

**The Town of Newborn
Council Meeting
Minutes
January 8, 2024**

Present: Mayor Ellwanger, CP Bratton, CP Spitler, CP Williamson, Clerk Elisa Rowe (MPT Krieger and Attorney Joe Reitman absent)
Citizens: Michael Caw and David Norton

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ellwanger called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

II. INVOCATION:

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Lead by Mayor Ellwanger

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 4th Council Meeting:

CP Bratton made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 4th council meeting.

Motion: CP Bratton

Second: CP Spitler

Approved: 4-0-0

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Shon Frazier @ 126 Spring Street: Home owner would like to split property-currently zoned RE-1 and would like to rezone to R-2: Shon Frazier did not attend meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Elect Mayor Pro Tem for 2024:

(Per Code of Ordinance: "At the first regular meeting each year, the Mayor and Council shall elect one of their number, Mayor Pro Tempore, who shall serve a term of one year. If a vacancy occurs, said vacancy shall be filled by the Mayor and Council in its entirety for the unexpired term). CP

Williamson made a motion to appoint Tom Krieger as Mayor Pro Tem

Motion: CP Williamson

Second: CP Bratton

Approved: 4-0-0

B. Re-appointment of:

1. Town Attorney – Joe Reitman: CP Spitler made a motion to reappoint Joe Reitman as Town Attorney.

Motion: CP Spitler

Second: CP Bratton

Approved: 4-0-0

2. CPA – Diana Crawford: CP Bratton made a motion to reappoint Diana Crawford as Town CPA

Motion: CP Bratton

Second: CP Williamson

Approved: 4-0-0

3. Town Clerk – Elisa Rowe: CP Williamson made a motion to reappoint Elisa Rowe as Town Clerk

Motion: CP Williamson

Second: CP Bratton

Approved: 4-0-0

4. Assistant Clerk – Leata Sears: CP Spitler made a motion to reappoint Leata Sears as assistant clerk.

Motion: CP Spitler

Second: CP Bratton

Approved: 4-0-0

5. Second Assistant Clerk – Jaye Henderson: CP Bratton made a motion to reappoint Jaye Henderson as second assistant clerk

Motion: CP Bratton

Second: CP Williamson

Approved: 4-0-0

- C. Resolution for the adoption of Newborn’s Comprehensive Plan:** The Town of Newborn’s **Comprehensive Plan Update was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures.** Clerk Elisa Rowe stated that the required last meeting for the Comprehensive Plan was on December 6th at 6pm and that all requirements have been met. The last step is for the resolution to be signed. CP Williamson made a motion to approve the signing of the resolution for the Town of Newborn’s Comprehensive Plan.
- Motion:** CP Williamson
- Second:** CP Bratton
- Approved:** 4-0-0
- D. Grant for Trail/park:** Mayor Ellwanger stated that NEGRC has sent information regarding the GA Department of Natural Resources Recreation Trails Program and that this is a grant that can provide up to \$200,000 in funding for recreational trails/trail-related facilities. Mayor Ellwanger added that the Town would need to create a Complete Streets & Trail Plan, which would outline priority trails and sidewalks as well as cost estimates and NEGRC can help with the process along with the application. The cost would be in the \$1000-\$2000 range. The application process starts next month and closes on March 31, 2024. Mayor Ellwanger stated that the Trails Association may have monies left after they cross the Alcovy river that could be put toward the trail in Newborn and there is also SPLOST money available. Clerk Elisa Rowe stated that the American Rescue Funds can also be used. CP Bratton made a motion to approve working with NEGRC and pay between \$1000-\$2000 for their help with the application process of creating a Complete Streets & Trail Plan.
- Motion:** CP Bratton
- Second:** CP Williamson
- Approved:** 4-0-0
- E. An ordinance adding Section 11-104: Stopping, Standing and Parking of the Code of Ordinance.** Mayor Ellwanger stated that GDOT requires the Town to have an ordinance in place for any work to be done in front of town hall, which includes, but not limited to painting/stripping and installing “turtle shells” to keep people from parking in the front of Town Hall. Clerk Elisa Rowe stated that tonight is the first reading and the second reading will be at the February 5th council meeting to adopt the addition to the ordinance of Section 11-104. CP Spitler made a motion to approve the first reading of Section 11-104 to the Code of Ordinance; Stop, Standing and Parking.
- Motion:** CP Spitler
- Second:** CP Bratton
- Approved:** 4-0-0

F. Arbor Day will be on Saturday, February 24th 11AM-1PM at the schoolhouse. Free lunch from Mansfield Marketplace, music and tree climbing. Yellow Poplar and Northern Red Oak seedlings and established trees (several varieties in 3-gallon buckets) Mayor Ellwanger stated that Arbor Day will be held at the schoolhouse on Saturday, February 24th. Clerk Elisa Rowe added that we will be going back to the way it was before Covid, with the free lunch, tree climbing and music. Mayor Ellwanger encouraged everyone to attend if they can. Citizen David Norton stated that he is a member of the tree board and not only will there be seedlings available, but established trees in a gallon bucket with several varieties made available to the public (one each).

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Ellwanger adjourned the meeting at 7:25pm

Motion: CP Williamson

Second: CP Bratton

Approved: 4-0-0