

Linden Town Board Meeting December 16, 2025

Town Board Member Paul Buckles started meeting video recording

Town of Linden regular monthly meeting called to order by Town Board President Wade Bennett at 7:00 pm

Roll Call all present; Town Board President Wade Bennett, Town Board Member Paul Buckles, Town Board Member Chasity Surface, Clerk/Treasurer Janet Heide

Town Board President Wade Bennett presented Ordinance 2025-6 2026 Salary Ordinance for 2nd reading and adoption. Town Board Member Chasity Surface made a motion to accept and sign Ordinance 2025-6; Town Board Member Paul Buckles 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries

Town Board President Wade Bennett presented Water project change order #2 and PH claim #9 total invoice \$632,088.31 due for Board signature. Board reviewed project documents. Kent Elliott with Banning Engineering reported change order #2 information. Town Board Member Chasity Surface made a motion to accept and sign Water project change order #2 and Patterson Horth claim # 9 documents; Town Board Member Paul Buckles 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote; motion carries

Town Board President Wade Bennett presented Mitchell Agency 2026 policy for board approval. After discussion, Town Board Member Chasity Surface made a motion to accept and sign Mitchel Agency 2026 insurance policy; Town Board Member Paul Buckles 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries

Town Board President Wade Bennett presented 2026 Town Board meeting dates. After discussion, Town Board Member Paul Buckles made a motion to sign and accept 2026 meeting dates; Town Board Member Chasity Surface 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries,

Town Board President Wade Bennett presented 2026 Town Holiday closing dates. After discussion, Town Board Member Paul Buckles made a motion to sign and accept 2026 Holiday closing dates; Town Board Member Chasity Surface 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries,

Town Board President Wade Bennett presented 2026 Henthorn, Harris, Weliever & Hoff legal counsel agreement letter. Town Board President Wade Bennett read aloud, Town Board Member Paul Buckles made a motion to accept legal counsel agreement; Town Board Member Chasity Surface 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries,

Town Board President Wade Bennett presented updated Utility service agreement forms for Board approval. After discussion, utility office will provide a list of past due 30 day accounts for each board meeting

Town Board Member Paul Buckles wanted to thank Tipmont REMC for installing snowflakes on light poles through Main Street. Thank Street Superintendent Earl Heide and employee Rick Smith for snow removal, Thank Fire Department for Santa Clause ride through town streets Saturday, Thank Library for sign information, and requested update on bench arrival. Town Board President Wade Bennett stated still waiting.

Town Board Member Chasity Surface presented draft of no parking ordinance for High Street.

Town Clerk/Treasurer Janet Heide reported needing to upgrade utility computer for windows 11 compatibility for bank check scanner

Town Board Members discussed changes to utility office internet service

Town Board President Wade Bennett offered Rick Smith a full-time position with year salary \$65,000.00 and start date January 1st, 2026. Town Board Member Paul Buckles excluded himself from any action due to Rick Smith is his nephew. Town Board Member Chasity Surface made a motion to create full time position for Rick Smith and pay year salary of \$65,000.00. Town Board President Wade Bennett 2nd motion, Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, Town Board Member Chasity Surface Yea, Town Board Member Paul Buckles abstain from voting due to related, Town Board President Wade Bennett Yea; motion carries. Town Board President Wade Bennett stated need to discuss duties of position and salary funding and called for a meeting 4pm January 2nd in townhall meeting room. Town Board Member Paul Buckles made a motion to add Town Board meeting on January 2nd start time 4pm to finalize duties and set up salary funding to 2026 Town Board meeting date list; Town Board Member Chasity Surface 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries, Rick Smith accepted position

Utility Clerk Donna Cooper reported cash received for utility payments had unknown residue on bills. After discussion; Utility Superintendent Earl Heide requested to discuss with Town Marshal all possible options available

Clerk/Treasurer Janet Heide submitted the voucher register, for Board Members approval and signature. Board reviewed; Town Board Member Paul Buckles made a motion to accept and sign voucher register; Town Board Member Chasity Surface 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries

Clerk/Treasurer Janet Heide submitted prior meeting minutes for Board Member signature. Town Board Member Chasity Surface made a motion to accept and sign November 18, 2025, meeting minutes; Town Board Member Paul Buckles 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries

Town Board Member Paul Buckles stated Montgomery County news reported Dollar General has been approved and will be moving forward. Utility Superintendent Earl Heide stated Cargil has received their approval also and requested to move forward with utility service connections. Town Board Member Paul Buckles made a motion to approve utility service connections to Dollar General and Cargil; Town Board Member Chasity Surface 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries

Clerk/Treasurer Janet Heide submitted November 2025 monthly bank reconciled report and financial reports for board signature. Board Members accepted and signed

Town Board Member Paul Buckles made a motion to adjourn; Town Board Member Chasity Surface 2nd motion; Town Board President Wade Bennett called for a vote, motion carries, meeting adjourned 8:40pm

Linden Town Board Members:

Yea

Nay

Wade Bennett

Paul Buckles

Chasity Surface

Attested by:

Janet Heide, Clerk-Treasurer

transcribed December 21, 2025