

**PUBLIC HEARING  
NEWBERN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
JANUARY 20, 2009  
6:00 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 Bill Parks, Larry Fesmire, Kathy Clements, Robert Hart, Bennie Greene and Chris Odom. Also present were City Recorder Jason Roberts, Utilities Office Manager Rosalind Greene and Police Chief Harold Dunivant.

**CMOM PROGRAM**

Mayor Dennison called the meeting to order and stated that the purpose of the called meeting was to discuss the state mandated CMOM program. City Attorney John Lannom addressed the board and citizens and began the annual public information session which is required by state directive. Mr. Lannom gave those in attendance a synopsis of the Newbern Sewer system from its inception through the current order of correction. Mr. Lannom also addressed our plan of correction. This plan includes a major renovation to the West Main St. Sewer system. Property owners on the Northern and Southern sides of West Main will be affected by the renovation. Mr. Lannom fielded questions from the citizens in attendance on what disruptions could be expected and the expected time frame.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

**REGULAR MEETING  
NEWBERN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
JANUARY 20, 2009  
7:00 PM**

**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 November 18 regular meeting. Alderman Fesmire made a motion to accept the minutes with Alderman Hart second. All voted aye and the minutes were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSNIESS**

**07-08 AUDIT REPORT**

Kevin Howell of ATACPA addressed the Board of Mayor and Alderman and presented the Audit of the City of Newbern. Mr. Howell presented an unqualified report to the Board and stated the City of Newbern was in sound financial condition. Mr. Howell addressed the findings that his company uncovered and the plans the City of Newbern has submitted to address these findings. Mr. Howell stated that the findings were not major problems but his team felt compelled to include them to allow the Board of Mayor and Alderman and City of Newbern management an opportunity to address them.

#### **FIRST READING - ORDINANCE 09-04**

Mayor Dennison addressed the Board and asked if the members have had a chance to review Ordinance 09-04. Mayor Dennison stated that the proposed Ordinance would rezone property along Fryer Street from R-2 to R-4. Alderman Fesmire requested that City Recorder Roberts read aloud the proposed ordinance. After much discussion Alderman Parks made a motion to approve the first reading with Alderman Clements second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

#### **FIRST READING - ORDINANCE 09-05**

Mayor Dennison addressed the Board and asked if the members have had a chance to review Ordinance 09-05. Mayor Dennison stated that the proposed Ordinance would rezone the Harpers Market building from B-1 to R-2. Alderman Parks made a motion to suspend the first reading and approve the proposed ordinance with Alderman Clements second. All voted aye and the motion to suspend and approve carried.

#### **PAVING BID OPENING**

City Recorder Roberts presented the board with the street paving bid received from Ford construction. The bid came in at \$94.00 per ton. Street Dpt. Supervisor Steve Dodds stated this amount was higher than he had hoped. Alderman Parks asked if we should wait on accepting the bid in hopes of asphalt decreasing in price. After much discussion a motion was made by Alderman Hart to approve the bid with Alderman Fesmire second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

#### **S T ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

Randy Gregory addressed the Board and gave a report of events since November. Randy stated that problems had occurred on the clarifier and sludge press roller. Mr. Gregory states cold weather made it difficult to operate.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Phillip Cottrell addressed the Board and spoke on the dilapidated condition of the Fire House. Mr. Cottrell requested permission from the board to approach property owners on 77 Hwy and Williams Street about purchasing sites for a Fire/Police station. A motion was made by Alderman Hart to approve with Alderman Parks second. All voted aye and the motion carried. Mr. Cottrell also stated that he would be appearing before County Commission and requesting that they buy a tanker truck for the NFD.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Police Chief Harold Dunivant stated that the NPD had applied for a grant of \$5,000 through the Governors Hwy Safety Program. Said proceeds will go toward the purchase of car cameras. Chief Dunivant also spoke on the agreement to allow Westate to act as the Probation officer for the Newbern Court. Chief Dunivant stated this was a six month trial with Westate to feel them out.

None

#### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT**

#### **STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Street Supervisor Steve Dodds stated the grant proceeds for the oil stove had arrived and reminded everyone to bring their used motor oil. Alderman Hart spoke on the Street Shop break-in. Alderman Hart stated that the fencing guarding the shop was in poor condition. Alderman Hart stated his wish to see the fence repaired.

#### **ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT**

Electric Supervisor Sandy Hill addressed the board and stated that everything was routine. Utilities Office Manager presented the board with the current budget numbers.

None

#### **GAS DEPARTMENT REPORT**

#### **WATER & SEWER REPORT**

Water Supervisor Richard Mills requested permission to hire the two members of his sewer crew that he has lost. A motion was made by Alderman Fesmire to approve the hire with Alderman Greene second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Dennison addressed the board and thanked the new Alderman for their work so far. Mayor Dennison also thanked the citizens of Newbern and the City Employees for their participation in the Essary Funeral procession. Mayor Dennison stated that the turnout was moving. Mayor Dennison stated that the CMOM project was a huge priority. Mayor Dennison stated that much had been accomplished so far but much remained. Mayor Dennison then addressed the Board and asked its feeling on the hiring of a Public Works Director. This brought on much discussion on whether or not the City could afford to fill the position at this time. Mayor Dennison said he had been approached by four different individuals interested in the position. After much discussion Mayor Dennison asked Alderman Clements, Greene and Hart to sit on a committee to study the Public Works Director position.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:15 p.m., there being no further business to discuss Alderman Fesmire made a motion to adjourn with Alderman Clements second. All voted aye and the meeting was adjourned.

#### **VISITORS PRESENT**

Dan Post, Sandy Hill, Doug Tyler, Philip Cottrell, Randy Gregory, Steve Dodds, Richard Mills, James Wilkerson, Janice Peevyhouse, Main Street Property Owners, Glen Campbell, John Lannom, Christine Coronado, Que Ann Tran, Harold Wright and Tommy Wright.



K.W. Dennison, Mayor



Jason Roberts, City Recorder