

# Town of Newton Grove

## Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

June 9, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Newton Grove was held on June 9, 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, Police Chief Greg Warren, 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 Cody Smith, seconded by Commissioner George Schwartz, and passed by unanimous vote, the financial review was approved. Upon motion by Commissioner Bartley Warren, seconded by Commissioner Cody Smith, and passed unanimously, the board approved to move the CD's from First Citizens to NC Mutual Trust.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Upon motion by Commissioner Cody Smith, seconded by Commissioner George Schwartz, and passed by unanimous vote, the minutes for May 12, 2025 were approved.
5. **Public Hearing ZA 25-02.** Upon motion by Commissioner George Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner Bartley Warren, and passed unanimously, the public hearing was opened. Upon motion by Commissioner Bartley Warren, seconded by Commissioner Chris Raynor, and passed unanimously, the public hearing was closed. Upon motion by Commissioner Chris Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Bartley Warren, and passed unanimously, ZA 25-02 was approved.
6. **Public Hearing 2025-2026 Budget.** Upon motion by Commissioner George Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner Bartley Warren, and passed unanimously, the public hearing was opened. Upon motion by Commissioner Cody Smith, seconded by Commissioner Bartley Warren, and passed unanimously, the public hearing was closed. Upon motion by

Commissioner Cody Smith, seconded by Commissioner Chris Raynor, and passed unanimously, the 2025-2026 Budget was approved.

7. **2024-2025 Budget Amendments.** Upon motion by Commissioner Bartley Warren, seconded by Commissioner Cody Smith, and passed unanimously, the 2024-2025 Budget Amendments were approved.
8. **Auditor Contract.** Upon motion by Commissioner Cody Smith, seconded by Commissioner George Schwartz, and passed unanimously, the auditor contract for 2024-2025 was approved.
9. **Newton Grove Fire Department Contract.** Mayor Warren presented the board the proposed contract for NGFD with changes that the NGFD had requested that legal had approved. Upon motion by Commissioner Bartley Warren, seconded by Commissioner Chris Raynor, and passed unanimously, the contract was approved.
10. **Sampson County Tax Office Resolution.** Upon motion by Commissioner Chris Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Alan Herring, and passed unanimously, the resolution to allow Sampson County tax office to collect the Town of Newton Grove's taxes was approved.
11. **Public Comment.** Dewayne West presented to board with the reoccurring flooding issues on West Grove St. He asks the board to move forward with what they can do to fix the issues. Sherry House reiterated the concerns about the drainage issues on West Grove St. Chris Jones commented that there are other contractors then what the town uses that are local and that support the town.
12. **Departmental Reports.**
  - A. **Street Department – Commissioner Chris Raynor.** Commissioner Raynor reported no issues with trash. We had flooding issue at Sunset St. It was addressed quickly and fixed. He asked the public to not move barricades and to also respect them by not going around them. Still looking for a contractor to pave town streets.
  - B. **Police Department – Commissioner Alan Herring.** Commissioner Herring reported no issues. We have applied for a grant for some electronics needed for the department. Officer Ward has started full time.
  - C. **Buildings & Grounds – George Schwartz.** Commissioner Schwartz reported that the gutters at the library have been cleaned out.

**D. Public Works Department and Zoning – Commissioner Cody Smith.** Commissioner Smith reported a leak on Hwy 13 that has been repaired. Still waiting on the funds from the grant we received for the SCADA system. We received a back up pump for the lift station at Parkside. Clerk Baggett reported that 3 of the articles for the new zoning book are complete.

**E. Parks & Special Projects – Commissioner Bartley Warren.** Commissioner Warren reported that movie night was a success. The senior parade went well. Plan to get senior banners down soon. July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration will be Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **13. Adjournment.**

TOWN OF NEWTON GROVE

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Craig Warren, Mayor ATTEST:

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Amanda Baggett, Town Clerk