

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes September 14, 2026

Mayor Inez B. Lee called the Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:16 PM. Mayor Lee noted that Tim Dargan was unable to get the livestream device to function properly.

Invocation was given by Mayor Inez B. Lee.

Mayor Lee took roll call: Mayor Lee, Councilwoman Angele Bradley, Councilman Keion Mack, Councilwoman Jessica Myers, and Councilman Daren Lorenzo were all present.

Others in attendance Tim Dargan. Doug Poston, Preston Watson, and Jannie Lathan appeared via Zoom.

Councilman Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the September 14, 2026, Lamar Town Council Meeting with the ant amendments. Councilwoman Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Lorenzo later made a motion to re-read the Second Reading of the Amendment to the Trash & Debris Ordinance because it was not properly voted on in the August 10, 2026, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes with any amendments from the August 10, 2026, Lamar Town Council meeting. Councilwoman Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There were no comments from citizens.

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

Preston Watson of Davis & Floyd said that a change order was submitted to RIA for the SCIIP Grant to reduce the scope of the work for the Railroad Lift Station Project. Mr. Waston said that Duke Energy was scheduled to connect power on September 24, 2026.

Jannie Lathan of Lathan Consulting secured a grant to have solar panels installed on the roof of Lamar Town Hall. The project should be completed by March 2027 and should save the Town approximately \$4,358.00 annually in electric bills.

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

General Fund (July 31, 2026): Receipts - \$26,439.72 Disbursements - \$56,793.31 Decrease in cash - \$30,353.59, Ending cash balance - \$8746,377.50

Utility Fund (July 31, 2026): Receipts - \$36,600.17 Disbursements - \$43,377.25, Decrease in cash- \$6,777.08, Ending cash balance - \$73,631.04 (\$42,201.68available for operations; \$31,429.36 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to receive the reports from Teresa Jacobs, Presto Watson, Jannie Lathan, and Doug Poston as information. Councilman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Daren Lorenzo gave the Water & Sewer Report. Councilman Lorenzo highlighted the ongoing water loss investigation, Boil water Advisories, and he explained that citizens are not charged when a water main breaks. Customers are only billed for the water that flows though their individual water meter.

Councilman Daren Lorenzo submitted a written Water Loss Report

Gallons Purchased: **2,473,800** Gallons Billed: **2,561,565** Gallons Loss: **-87,765**

Tim Dargan addressed the citizens' concern about Boil Water Advisories. He noted that a Boil Water Advisory is issued when there is a potential for contamination. A Boil Water Notice is issued when a contamination has been confirmed. He listed several causes for the advisories including water main breaks, low system pressure, or system repairs. The Town works in conjunction with the Wastewater Treatment Facility Managers and DES in determining when to issue an advisory and when to lift one.

Councilman Lorenzo did the Second Reading of the Amendment to Town of Lamar 10.309 Trash & Debris Ordinance. The amendment states:

"The maximum width and length for limbs will be 3" (width) x 6" (length). The debris should be placed 4 feet from the road, but not near water and sewer lines. In addition, leaves, pine straw, and clippings must be placed in garbage bags near the debris pile; not in the trash roll carts."

Councilman Lorenzo made a motion to accept the amendment to Lamar Town Ordinance 10.309. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the amendment. The motion carried unanimously. The amendment is now in effect.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Police Department Report.

Councilwoman Jessica Myers submitted a written Business License Report. The Town collected \$4,646.26 in fees and issued three (3) new business licenses and renewed two (2) business licenses for the month of August 2026. The previous year to date amount collected in August 2025 was \$30,009.16 The year-to-date amount collected in August 2026 was \$34, 102.70. A difference of \$4,093.54. Councilwoman Myer stated that three (3) businesses have not renewed their licenses.

Councilman Keion Mack gave the Streets & Sanitation Report. He reported that there is a committee looking at refurbishing the flowerpots and trash cans on Main Street. Flowers have been donated to support beautification. Streetlight outages continue to be monitored and reported. A community clean up event is being planned and coordinated.

Councilwoman Myers spoke about the upcoming Harvest Hope Food Box Packing Event scheduled for September 23rd, and the Harvest Hope Food Box Giveaway scheduled for September 24th.

Mayor Lee emphasized the Town's gratitude for the joint effort between Darlington County and the Town of Lamar to secure a \$4,000, 000.00 State Grant to upgrade the Zion Wastewater Treatment Facility. She also thanked Jannie Lathan for securing a \$98,000.00 Grant to have solar panels installed on the top of Town Hall. Mayor Lee encouraged citizens to continue to call Darlington County Animal Control for stray dogs. As always, she reminded everyone to be cautious when driving through the Town. Be especially alert for potholes.

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

Mayor Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:01 pm.

Information recorded by Councilwoman Jessica Myers & Timothy L. Dargan

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan