

Town of Newton Grove

Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

October 13, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Newton Grove was held on October 13, 2025.

Present: Mayor Craig Warren, Mayor Pro-Tem Chris Raynor, Commissioner, Commissioner Bartley Warren, Commissioner George Schwartz, Commissioner Alan Herring, and Commissioner Cody Smith

Staff Present: Town Clerk Amanda Baggett, Deputy Clerk Dana Ellington, and Legal Lew Starling

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer.**
3. **Financial Review.** Upon motion by Commissioner Alan Herring, seconded by Commissioner Chris Raynor, and passed by unanimous vote, the financial review was approved.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Upon motion by Commissioner Cody Smith, seconded by Commissioner George Schwartz, and passed by unanimous vote, the minutes for September 8, 2025 were approved.
5. **Clerk Comment.** Please see attached.
6. **Public Comment.** Patrick, owner of the Ashford Inn in Clinton introduced himself. Terrie Westbrook made a comment about the flagpoles still need to be repaired in the circle.
7. **Departmental Reports.**
 - A. **Street Department – Commissioner Chris Raynor.** Commissioner Raynor reported no issues with trash. We have started mowing town streets and have patched potholes. Also had Circle St. paved behind 55 Fast Stop and beside of Newton Grove Insurance. Hope to do this each year.
 - B. **Police Department – Commissioner Alan Herring.** Commissioner Herring reported no issues. Officer Ward's vehicle has been serviced. Chief's truck is in the shop.
 - C. **Buildings & Grounds – George Schwartz.** Commissioner Schwartz reported that he is working on getting the vinyl on the overhang at the library.
 - D. **Public Works Department and Zoning – Commissioner Cody Smith.** Commissioner Smith reported we are still waiting on funding for the SCADA system. The Carolina

Council of Government is helping us with this. Clerk Baggett updated that zoning board is working on section 4 for the zoning book.

E. Parks & Special Projects – Commissioner Bartley Warren. Commissioner Warren reminded everyone about the fall festival October 28, 2025.

8. Mayor’s Comments. Mayor Warren reported we have a new representative from the COG working with us to help us with the grant. He will be attending the flood mitigation meeting November 12, 2025.

9. Adjournment.

TOWN OF NEWTON GROVE

Craig Warren, Mayor ATTEST:

Amanda Baggett, Town Clerk

GL Account	Balance
10-1010-0101 General Fund Cash	\$658,760.87
11-1010-0101 ABC Contributions	\$38,554.00
20-1010-0101 Water Fund Cash	\$327,896.70
30-1010-0101 Powell Bill Cash	\$83,854.07
	\$1,109,065.64

NC MUTUAL TRUST ACCOUNTS

GENERAL \$516,508.25

W/S \$273,048.43

STREETS \$ 61,897.22

CLERK COMMENTS:

1. THE OVERGROWTH ON THE LOT BESIDE THE ICE MACHINE HAS BEEN TAKEN CARE OF BY THE PROPERTY OWENER. WITH THAT BEING SAID, WE ASK THE PUBLIC TO BE NICE WHEN WE HAVE TO TELL OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY THE SAME THING. THERE ARE MANY PROPERTY OWNERS AT THIS TIME WHO ARE STILL IN VIOLATION OF ZONING ORDINANCES AND ARE CALLED SO CALLED "EYE SORES" AS A PUBLIC COMMENT WAS MADE AT OUR LAST MEETING DURING PUBLIC COMMENT. LETTERS WILL SOON GO OUT TO THOSE PROPERTY OWNERS. WE ARE ALSO IN THE PROCESS OF SETTING VIOLATION FEES FOR REPEAT OFFENDERS AS THIS COST CAN BE VERY COSTLY FOR THE TOWN WITH LEGAL FEES.

2. TOWN HALL DID NOT POST THE ELECTION SIGN UP. WE ARE TO REMAIN NEUTRAL DURING THIS TIME. IT WAS IN THE NEWSPAPER SEVERAL TIMES AND BOARD OF ELECTIONS ADVERTISED IT AS WELL. IT IS THE PUBLICS RESPONSIBILITY TO RESEARCH AND TO KNOW THESE THINGS. THIS WAS VERIFIED BY LEGAL THAT ARE TO REMAIN NEUTRAL AND DO NOT NEED TO OR HAVE TO POST IT.

3. OUR WATER METERS ARE READ NORMALLY THE FIRST WEEK OF THE MONTH. THIS DEPENDS ON WEATHER. THEY ARE MANUALLY READ SO THERE IS NO WAY TO TELL YOU THAT YOUR METER WAS READ ON SEPTEMBER 22 AT 9AM. HOPEFULLY ONE DAY IN THE FUTURE WE WILL HAVE RADAR READ METERS. RADAR READ METERS WILL ALSO HELP WITH THE REVENUE LOSS WE HAVE AT THIS TIME DUE TO OLD METERS. OUR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS MADE UP OF OUR DIRECTOR GLENN HOLLAND (PART TIME, NEVER HAS BEEN FULL TIME), OUR PUBLIC WORKS TECHNICIAN TIMMY WILLIAMS (FULL TIME), AND ALLEN BRITT (PART TIME).

4. THE AGENDAS AND MINUTES ARE NOW ON OUR WEBSITE. THE MINUTES WILL BE UPDATED AS THEY ARE APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

5. WE HAD OUR ANNUAL AUDIT TODAY. THINGS WENT WELL. THE FULL AUDIT REPORT SHOULD BE PRESENTED AT OUR DECEMBER MEETING BY THE REPRESENTIVE OF THEIR OFFICE.

6. THANK YOU TO OLD MILL STREAM FOR DONATING FLAGS FOR THE CIRCLE.

7. TREES AT SOLAR FARM SHOULD BE PLANTED IN NOVEMBER.