

**REGULAR MEETING
NEWBERN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
AUGUST 19, 2008
7:00 PM**

The Newbern Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session in the Board Meeting Room at the Newbern Municipal Building. Mayor K.W. Dennison presiding. Aldermen present were Mary Dycus, Bill Parks, Olen Parker, Larry Fesmire, Kathy Clements and Robert Hart. Also present were City Recorder Jason Roberts, Utilities Office Manager Rosalind Green 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 Alderman Fesmire to open with a prayer. Mayor Dennison asked if the Board of Mayor and Aldermen had reviewed the minutes from the July 24 Regular Meeting. Alderman Parks made a motion to approve the minutes with Alderman Fesmire second. All voted aye and the minutes were approved.

WELCOME VISITORS AND VISITOR BUSINESS

Mayor Dennison welcomed all visitors and asked if any had business to bring before the board. There were none.

DYERSBURG PONYTAILS

Mayor K.W. Dennison addressed the board and recognized the Dyersburg Ponytails and their amazing run to the Dixie Girls Softball World Series Championship. Mayor Dennison read a proclamation recognizing the team's accomplishments and presented the players and coaches with a copy of the proclamation and a key to the city.

OLD BUSINESS

Time Clocks - City Recorder Roberts addressed the board and stated he had contacted Dyersburg and they were pleased with the time clocks they had implemented. Mr. Roberts stated that he has located the company contracted by Dyersburg and would make contact with them.

NEW BUSINESS

HOME GRANT

Mayor Dennison addressed the board and presented the request of Nelson and Thornton to re-apply for the home grant. Mayor Dennison stated that this company applied for us in 2007 and we missed out by a slight margin. Alderman Parker made a motion to allow Nelson and Thornton to apply for the home grant on behalf of the city with Alderman Parks second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

ZONING ORDINANCE 09/02

Mayor Dennison addressed the board about ordinance 09/02 which would rezone property on East Johnson St. from R-2 to R-4. Mayor Dennison spoke on the location of the property in question. City Recorder Roberts read the ordinance to the board. Alderman Parker made a motion to approve the reading with Alderman Parks second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

ELECTRIC BID OPENING

Sandy addressed the board about the bid opening for the new bucket truck and tree trimming. Mr. Hill stated he had used both companies before and were very pleased with their products and services. Alderman Parks made a motion to approve the bid from Utility Equipment Services to purchase the bucket truck with Alderman Hart second. All voted aye and the motion carried. A motion was made by Alderman Hart to approve the bid from Eaves tree trimming with Alderman Fesmire second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

PROPERTY SALE

City Recorder Roberts stated that Mr. Beard made an offer of \$2,500.00 to purchase the lot near York and the train tracks. Mr. Beard did not want to pay for an appraisal. Alderman Parker made a motion to wait on the sale of the property with Alderman Parks second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

S T ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Randy Gregory addressed the Board and stated that there were no problems and presented a good report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Harold Dunivant requested permission to hire a part time dispatcher to replace the one that is leaving. Alderman Fesmire made a motion to approve the hire with Alderman Hart second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Steve Dodds stated that a local company had been hired to fix holes in the city streets.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

Sandy Hill addressed the Board and requested permission to hire Terry Cranford to fill the opening in his department. Mr. Hill stated that Mr. Cranford has worked for the City before and he was more than capable of performing the duties required. Alderman Hart made a motion to approve the hire with Alderman Parks second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Utilities Office Manager Rosalind Green addressed the board and stated that she had received notification from TVA that the electric rates would need to be increased 17 to 20%. Alderman Parks asked if the city had to pass this increase on to the customers or if the city could absorb some of the increase. Mrs. Green stated the board was not required to pass the increase along but felt that the electric department would suffer if required to absorb the increase. The ability of a department to accrue surplus funds will aide in the event of a disaster.

TVA ADJUSTMENT

Rosalind Green stated that TVA had passed on a 2% rate increase to the City of Newbern. Alderman Hart made a motion to approve the increase with Alderman Fesmire second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

GAS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mrs. Green addressed the board and stated that gas had been purchased for the months of September and October for \$8.23. This is the same price that was paid last year. If gas dips further then the major purchase will be made.

WATER & SEWER REPORT

Richard Mills absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dennison stated that he had received a letter from the state announcing the approval of our grant application for the parks and recreation department.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:45 p.m., there being no further business to discuss Alderman Fesmire made a motion to adjourn with Alderman Parks second. All voted aye and the meeting was adjourned.

VISITORS PRESENT

Dan Post, Sandy Hill, Doug Tyler, Philip Cottrell, Randy Gregory, Steve Dodds, James Wilkerson, Janice Peevyhouse, Wendi Mills, Dyersburg Ponytails-players-parents and coaches, Jeff Harrison, and Glen Campbell.



K.W. Dennison, Mayor

Jason Roberts, City Recorder