

**REGULAR MEETING
NEWBERN BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
APRIL 21, 2009
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 Bill Parks, 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.

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Dennison called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and opened the meeting with a prayer. Mayor Dennison asked if the Board of Mayor and Aldermen had reviewed the minutes from the March 17 regular and called meeting. Alderman Hart made a motion to accept the minutes with Alderman Odom second. All voted aye and the minutes were approved.

VISITORS AND VISITOR BUSINESS

Mayor Dennison welcomed all visitors and requested anyone with items not on the agenda to approach the board with these items. There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

BID OPENING

Rosalind Green addressed the board and stated that bids were solicited and have been received on Sludge Hauling and the Waste Water Treatment Plant contract. Mrs. Green stated that all bids were turned into the City Attorney and the City Engineer for clarification. The information will be disseminated after further inspection.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 09-07

Mayor Dennison addressed the board concerning proposed Ordinance 09-07. Mayor Dennison stated that the ordinance would change the zoning from R-2 to R-O. Mayor Dennison welcomed Kim Leggett to the podium. Mrs. Leggett presented the board with her business plan and her reason for the rezoning request. City Recorder Roberts read Ordinance 09-07 to the board. A motion was made by Alderman Hart to approve the first reading and was seconded by Alderman Parks. All voted aye and the motion carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Dennison addressed the board concerning budget committee appointments. Mayor Dennison stated that budget time was upon us and the committee would need to meet with the various departments concerning their respective budgets. Mayor Dennison proposed the following committees:

Fire - Police - Recreation / Alderman Greene and Fesmire
Street - Water / Alderman Clements and Hart
Electric - Gas / Alderman Parks and Odom

A motion was made Alderman Hart to approve the appointments and was seconded by Alderman Clements. All voted aye and the appointments carried.

S T ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Randy Gregory addressed the Board and presented a good report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Harold Dunivant had nothing to report. Alderman Hart stated his concerns on the lack of crossing guards present at the school entrances. Harold Dunivant addressed the concern and assured the board that either a crossing guard or an officer will be present during the appropriate hours.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

Dan presented the board with a revised fee schedule for the Parks and Recreation department. Dan stated that the fees charged by his department had not been raised in several years. The proposed rates, while not significant, would bring the Parks Department to a level more competitive with adjacent areas. A motion was made by Alderman Clements to approve the rate increase with Alderman Hart second. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Mayor Dennison addressed the Board concerning the Newbern Depot. Mayor Dennison stated that the City currently employed an individual on the weekends to act as a tour guide. Mayor Dennison stated that the number of individuals visiting the Depot had diminished over the years. Mayor Dennison felt that this number does not justify the employment. Mayor Dennison recommended allowing Parks Director Dan Post to open and close the Depot as needed. A motion was made by Alderman Clements removing the tour guide position and letting those interested in seeing the Depot, scheduling an appointment with Mr. Post. The motion was seconded by Alderman Parks. All voted aye and the motion carried. Mayor Dennison and the Board thanked Brother Butler for his years of service to the City.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Street Supervisor Steve Dodds addressed the board concerning curbside trash pickup. Mr. Dodds stated that he and Recorder Roberts had been throughout the city taking pictures of residents who had taken trash to the street for pickup immediately following curbside week. Mr. Dodds stated that curbside was only to be placed at the road on the weekend before the first Monday of each month. Recorder Roberts addressed the board and explained the current ordinance and its penalties. A motion was made by Alderman Clements to be more vigilant in

our efforts of enforcing the current ordinance and was seconded by Alderman Hart. All voted aye and the motion carried.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

None

GAS DEPARTMENT REPORT

None

WATER & SEWER REPORT

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dennison addressed the board and requested approval for appointing John Gentry to the Planning Commission. A Motion was made by Alderman Hart and seconded by Alderman Parks to approve the appointment. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Mayor Dennison stated that despite the rumors going around, Depot Days will commence this year as always.

Mayor Dennison reminded everyone about the Great American Clean Up day on April 25. Mayor Dennison thanked everyone in advance for their efforts.

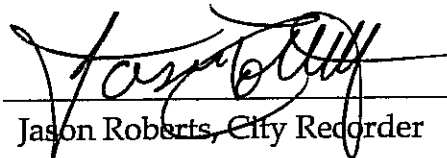
Mayor Dennison addressed the board and requested approval of Kathy Clements as Vice Mayor. A motion was made by Alderman Hart to approve the appointment and was seconded by Alderman Parks. All voted aye and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50 p.m., there being no further business to discuss Alderman Hart made a motion to adjourn with Alderman Clements second. All voted aye and the meeting was adjourned.



K.W. Dennison, Mayor



Jason Roberts, City Recorder