

**REGULAR MEETING
NEWBERN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN
AUGUST 20, 2024**

The Newbern Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session in the Board Meeting Room. Mayor Pam Mabry presiding. Aldermen present were Keith Hardin, Kim May, Randy Wolf, Mark Lamb and Tim Ware. Mayor Mabry read a scripture and asked Street Supervisor DJ Peery to open the meeting with prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Mabry asked if the Board of Mayor and Aldermen had reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. Alderman Wolf made a motion to approve the minutes and was seconded by Alderman May. All voted aye and the minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Recorder Roberts presented the monthly financial update.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Barr presented the monthly reports. Jay Whitley and Jarrod Wilcutt were presented as new hires.

PUBLIC WORKS

Monthly reports were submitted.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monthly status reports submitted. Nathan Ferguson presented as a new hire. Doug Tyler stated they were staffed at 21 firemen.

LIBRARY

None

ATTORNEY BILL

The Lannom Coronado bill of \$2,128.55 was reviewed by the board.

NEW BUSINESS

BID OPENING

BACKHOE

Recorder Roberts addressed the board and stated that a bid opening was conducted for the lease of backhoes for the Street and Underground Utility departments. The bids were as follows.

McKeel Equipment	\$2,194.28	
Stribling	\$1,066.93	Current
	\$2,184.61	310 P
	\$2,345.52	320 P

Century	\$2,291.67
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A motion was made by Alderman Lamb to approve the continued bid from Stripling and was seconded by Alderman Hardin. All voted aye and the motion carried.

GAS REGULATOR

Mayor Mabry stated that a bid opening was conducted for the gas regulator project. Two bids were submitted and were as follows:

Sullivan's Natural Gas	\$183,800.00
Consolidated Pipe	\$219,097.00

A motion was made by Alderman Ware to approve the low bid from Sullivan's and was seconded by Alderman Wolf. All voted aye and the motion carried.

DOWNTOWN FACADE GRANT

Mayor Mabry addressed the board and stated that multiple bids were let on the work to be performed on the applicant's properties on the downtown facade

grant. Mayor Mabry stated that bids were let to satisfy the grant requirements and that none of the proceeds were to come from City funds. A motion by Alderman Keith to approve the bids and was seconded by Alderman May. Discussion centered around bidding timelines and who applied. Alderman Hardin retracted his motion. After further discussion a motion was made by Alderman Lamb to approve the bids and was seconded by Alderman Ware. All voted aye and the motion carried.

LIBRARY RESOLUTION

Recorder Roberts read a resolution authorizing a Connected Communities Facilities Grant. This grant is in the amount of \$2,000,000 with a 10% match. Mayor Mabry stated that it was her desire to apply for this grant to hopefully replace the previously applied for library grant as this grant was larger and the match was less. A motion was made by Alderman May to approve the application and was seconded by Alderman Lamb. All voted aye and the motion carried.

LOT PURCHASE/SALE

Mayor Mabry addressed the board and stated the it was her desire to purchase two lots in the downtown area. The Judy Walker lot is to be acquired for \$18,500 which was in line with the appraised value. A motion was made by Alderman Ware and was seconded by Alderman Wolf. All voted and the motion carried.

The Glozier/Blessing lot is to be acquired for \$46,600. Recorder Roberts stated that the properties appraised for \$46,500 so the property was in line with the appraisal. A motion was made by Alderman Ware to approve the purchase upon a clean title opinion and was seconded by Alderman May. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Mayor Mabry requested the City sell a portion of the property on the Happy House site. Mayor Mabry stated that the property appraised for \$160,000 and we have entered into a sales contract of \$200,000 with Taco Bell. The purchaser would begin the erection of a Taco Bell restaurant upon closing. Roberts stated that he spoke with City Counsel about lack of bidding for the sale. City Attorney Lannom stated that with the sales price being much higher than appraised value, financial impact through tax revenue, job creation and economical development were qualifying exemptions from having a bid sale. A motion was made by Alderman Wolf to approve the sale and was seconded by Alderman Lamb. All voted aye and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Closing Comments:

Alderman May stated she was ready for cooler weather and appreciative of the city workers.

Alderman Lamb requested everyone enjoy the cool snap but the warmer weather would reappear.

Alderman Hardin thanked the employees and was excited about Taco Bell coming

Alderman Wolf was appreciative of the employees and reminded everyone to be mindful of the students and parents driving to school.

Alderman Ware announced that he had a new grand baby. The board gave an audible aww in congratulations.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mayor Mabry led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and adjourned the meeting by acclamation.

Pam Mabry, Mayor

Jason Roberts, City Recorder