

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes February 9, 2026

Mayor Inez B. Lee called the Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Invocation was given by Rev. Adrian Allen, Pastor of Lamar Baptist Church.

Mayor Lee took roll call: Mayor Lee, Councilwoman Jessica Myers, and Councilman Daren Lorenzo were all present. Councilwoman Bradley participate via Zoom.

Others that were in attendance: Tim Dargan & Dennis Carter.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the February 9, 2026, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 12, 2026, Lamar Town Council Meeting with the necessary corrections. Councilman Lorenzo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

No comments from citizens.

Christopher McKagen, Communications Manager for the Darlington County School District stated that a facility study of Darlington County schools determined the following:

Hartsville High School – Replacement recommended due to age, safety, and site limitations.

Spaulding Middle School – Middle-grades addition recommended at another Lamar-area school site.

Darlington Elementary – New elementary school to consolidate Pate & Brockington due to age, safety, and site limitations.

Community Listening Meetings will be held on the following dates and sites:

March 10, 2026, at 6:00 pm at Lamar-Spaulding Elementary School

March 17, 2026, at 6:00 pm at Black Creek Elementary School

March 19, 2026, at 6:00 pm at Hartsville High School

Danielle Wilkes, President of the Lamar Christmas on Main Committee, announced that the Christmas on Main Festival and Parade will take place on Saturday, November 21, 2026. She stated that the committee would be posting meetings and other information on the chambers (Hartsville and Darlington County) websites. Ms. Wilkes said the committee needs additional storage space for the Christmas lights, trees, and other decorations. She also invited new members to join.

Edith Josey, President of the Lamar Egg Scramble Jamboree, highlighted some of the events for the upcoming festival:

Taste of Lamar – Saturday, March 28th (Tickets \$20.00)

Yard Decoration Contest – Wednesday, April 1st – Friday, April 3rd

Friday Night Parade – Friday, April 3rd

Parade & Festival – Saturday, April 4th

Ms. Josey said that they were working on bringing the Fashion Show back. If so, it would probably be the week before the Taste of Lamar. She also would welcome all volunteers.

Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee Cog submitted a progress report for the Railroad Ave. Lift Station Project.

Travis Dupree of Davis & Floyd submitted a written progress report for the Railroad Ave. Lift Station Project

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept both reports as information. Councilwoman Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA submitted the Financial Report.

General Fund (December 31, 2025): Receipts - \$6,318.86, Disbursements - \$65,003.96, Decrease in cash - \$58,685.10, Ending cash balance - \$476,924.72.

Mr. Poston stated the large disbursement amount was due to the payments made to the PEBA Retirement System. The payments were for current employees and for back payments not made for Tim Dargan when he was a full-time employee per the Town's written agreement with Mr. Dargan.

Utility Fund (December 31, 2025): Receipts - \$34,261.39, Disbursements - \$26,156.22, Increase in cash - \$8,105.17, Ending cash balance - \$45,467.86 (\$14,096.16 available for operations; \$31,371.70 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Myers made a motion to accept the financial report as information. Councilman Lorenzo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Police Department Report. She talked about the increasing numbers of stray dogs in the community. Councilwoman Bradley advised citizens to call Darlington County Animal Control when they see stray animals. She also warned against feeding stray animals; if they aren't hungry, they will not go in the cages that animal control put out.

Councilwoman Myers gave the Business License Report. She said that the annual business license renewal letters were scheduled to be mailed out the week of February 9th.

Councilman Lorenzo gave the Water & Sewer Report. He reported the following for the water loss report:
Purchased: **3,120,600** Billed: **2,242,169** Water Loss: **878, 434**

Councilman Lorenzo also stated the water towers were starting to fill up again (there were pipe issues caused by the winter storm).

Mr. Dargan gave an update on upcoming events: Lamar Recreation trip to City Food & Spirits in Marion, Darlington County early registration for 4K and 5K (January 23rd – February 23rd), and Diamon Youth Baseball League (DYB) spring registration.

Councilman Lorenzo made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Lee adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan