

Town of New London
Board of Commissioner's Meeting 7:00 pm
February 3, 2026

Mayor Tate Daniels welcomed everyone and opened the Commissioner's Meeting at 7:00 pm. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Bill Peak, Richard Kimmer, Bob Loflin, Timothy Higgins, and Town Manager Susan Almond. Commissioner Sid Lanier was absent from the meeting. Visitors present were Norman and Connie Williams, Paul Wilkins and Trent Hatley.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Kimmer. Mayor Daniels asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Commissioner Kimmer made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Higgins. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Daniels asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the January meeting. There being no corrections, Commissioner Peak made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Loflin. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment Period- Mr. Paul Wilkins, Regional Director for Christian Recovery Center, Inc.(CRCI) spoke about their location in New London They are a non-profit organization that provides free drug and alcohol treatment, recovery and re-entry services for men and women struggling with substance abuse. CRCI's mission is to provide the spiritual and educational tools necessary for a long-term recovery from the illness of addiction and the beginning of a successful life.

Sewer Report- Commissioner Peak reported that while we were waiting for new controls to be installed on pump 1 at the Oak Street Pump Station, pump 2 stopped working. Cheek Environmental, LLC. pumped the tank while SKC, Inc. pulled and replaced the pump. A lanyard and remnants of a ratchet strap were found in the pump, which caused it to malfunction. All necessary repairs have been made.

Cemetery update- Commissioner Higgins reported that he is waiting on an update from Mr. Eric Key who is searching for replacement bricks to repair the wall at the cemetery.

Mrs. Almond reported on the following:

- **Waste Management Contract-** we were notified they are increasing our household rate from \$17.68 to \$21.68 per household and will no longer offer special pick-ups or caps on the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI). We plan to seek quotes from other waste collection providers.
- **Playground structures-** The board discussed expanding the playground area at New London Memorial Park to accommodate younger children. We will obtain quotes for a smaller playground structure.

- **Tarheel Challenge Academy's Graduation-** Friday, March 13th at 10 am at the Stanly County Agri Civic Center.
- **Council of Governments (COG) Meeting-** hosted by Oakboro on Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30 pm at the Town of Oakboro District Park Community Building. Mr. Michael Roark, Stanly County Emergency Services Director will be the guest speaker.
- **Waste Management Pickup Delayed-** Due to inclement weather, Waste Management is delayed 2 days so New London residents are scheduled for garbage pick-up on Saturday. A phone tree message will be sent to town residents.

Mayor Daniels gave an update on the following:

- **Clean Up at Park Entrance-** Commissioner Loflin and Mayor Daniels met to determine how to remove the invasive plants and mulch the area from Memorial Park entrance to where the old first paved driveway was located on the park property. Commissioner Loflin will contact Mr. Herman Blalock for a quote.
- **Museum Parking Spaces-** Mr. Rusty Russell will add gravel for 2 parking spaces at the museum.
- **Driveway Near 220 E. Depot Street-** Mr. Rusty Russell will clean the ditch out and install a 12 in pipe to improve drainage.
- **Board of Adjustment Meeting Update-** The Board approved Culp Lumber Company's request for a 5 ft variance for the height of a free-standing pole sign that will be covered in rock and installed at their new industrial entrance on Hwy 52. New London's Zoning Ordinance allows a free-standing pole sign to be no more than 15 ft in height in the Highway Business (H-B) and Manufacturing Districts (M-1 & M-2). The Board of Adjustment approved the variance for the proposed 20 ft sign which will help direct logs trucks to use Culp Lumber Company's new entrance on Hwy 52 and reduce the number of log trucks on Main Street.

The agenda being accomplished, the meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.
Minutes submitted by Susan Almond, Town Manager.