

Town of Mount Olive
October 6, 2025
Regular Board Meeting
Minutes

Mayor Jerome Newton called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Those in attendance per roll call were Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay, Commissioner Delreese Simmons, Commissioner Tommy Brown, Commissioner Vicky Darden, Commissioner Danny Keel, Town Attorney Carroll Turner, Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland and Town Clerk/Administrative Assistant Sherry Davis.

Mayor Jerome Newton delivered the invocation and Commissioner Tommy Brown led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Jerome Newton read the Conflict-of-Interest Statement; there were no conflicts.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the published agenda. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion to approve. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the following meeting minutes:

September 8, 2025, Regular Board Meeting –
September 22, 2025, Special Called Board Meeting

Commissioner Danny Keel made the motion to approve the September 8, 2025, regular board meeting minutes and the September 22, 2025, special called board meeting minutes. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then opened the public forum. He reminded everyone of the three- minute time limit and to be respectful. You can request more time, but it may not be granted. There will be no attacking the Board of Commissioners or staff and no outbursts from the audience. The same goes for the Board of Commissioners if you have an issue with another commissioner, address it outside the meeting. No one is allowed to speak until recognized by the mayor. Anyone failing to adhere to these rules will be asked once to refrain, the second time you may be asked to leave.

Mr. Brent Heath of 113 Crest Drive, Mount Olive, NC 28365 919-635-0357. He wanted to discuss his concerns regarding the water bills. He stated the Office of the State Auditor's report had findings of \$210,000.00 in lost revenues. The report advised two employees, and one sitting commissioner did not pay their water bills for months. It seems the ones who play by the rules are now expected to make up the difference. Treat everyone equally and fairly, only then can we rebuild trust and confidence.

Mr. Ronnie Wise of 755 McArthur Pond Road, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-429-0784. He discussed the Hurricanes Football Program/Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He advised he is the youth leader for the thirty fourth season. They have three tackle teams and cheerleaders. The expenses are \$9,000.00 and the revenues are \$9,500.00. Their program teaches our youth about life, integrity, service, character and excellence. The current lease expires next year and they would like to extend the lease for ten years and eventually start a youth wrestling team. We are here to compliment the Town's Parks & Recreation Department.

Mayor J. Jerome Newton thanked everyone for their comments and closed the public forum.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo – 10-32 – Consider Approval Resolution Adopting CDBG- I Policies

1. Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Plan
2. Section 3 Action Plan
3. Language Access Policy and Plan
4. Section 504 Compliance Officer/Grievance Procedure
5. Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan
6. Code of Conduct Policy
7. Citizen Participation Plan
8. Prohibition of the Use of Excessive Force Policy
9. Procurement Policy and Plan
10. Equal Housing Opportunity Resolution
11. Fair Housing Complaint Procedure

Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay clarified these policies must be renewed every three years. Commissioner Delreese Simmons asked who signed the contract if Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland is no longer here. Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk Sherry Davis responded this is not a contract as that was already approved. This is a policy. Mayor Jerome Newton asked what the Section 3 Action Plan is. Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk Sherry Davis advised this pertains to historically under-utilized and minority businesses consideration in the grant process opportunities. Mayor Jerome Newton asked who is responsible for keeping up with the contractors and subcontractors' employee information. Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk, Sherry Davis answered the contractor. Commissioner Delreese Simmons wanted to know who would be overseeing the project for the Town. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland commented, he would and possibly Sorome Applins. Mayor Jerome Newton asked about the Language Access Plan and who translates. Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk Sherry Davis replied, we have people we

can contact who can translate for the Town for Spanish or Haitian Creole which are the other two languages besides English from our census data. There being no other questions Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve Action Memo- 10-32 – Consider Approval Resolution Adopting CDBG- I Policies. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made the motion to approve Action Memo – 10-32. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo – 10-33 – Consider Approval of Resolution Regarding No Use of Real Property and Authorizing Advertising of Lease to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Town Attorney Carroll Turner stated the General Statutes limits leasing land beyond 1 year without board approval. The current Hurricane's ten-year lease for the football field is expiring. The Fellowship for Christian Athletes are asking to take over and renew the lease when the current one expires next year. Town Attorney Carroll Turner discussed the process. The first step is to adopt the resolution he has prepared. The second step would be to place an advertisement in for thirty days in the newspaper. The final step would be to bring the actual proposed lease to the board for approval.

Mayor Jerome Newton asked if this gives someone else the opportunity to request a lease and if so, what is the point of contact. Town Attorney Carroll Turner responded, yes. He advised he or Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland would be the point of contact. He also clarified this does not approve the contract, it just starts the process.

Mayor Jerome Newton wanted to verify the current lease is for the Hurricanes and not the Fellowship for Christian Athletes. Town Attorney Carroll Turner verified that is correct. Mayor Jerome Newton asked if we should wait until the Hurricanes contract actually expires. Town Attorney Carroll Turner replied we could or we could have a signed statement from Alex Ferrell with the hurricanes signing over the current lease to the Fellowship for Christian Athletes.

Mayor Jerome Newton suggested we table this item until November 10, 2025, at our Regular Board meeting. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made the motion to table Action-Memo 10-33 until November 10, 2025, at our Regular Board meeting. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo – 10-34 – Consider Approval of Updated Cemetery/Burial Policy. Town Attorney Carroll Turner spoke with Mr. Johnny Davis and Commissioner Danny Keel, and they have several suggestions. He suggested we table this item until they can meet with the funeral homes. Commissioner Danny Keel made the motion to table Action Memo – 10-34 until further notice. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Interim Town Manager Report: Presented as follows:

HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE COLLECTION

The Town continues working with N.C. Waste Management & Recycling to address any remaining issues with the garbage collection transition.

IRON AND DISCOLORED WATER REPAIRS The town has been working with TRC Companies, and they have certified the new filter at the Boling Plant, and we can put that filter in service. The filter will need disinfection and that work will be performed this week. The well at Boling shows signs of pumping gravel. The pump will have to be pulled and the well Tved. The filter has been certified. This will cost approximately eight to ten thousand dollars for the inspection. Any resident still experiencing discolored water, please contact our offices at 919-658-9539.

PAVING OF ROADS The first round of paving should be completed by the end of this week. Also, the paving company made a mistake, and we got 1,000 feet extra for free.

WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Town continues working on the collection system items. We met with TRC Companies to discuss how to dispose of the wastewater treated. Work needs to continue the inflow & infiltration, and we need to look at other options. The inflow and infiltration reduction has not gotten the town any closer to adding flow. The town has set up a meeting with McGill Associates engineer David Honeycutt to look at changes to both the wastewater treatment improvements and the sewer collection rehabilitation projects. They both came in four million dollars over budget. A bad control wire leading to spray fields one through four was discovered and we are working to get that repaired.

LOT MAINTENANCE AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

The ditch located on Dail Street has been repaired by a contractor. We have obtained per hour price quotes to have the ditches listed below cut: Franklin Street from Church to Oliver Elizabeth Street and Williamson Street.

POTHOLE REPAIRS

Approximately thirteen potholes were repaired and filled with cold patch. The new street maintenance machine has been delivered, employee training has been completed, and this equipment has been put into service.

ADDITION STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

The town has been working with Duke Energy to install our next round of additional street lighting. The town will continue working with them to identify other areas in need.

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR REPORT

The town and the airport have worked closely with the Office of the State Auditor regarding their recommendations for the airport. Although all claims were unsubstantiated, the town takes their recommendations seriously. All outstanding fuel invoices have been collected, the fuel account has been closed, all utilities are now being paid for by Bass Aviation. The finance director and airport manager are meeting monthly, and our third-party

CPA is reviewing all documents as well. Our response to the recommendations regarding the airport has been sent to the Office of the State Auditor Office's and they are currently reviewing it. We are currently addressing the Office of the State Auditor recommendations for the water department. The claims regarding the Water Department are still under investigation at this time.

Mayor & Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Vicky Darden

- She stated a lady had spoken with her about extra lighting and a resident at 118 East John Street called regarding his driveway.
- She said it hurts when water bills are higher than electric bills.
- She is planning to feed the employees this Friday at 12:00 P.M.

Commissioner Danny Keel

- He said people may not be familiar with the fact the Justin Hill is issuing permits now.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons

- He commented about an article he read and said it is not the real truth. People were behind because they wouldn't call and they say they couldn't pay until Monday or there were bulk trash charges on the bill that shouldn't have been.
- He stated there are lots of businesses that owe thousands of dollars. Get the facts before the facts get you.
- He said the top person on the Housing Authority Board called to have his daughter pushed up to number one from two hundred. She still doesn't have an apartment; she lives in Warsaw.
- He asked Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland if he was acting as the Finance Director as well. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland responded that he spoke with the North Carolina League of Municipalities and in order to be able to write checks the fastest way was to approve him. He is bonded at a cheaper rate to the Town, and we have a Deputy Finance Director performing the job duties.
- Town Attorney Carroll Turner stated since that was a legal issue, Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland could do that, and he saved the Town a lot of money. Mayor Jerome Newton asked if that was a conflict of interest. Town Attorney Carroll Turner answered no, it is done this way in a lot of small communities.
- He commented on the water bill at the other address was because he helped a homeless person. He never lived at that address.

Commissioner Tommy

- He thanked everyone for coming out and thanked Ronnie Wise for his service to the community.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay

- She thanked the department heads and parks and recreation.

Mayor Jerome Newton

- He thanked everyone for coming out. He wanted to make sure it was legal.
- He stated the board needs to be transparent and the citizens need to hold our feet to the fire. It does not bring a good look and takes away credibility.
- He said the moratorium is our major issue because it stops us from growth and opportunities. This is always a distraction. We have to let the citizens know at some point that we can't fix certain things. We need to have patience, insight and information.

Our next regular board meeting is Monday, November 10, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

With there being no further business, Commissioner Tommy Brown made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerome Newton
Mayor

Sherry Davis
Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk