Suppose $R$ is a ring with center $C$ and with nilpotents $N$, and suppose $J$ is the Jacobson radical of $R$. An element $x$ of $R$ is called potent if $x^n = x$ for some integer $n > 1$. $R$ is called weakly periodic-like if every $x \in R \setminus C$ can be written as a sum of a nilpotent element and a potent element of $R$. The following commutativity theorem of a certain class of weakly periodic-like rings is proved: If $R$ is a ring of prime characteristic $p$ and with central idempotents, and if $(N \cap J)$ is commutative and every element $x \in R \setminus C$ can be written in the form $x = a + b$, where $a$ is in $N$ and $b^p = b$, then $R$ is commutative. (Received August 14, 2007)