

Town of Pollocksville
Regular Meeting
October 14, 2025

Present: James V. Bender, Jr. – Mayor

Sherry Henderson - Commissioner
Ellis Banks – Commissioner

Nancy Barbee – Commissioner

Maria Robles – Commissioner

Vic Bryan - Commissioner

Toni Floyd – Town Clerk

London Mayo – Asst. Town Clerk

- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Declaration of a Quorum
The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Pollocksville held its regular schedule meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at the Pollocksville Town Hall. The meeting was open to public attendance as well as participation via Zoom. Mayor Bender called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. With all Commissioners present, we had a quorum.

- II. Introduction of New Business

- III. Approval/Adoption of Final Agenda
Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve and adopt the final agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson and all were in favor.

- IV. Public Comment

- V. Approval of Minutes of September 9, 2025 Meeting
Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Commissioner Henderson. All were in favor.

- VI. Presentations to the Board

A.

- VII. Action Items
 - A. Approval of contractual agreement with Cory Spaulding re FEMA negotiations.
Commissioner Bryan made a motion to approve with a second from Commissioner Banks.

- VIII. Reports

1. Sidewalk project: pleased with how the progress is coming along.
2. Solar Panel: there has been a request made to install solar panels on the mobile speed limit units.
3. Bic Grant: Reapplied through HMGF. There are no further updates and the next update will be expected around late December to early January.

Guest List: Attached

4. DEQ Grant: We will not be receiving the \$120,000 match for the BRIC grant since it appears that we will not be receiving BRID funding.
5. FEMA: CAT Z amount of \$83,000 was approved and has been sent to NCEM for payment.
6. NCOBR Loan: We have paid NCOBR the final \$27,900 owed on the loan and have received a letter saying that the NCOBR obligation has been fully satisfied. The final NCOBR report for this project has been submitted.
7. Golden Leaf Grant: removed \$700,000 from the original \$1 million promised since we will not need that money it will leave \$300,000 in the grant/loan -- \$100,000 in case the CAT Z project is not funded. The other \$200,000 is what we have already drawn down. We now have FEMA money to pay this back. We haven't received an answer to our request to change the SOW of work on the project which will enable us to use GLF money to pay \$148,000 in closing costs on the principle/interest fee loans for the Sewer project. Just a reminder, we have already used \$60,000 in Utility Fund Balance to pay part of these costs, and we can't get any more grant funds until we pay the \$88,000 balance. I'm asking GLF to grant us a total of \$148,000 -- to pay the \$88,000 balance and put \$60,000 back in Fund Balance.
8. Pending Water, Wastewater, and Infrastructure Projects:
 - a) Still no further word on the Fourth Street Drainage project or the CDBG-I grant to relocate Pump Station #2
 - b) There has been a lot of activity at the Water Treatment Plant and the new Sewer Plant
9. 205J Stormwater Planning Grant: There was a report made in September. A partnership was proposed with Sound Rivers and Jones County Schools, but the School System did not want to participate so there will be no submission.
10. Flood Migration Study: The final report is to be expected in November. Would like to schedule a presentation at one of our meetings with the consultants so they can brief you on the aspects of the study that affect Pollocksville.
11. Fire Dept.: Still no response from the Fire Department on the proposed new lease for the old fire house.
12. Tree Trimming: Received word from Duke Energy that they will NOT trim the trees on Hines Street which apparently was interfering with school bus traffic. I was told that an inspection says that there is no danger to the lines, thus they will not trim. Mayor Bender told our Duke people that the next time the School System made a complaint, we would refer the matter directly to Duke, since it is not our problem and we do not have the equipment to handle the request
13. Still no word from the County Manager on when to expect the transfer of the FEMA lots on Barrus Street. Still waiting for closure on a FEMA lot in Trenton before the County makes the official transfer.
14. Upcoming Events:
 - Monday November 3rd at 10:30 AM -- New Pollocksville EMS Building.
 - Saturday November 8th -- The Filling Station will be holding their annual "Jones County -- A Perfect 10" event. The event will be held at The Filling Station Campus at 221 Main Street Pollocksville, NC.

- Thursday November 13th from 11-1 – the Jones County Leadership Graduation will be held at Pollocksville Town Hall this year.
 15. Portable Bathrooms – Use/Rental Policy. Commissioner Henderson and Robles have been working on an agreement and rental cost.

B. Department of Public Works – Todd Meadows and J.J. Chadwick:

1. Sewer Plant: All pipe work is completed at the new sewer plant. Target operational date: Beginning of the year. Phase 2 of the sewer plant: Ready to file the land condemnation order. Waiting on land acquisition.

2. The plant is currently using the lagoon system until the new system is fully online.
 3. Planning to ensure compatibility with the new system before allowing Greene Recycling to discharge into it. Design capacity: 102,000 gallons per day. Current daily usage: Between 40,000 and 60,000 gallons.

4. Water Plant: Surge system is installed as of today October 14th. Underground piping is complete. Interior work is targeted for completion around Thanksgiving. Town will continue using county water through February/March.
 5. Water Testing: No final report has been received yet on the water test results.
 6. Third Street Washout update: Reported by Vic: No bill received yet; cost is still unknown.
 Estimated cost is between \$1,000 and \$3,000, but this is tentative. The area appears stable and is currently holding. Long-term solution: Riprap will be needed to ensure continued stability.
 County Manager Kyle Smith is exploring potential grant funding or assistance to help cover the cost of Riprap installation.

7. Trees on Town-Owned Property: There have been several quotes received for tree work. We are addressing concerns about trees on town-owned property threatening one or more homes on Payton Lane. We have had several companies to give quotes for removal – there is disagreement on what needs to be removed. Top price has been \$4200. At our last meeting, Dave reported that he had successfully negotiated the easement purchase on US 17, and he brought the check for \$4100 tonight. I would suggest that we use those funds to pay for the tree removal.

8. Damaged Pole on Main Street: We have received the quote to replace the damaged banner pole --\$8100 – and have forwarded to the insurance company – both ours and the person who did the damage. The company whose employee damaged the pole submitted it to his insurance and they are only willing to give us \$6500 – because they are reducing by the deductible. We have advised that this is not satisfactory – we want the full amount – and that we will turn it over to the Clerk of Court. We will not replace it until we receive this money.
 9. Training: Todd is starting classes this Thursday.

A. Town Clerk/Finance Office – Toni Floyd
 1. Check Register, BVA, Cash Report, and Bank Reconciliation for September. Expenses are low at the moment. Auditor is finishing up and will be here for the November meeting
 2. Budget Amendments for approval – Commissioner Robles made the motion to approve.
 3. 2025 Halloween Policy – Sherry and Maria

Commissioner Banks seconded the motion and all were in favor.

- 4. Staff Development - London is currently enrolled in a finance class and has also signed up for a notary class.
- 5. Damaged Utility Pole (from vehicle accident on Main Street): Insurance has approved a check for \$6,500, and the insurer has requested the town pay the deductible.

B. Beautification/Economic Development – Commissioner Barbee

1. We understand that the Willie Bryant property at the end of Bell Street will be listed for sale. The initial quote for listing was \$50,000 – entirely too much. These properties were flooded and we had talked about using leftover CDBG funds to purchase these lots and add to our green space. I've reached out to Mike Barnette to see about the status of the CDBG grant. It appears that we approved the new plan for expending these CDBG funds but apparently didn't send a signed document to Mike. It has been done now and we are awaiting approval.

C. Planning and Zoning – Mayor Bender:

1. Update from Andy Thomas, Code Enforcement Officer
2. Property Maintenance is required at 225 Beaufort
3. Town will contract Todd's Services for this job and be billed separately
4. Talked about the chicken ordinance, all chickens need to be in the backyard.
5. Enforcement Procedures

D.

- Discussion on how many letters will be sent out before further action is taken.
- Clarification may be needed on the enforcement timeline or escalation process.

Attorney- Kyle Dickerson

1. Received a \$4000 check for the easement on the triangular tract of land on 17.

IX. Unfinished Business

A. NA

X. New Business

A. None

XI. Public Comment

XII. Closed Session (if necessary)

None

XIII. Announcements

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

XIV. Adjournment

Commissioner Robles made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson and all were in favor.

London Mayo
Respectfully submitted;

London Mayo, Assistant Town Clerk

Approval Date 11/11/2025