

**The Town of Newborn  
Council Meeting  
Minutes  
August 7, 2023**

Present: Mayor Ellwanger, MPT Krieger, CP Williamson, CP Spitler, Clerk Elisa Rowe, Attorney Joe Reitman (CP Bratton absent)

Citizens: Jack Kinley, Susan Oliveto, Durrant Dobbs, Micheal Caw, Beryl Budd

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7pm

**II. INVOCATION:**

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Lead by Mayor Ellwanger

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> council meeting:** MPT Krieger made a motion to approve the July 10<sup>th</sup> council meeting minutes.

**Motion: MPT Krieger**

**Second: CP Spitler**

**Approved: 4-0-0**

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Expand parking lot: Jason Baker with Con-South has submitted a bid in the amount of \$10,920.00.** Mayor Ellwanger stated that he would like to talk to Maintenance Supervisor Larry Clement regarding this bid and the amount of parking spaces and would like to table until the next meeting. CP Williamson made a motion to table this agenda item until the September meeting.

**Motion: CP Williamson**

**Second: CP Spitler**

**Approved: 4-0-0**

**B. Bids received for clean-up of 123 Porter Street:**

**a. TJC Maintenance: \$2000.00 – will also remove vehicles with a truck, requests towns authorization for that. His bid will not increase even with removing the vehicles, he just asks for the Town’s authorization.**

**b. Everything Must Go Junk Removal LLC - \$13,250.00**

Attorney Joe Reitman stated that it would be advisable to leave the vehicles on the property at this time. MPT Krieger asked why there is such a huge difference between the two bids. Clerk Elisa Rowe read the description of the two bids and the higher bid gives more detail on the clean-up. Attorney Joe Reitman advised to see if Code Enforcement officer Juan Irwin could attend the next meeting and give some detail into what each bid stated they would clean up and remove. MPT Krieger made a motion to table until the September meeting to get more detail on clean up description.

**Motion: MPT Krieger**

**Second: CP Williamson**

**Approval: 4-0-0**

## VI. NEW BUSINESS:

**A. Beryl Budd: Grant for purchase of trees for Arbor Day:** Mayor Ellwanger recognized Beryl Budd to discuss grant. Beryl stated that he had applied for this same grant for City of Oxford and they were able to get 3-gallon potted trees and gave them out at the Arbor Day event. Beryl went on to state that what he is proposing for the Town of Newborn is to have Arbor Day on February 24, 2024 and plan for it to be like it was before 2020, with food and music at the schoolhouse. Beryl stated that the grant money would reimburse the Town for the purchase of 165 3-gallon potted trees. The upfront cost would be \$2111.00 for the trees and of course the Town would get the money back from the grant. Beryl also recommends having 12 signs made up to put in neighborhoods to let everyone know about the Arbor Day and that costs would be around \$125.00. Beryl added that he would need a letter from the Town stating that the Mayor & Council approve him writing the grant and will purchase the trees upfront. MPT Krieger stated that he has him sold and made a motion to approve Beryl writing the grant and the purchase of the trees and signs.

**Motion: MPT Krieger**

**Second: CP Spitler**

**Approved: 4-0-0**

**B. Durant Dobbs would like to increase his property size at 114 Field Street (currently 1.04 acres) by 14,000 square feet which would decrease the property at 112 Field Street (currently 1.0 acres) by the same amount. Mr. Dobbs has submitted a variance for the request. Properties are zoned RE-2.** Mayor Ellwanger recognized Durrant Dobbs to discuss his property. Mr. Dobbs stated that he owns the home at 114 Field Street and he would like to increase his property by 14,000 square feet and decrease the property at 112 Field Street by that amount. His brother-in-law is purchasing the property at 112 Field Street and is due to close on it in two weeks. He will be having the property financed and he needs to know if he will be financing 1.0 acres (as it is now) or a smaller lot with the decrease of 14,000 square feet. Attorney Joe Reitman stated that there would be no issue increasing his property by 14,000 square feet, but the issue is in decreasing the property at 112 Field Street as it is already non-conforming by the current zoning ordinance. The best that can be done would be to apply for a variance and the next meeting is not until September 11<sup>th</sup> (due to the Labor Day holiday). Mr. Dobbs stated that creates an issue as his brother-in-law is scheduled to close in two weeks. Attorney Reitman asked if there is any way they could put off the closing and the Town could hold a special called meeting. A notice would be required to run in the newspaper at least 15 days prior to the meeting and also a sign would need to be posted on the property. Attorney Joe Reitman stated that the earliest a meeting could be scheduled (with all requirements met) would be Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Reitman added that if the Mayor & Council would prefer, they could also hold the September meeting along with the special called meeting since the September meeting would be running a week behind. The Mayor & Council agreed to hold the September meeting along with the special called meeting in August.

**C. Invoice 850.11956 in the amount of \$2050.00 for Lambert, Reitman & Abney:**  
Attorney Joe Reitman stated that this invoice is billed for two months. CP Spitler made a motion to approve invoice 850.11956 in the amount of #2050.00.  
**Motion: CP Spitler**  
**Second: MPT Krieger**  
**Approved: 4-0-0**

**D. Newborn is now part of the Archway Community:** Mayor Ellwanger stated that the Town of Newborn is now a part of the Archway Community and it will receive help with projects from the University of Georgia.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Ellwanger adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm  
**Motion: CP Williamson**  
**Second: CP Spitler**  
**Approved: 4-0-0**