner Carlson to head the 4th of July planning. Commissioner Grant seconds the motion. All in favor.

Local Water Supply Plan

- Local water supply plan for town Parkton requires annual update per OC Rodgers.
- Resolution is available for review and needs approval.
- Town Clerk Ms. Day stated the approval is required tonight to send the resolution forward.
- Utility Clerk Mrs. Penfield stated the permit is already obtained.
- Commissioner Carlson notated the completion deadline is April 1 so the town must vote tonight.
- Commissioner T. McVickers made a motion to approve the Local Water Supply Resolution. Commissioner Carlson seconded the motion. All in favor.

Commissioner Vacancy

- Mayor Lowery informed the citizens that A Commissioner seat has been vacated. Commissioner Mahaffey has resigned his position after relocating out of the town limits. Commissioner Mahaffey submitted a formal resignation letter.
- A motion to accept the letter of resignation was made by Commissioner T. McVickers. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Carlson. All in favor.
- A motion was made to fill the vacancy by Commissioner T. McVickers. Motion was seconded by Commissioner K. McVickers. All in favor.
- Applications will be available starting tomorrow (March 18, 2026) at town hall.

Old Business

Sewer Project Update

- Mrs. Penfield stated the sewer project had a pre-bid meeting on the 4th and it has an open bid scheduled for the 24th, 2026.

Well Project Update

- Well project is scheduled to start June 2nd, 2026.
- A timeline for the project is available in the board packet.

Ruritan Property Update

- Ruritan property project is anticipated to be finalized this week with the attorney.
- A Robeson County company volunteered 20 hours with a 10–15 person team to begin demolition and building work.

Parkton Medical Center Update

Commissioner McVickers states that after multiple attempts to contact the medical group he has not received a response from them. Will begin looking for other medical center opportunity.

Public Comments

May 6, 2026

Re:

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Bob Hill

- Mr. Hill presented a petition to the board to remove Commissioner Kristen McVickers from her position on the town board.
- Mr. Hill requests a vote from the board to remove Commissioner McVickers.
- Commissioner T. McVickers tells Mr. Hill that the board does not have the authority to remove anyone from their position on the board.
- The petition was accepted. Residence will be verified and the election board will be contacted.

Department Reports

Public Works

- Mrs. Penfield gives the public works updates.
- Public works had 11 cut offs and 10 are already back on.
- 6 new accounts.
- 1 new home sold.

Police Department

- Chief Chitwood gives the police department updates.
- Narcan kits to be provided to every local business; chief to train staff; kits donated by a woman who lost both her sons to fentanyl.
- Police Department retrieved 2 of 3 vehicles from the vinyl shop; vehicles staged in parking lot for inspection; new vehicle project will be completed well under budget.
- Chief thanks the board for all their help, especially Commissioner Carlson for assisting with the repair of the speed sign.
- The speed sign helps with speeding near the school.
- The PD computers have been returned and will be of huge benefit to the police department.

Admin

- Ms. Day gives the admin updates.
- Financial spreadsheet balances are available in the board folders.
- The audit is back and completed. One supplemental-pay discrepancy was questioned by the police department and was corrected.
- The next audit goal is to have it submitted by October 2026.

Legal

- Mrs. Price was not present.

Zoning

- Commissioner Grant gives the zoning update.
- 3 permits were issued: 1 deck, 1 business sign and 1 business registration.

Commissioner Comments

- Mayor Lowery received a donation from Robeson County in the total of \$4,000.00. \$3,000.00 is to go to the police department with the remaining \$1,000.00 to be applied to the 4th of July Celebration.

May 6, 2026

Re:

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- Commissioner T. McVickers speaks on creating an incentives package to help bring businesses to Parkton. Wants business to utilize the land here in the town limits.
 - Commissioner K. McVickers states that after speaking with Ms. Day she is working to ensure that systems are in place to ensure there is an adequate way to report conditions of the town and that there are appropriate channels of communication. States she is working through testing town operations in the next few days to ensure those systems are adequately prepared for citizens of our community.

Closed session

7:00 PM - Mayor Lowery requests to go into closed session for compensation and other matters.

7:15 - Return from closed session.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 by Commissioner Carlson. Motion seconded by Commissioner t. McVickers. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.