

**REGULAR MEETING
NEWBERN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
APRIL 15, 2008
7:00 PM**

The Newbern Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in called session in the Board Meeting Room at the Newbern Municipal Building. Mayor K.W. Dennison presiding. Aldermen present were Mary Dycus, Bill Parks, Larry Fesmire, Kathy Clements and Robert Hart. Alderman Olen Parker was absent. Also present were Assistant City Recorder Jennifer Webb and Police Chief Harold Dunivant.

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Dennison called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked if the Board of Mayor and Aldermen had reviewed the minutes from the March 18th regular meeting. Alderman Hart made a motion to accept the minutes with Alderman Fesmire second. All voted aye and the minutes were approved.

VISITORS AND VISITOR BUSINESS

Mayor Dennison welcomed the visitors and asked if any had business to bring before the Board not on the agenda. There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

Rezoning on Hwy 77

Mayor Dennison told board members that City Recorder Jason Roberts had sent a letter to property owners on Hwy 77 who will be affected by the rezoning. There was no response from the homeowners.

NEW BUSINESS

Girl Scouts Clean-Up Day

Girl Scout Leader Ginny Parker told the Board of Mayor and Aldermen that Dyersburg and Dyer County are having their annual clean-up day on April 26, 2008. She said the City of Newbern is not included in the effort. Mrs. Parker said the Girl Scout are trying to do projects to earn points toward getting their Bronze Award and would like to have a clean-up day in the City of Newbern on May 17, 2008 from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. Mayor Dennison and other board members said it is a good project and offered their personal help and support. After some discussion, Mayor Dennison called for a vote. Alderman Hart motioned to approve the clean-up day. Alderman Clements second. All voted aye for approval.

Resolution 0801 – Amending Municipal Future Development Plan

Mayor Dennison said this Resolution essentially changed the map to follow the Ordinance approved by the board to rezone property along Hwy 77. This has already been voted on and approved by the Planning Commission and the City Board needs to vote on it to make it official. Alderman Hart made a motion to

dispense another reading of Resolution 0801 and approve it as read. Alderman Fesmire second. All voted aye to approve.

First Reading of Ordinance 0803 – Planning Commission By-Laws

Mayor Dennison said last year the State mandated that the Planning Commission members be changed from 9 to 10 members and two of them not reside inside the city limits but do reside in the regional development zone. The mayor said the members are in place both this Ordinance has to be passed. Mayor Dennison called for Assistant City Recorder, Jennifer Webb to read Ordinance 0803. After the completion of the reading, Alderman Fesmire motioned to pass the first reading. Alderman Parks second. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

S T ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Randy Gregory addressed the Board and stated that the construction group has checked the influent pumps and made adjustments. To date, the adjustments have corrected problem areas.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Harold Dunivant reported that he is having trouble finding a Police Officer to fill the vacant position. He said he has had someone to apply that qualifies. This person is a relative of one of his officers and the city has a nepotism policy. Mayor Dennison said he had contacted City Attorney John Lannom concerning this matter and said John does not have a problem with us hiring this officer. He said it is John's opinion, this being a small town, and due to past similar concerns, it may be necessary to hire a relative of an employee at some point and maybe this part of the handbook needs to be rewritten. Alderman Dycus expressed her concern about going against city policy to fit the situation. Alderman Hart motioned to approve hiring the officer. Alderman Fesmire second. Alderman Hart, Parks, Fesmire, and Clements voted aye. Alderman Dycus voted nay. Motion passed.

Police Chief Dunivant also said the new police car will be in Monday.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Super visor Steve Dodds told the board that for some time the old loader at the Landfill needed replacing. He said we had the opportunity to purchase a D-8 CAT Dozer for \$8,000 under the recommended selling price. He said they have been using this Dozer but had to purchase it in order to keep it. He also said there has been an offer made to purchase the old Dozer. Super visor Steve Dodds also reported that for some time his department has had trouble with people putting curb-side back out after they have been down that street. This makes the town look bad and causes extra work, taking time form other jobs they need to do. Mayor Dennison said efforts in the past have failed to correct this problem and we will probably have to site people to Court and see if that will help. The mayor said there is an Ordinance that supports this process. Police

Chief Dunivant said all Steve will have to do is sign a summons when this happens, they will then site these individual in to court.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

None

GAS DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

WATER & SEWER REPORT

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dennison reported that Utilities Office Manager Rosalind Green is not present tonight due to her daughter's participation in the top 10% academic program. He also said his class, Class of 1958, is getting ready to have their 50th year class reunion. They have planned several events for that weekend in May and will also attend Church Services that Sunday Morning.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:40 p.m., there being no further business to discuss Alderman Fesmire made a motion to adjourn with Alderman Hart second. All voted aye and the meeting was adjourned.

VISITORS PRESENT

Dan Post, Sandy Hill, Doug Tyler, Greg Barr, Ginny Parker with 4 Girl Scouts, and Steve Dodds.

K.W. Dennison

K.W. Dennison, Mayor

Jennifer Webb
Jennifer Webb, Asst. City
Recorder