

**REGULAR MEETING
NEWBERN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN
JANUARY 23, 2025**

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, Tim Ware, Kim May, Randy Wolf, Nicky Thomas and Chad Cunningham. Mayor Mabry read a scripture and asked Alderman Thomas 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 May made a motion to approve the minutes and was seconded by Alderman Ware. All voted aye and the minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Recorder Roberts presented the monthly financial update and stated that the State of Tn had contacted his office over a sales tax overpayment. Roberts stated that a business in Newbern had reported its annual sales tax information to the state in error. This caused the City to receive \$392,928.19 in error over a three year period. Roberts stated that he was negotiating with the state on repayment terms. Roberts stated he would report to the board what agreement had been reached.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Barr presented the monthly reports and stated that the department was looking to hire a traffic guard and thanked the Electric Department for their help in installing the traffic cameras.

PUBLIC WORKS

Monthly reports were submitted. The street department was thanked for their hard work during the recent snow storm.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monthly status reports submitted. Alderman May praised the fire department for their fast response to a recent house fire.

LIBRARY

None.

ATTORNEY BILL

The Lannom Coronado bill was reviewed by the board.

NEW BUSINESS

B-2 ZONING ORDINANCE 25-04

Recorder Roberts addressed the board concerning a text amendment to the Municipal planning Ordinance. Roberts stated that with the extensive work in downtown renovation, an ordinance was being submitted changing the B-2 section of the zoning ordinance. The verbiage is as follows:

7. Building materials allowed.
 - a. Buildings must be constructed out of approved building materials including brick, stone, concrete, glass and metal.
 - b. No more than thirty percent (30%) of the building shall be composed of metal. Any building materials not listed shall be prohibited.
 - c. Building design in the B-2 District must be approved by the Planning Commission to preserve the historic character of the downtown district.

Roberts stated that the Planning Commission had recommended the amendment to the full board. Roberts also stated that this was the first reading of the proposed ordinance and would require a public hearing and a second reading. After some discussion a motion was made by Alderman Wolf to approve the first reading and was seconded by Alderman May. All voted aye and the motion carried.

BID OPENING

A bid opening was conducted for the Splash pad project by the TLM, the City's design firm. Great Southern was the lowest and best bidder at \$1,549,871. on the splash pad components. ABES Contracting, LLC was the lowest and best bidder on the remaining work at the site with a bid of \$355,000. A motion was made by Ware to approve the bid from Great Southern and was seconded by Alderman Wolf. All voted aye and the motion carried. A motion was made by Alderman May to approve the bid from ABES and was seconded by Alderman Thomas. All voted aye and the motion carried.

UTILITY POLICY

Mayor Mabry addressed the board and stated her desire to review the policies on temporary turn-ons for property owners to activate utility service for a short time period without the need for a large deposit. Mayor Mabry also stated her desire to review the current leak policy and see if the policy could increase the amount of leak adjustments granted to customers throughout the year. After much discussion the board was directed to study the issues and we would discuss at a later date.

Closing Comments

Alderman Cunningham wished everyone a happy new year and stated his excitement on being a part of the board. Alderman Cunningham thanked the utility departments on their help on the recent house fire and stated that Newbern was here to thrive in 2025.

Alderman Ware stated his excitement about the splash pad.

Alderman May thanked the fire departments for their hard work.

Alderman Hardin echoed previous comments, thanked the departments for their continued hard work and praised the City Hall staff for all that they do.

Alderman Wolf stated his excitement about all the opportunities ahead of Newbern.

Alderman Thomas echoed previous comments and praised how good Newbern was looking.

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