

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**August 19, 2025**

Council Attendance: Mayor Derek Underwood, Councilmen: Mike Hawkins, Chad Hawkins, Robert Martin, and Allen Gallman.

Administrative Attendance: Karen Livingston, Town Administrator; Michelle Wise, Clerk Treasurer; Wesley Palmore, Police Chief and Lisa Senn, Town Attorney.

Mayor Pro Tem Robert Martin called the Regular meeting to order and asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Pro Tem Robert Martin presented the Minutes from July 15, 2025, Regular Council Meeting for approval.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to approve the Minutes from July 15, 2025, Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman and so approved unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION:**

Mr. David Hatch from 112 North Wheeler Avenue addressed the Council about the status of Carolina Connect in their area and the power outages on the length of time to get power restored. Discussion followed.

**UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Prosperity Business Association:**

Mrs. Gina Mays stated the Fall Crawl would be on October 17<sup>th</sup> and they were working on the Holiday Shoppers Walk. She stated they booked Noel Lindler and The Bank Walkers for the Shoppers Walk event. She stated they are working on visibility and have a new website and phone number for the Prosperity Business Association. She stated they have two new members: Custom Craft Silhouettes, TC Bowers, and Kendred Living, Pazlan Hawkins. She stated GG'S is moving between Dixie Heart Pine and Faith's Café.

**CTC Committee:**

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated Representative Joe White attended their meeting this afternoon asking to get more money for roads. Councilman Chad Hawkins thanked the CTC for everything that has been done in the Town of Prosperity.

**Capital Project Sales Tax Update:**

Mayor Underwood stated the project is moving forward but slowly.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance Amending the Business License Ordinance of the Town of Prosperity to Update the Class Schedule as Required by Act 176 of 2020:**

A **MOTION** by Councilman Mike Hawkins to approve 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance Amending the Business License Ordinance of the Town of Prosperity to update the Class Schedule as required by Act 176 of 2020; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

**Yard Debris and Junk Pickup Throughout Town:**

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated we need to look at the numbers, study it hard and postpone a little longer. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated we would move to old business next month.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

**Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation:**

Councilman Martin stated the utility department is working steady. He stated there was an issue at Grace Lutheran Church this morning and they got it figured out quickly.

**Public Safety and Streets:**

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he brought up Brookside Drive, Dominick, and Dallas Streets at the CTC meeting today. He stated Brown and McNeary are scheduled for paving by July 2026. He stated there is an issue with pipes and drainage on McNeary Street behind Roma's and they will have to make a decision before the road is paved in that area.

**Economic Development, Buildings and Properties:**

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated we are looking forward to GG's Library new opening. He stated Mr. Oxner's pool hall has been taken down and looks so much better. He stated there is nothing official on the Subway in town. He stated he wrote a letter to the S.C. Ethics Commission about serving on the board of the Frances Spotts Memorial Fund and asking if he needs to take a leave of absence during the election for Prosperity. He stated someone on Council may have to fill in for him until after the election depending on their decision.

**Parks, Recreation and Events:**

Councilman Gallman stated we have 456 children signed up for soccer which is about 45 teams with probably 10 on a waitlist. He stated we need coaches in several of the age divisions. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he had a citizen complaint about grass coming up in the rubber surface of the playground equipment area. Discussion followed. Mrs. Livingston stated we are having the park dedication during National Night Out at 6 on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Police Department:**

Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated they assisted with the mobile food pantry. He stated Officer Smith arrested two people from an investigation with a shoplifting ring at Food Lion. He stated they assisted Newberry County with a gun fire incident on Langford Street. He stated he completed the 1033 audit. He stated they were looking forward to National Night Out and the park dedication.

Councilman Mike Hawkins asked Chief the reason for leaving the vehicles running. Chief stated there is so much equipment and it pulls a lot of power.

**Town Attorney:**

Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

**Town Administrator:**

Mrs. Livingston stated the Civic Center has water leaking inside the building from the cupola. She stated Ed is working with the roofer that did the Depot to get it fixed around the end of September to brace the roof. They are going to bring in a crane to lift off the cupola to work on roof cap to stop the leaking. She stated she is going to try to write a PARD grant to cover the cost of fixing the cupola. Councilman Chad Hawkins asked if it is necessary to keep the cupola. Mrs. Livingston stated it will be a discussion when we get the pricing to fix.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business to discuss.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Mike Hawkins asked what time National Night Out started. Mrs. Livingston stated 5-8pm with the park dedication at 6pm.

Councilman Chad Hawkins thanked Catherine Eldridge for coming to the Council meeting.

Mayor Underwood stated there are two Council seats open for the November 4<sup>th</sup> election, and these are the candidates running:

Catherine Eldridge  
McKeva Kinard-Shelton  
Kyle Kneece  
Councilman Mike Hawkins running for re-election for his seat.

Mayor Underwood stated Councilman Robert Martin is running for Mayor unopposed. He stated Councilman Gallman and himself are retiring but leaving Council in good hands and the town will continue to move forward. He wished luck to all the candidates running.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:07p.m.

Michelle B Wise Michelle B Wise, Clerk/Treasurer