

Town of Mount Olive
April 7, 2025
Regular Board Meeting
Minutes

Mayor Jerome Newton called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Those in attendance per roll call were Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay, Commissioner Delreese Simmons, Commissioner Danny Keel, Commissioner Tommy Brown, Commissioner Vicky Darden, Town Attorney Carroll Turner, Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland and Town Clerk/Administrative Assistant Sherry Davis.

Mayor Jerome Newton delivered the invocation and Commissioner Vicky Darden led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Jerome Newton read the Conflict-of-Interest Statement; there were no conflicts.

Mayor Jerome Newton stated it is our intent to have a non-eventful board meeting. There will be no outbursts or attacking the staff or the Board of Commissioners. He asked the Board of Commissioners to be respectful of each other. He reminded everyone in order to speak you must be recognized by the chair. He commented to the Board of Commissioners to address issues with other board members outside of the meeting. We need to work together we have been divided far too long. He advised anyone who attacks someone else may be removed.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the published agenda. Commissioner Delreese Simmons stated he would like to make a motion to add an action item. He would like to discuss the issue with the dirty water coming from the Gordon Street Plant. He said we need to find the funding to complete these repairs. Mayor Jerome Newton requested a second. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion to add Action - Memo 04-34 passed 5-0. Mayor Jerome Newton then requested a motion to remove Action-Memo 04-30 Consider Approval of Housing Authority Resolution Appointing Erin Lambert as Executive Director. Mayor Jerome Newton stated that is the decision of the Housing Authority Board. Commissioner Danny Keel made the motion to remove Action-Memo 04-30. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the March 3, 2025, Regular Board Meeting with the exception of some typographical errors. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion to approve. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then opened the public forum. He advised everyone to remember there is a three- minute time limit. There will be no attacking the Board of Commissioners or staff and no outbursts from the audience.

Mrs. Jerilyn Lee of 189 Lee's Country Club Road, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-658-2978 advised Rashonte Pettit and Tia Best are two women she is familiar with. Explain why their names were published in the newspaper. Did they try to deny or delete anything? She wanted to know if anyone asked what happened. She commented it was an unpaid water bill and that's all it was. They did not delete or alter any information. Mrs. Lee stated she would let her electricity be turned off before her water. She wanted someone to please explain the error in the system. Mrs. Lee said that Human Resources was skipped, and Ms. Best and Ms. Pettit were not offered a grievance hearing. Their names have been dragged through the mud. There are no job descriptions and one of the Board of Commissioners, Human Resources and/or the Town Attorney discussed this with the newspaper. Mrs. Lee advised this is an OSHA violation. She said this is an internal matter. She never knew Wayne County Attorney Bordon Parker to the newspaper. Mayor Jerome Newton advised Mrs. Lee that her three minutes are up. She responded there are a couple of more things she would like to say. These two women have been tarnished even though they have never done anything before. She is disappointed and feels their records should be cleared.

Ms. Tatetia Robinson of 102 Dora Lane, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-920-3853 stated in March of 2024 she requested that her road be named for easier access to Emergency Services. One week later former Town Manager Jammie Royall provided her with the form she needed, and the process was completed. She discussed the paving of her street with Mr. Royall, and he was working on and estimate. Looking at tonight's agenda and the Town Manager's Report, her street seems to have been removed from the list. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland responded that she could come by his office to discuss it. He stated it has not been removed; it is just not listed in the first round of paving. She said that she was hurt to see it removed because Mr. Royall advised the funding was there.

Mr. Joe Hatch of 501 West James Street, Mount Olive, NC, 28365 919-252-8631 stated there have been a couple of new houses built in the past two months. There is sewer in the driveway. This is not up to code; the sewer cleanout needs to be level with the ground. He asked if the water project is replacing the water meters. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland responded yes.

Mayor Jerome Newton thanked everyone for their comments and closed the public forum.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Non-Action-Memo 04-23 – Presentation from Don Willis with Goldsboro Wayne Transportation Authority. Mr. Don Willis, Executive Director of the Goldsboro Wayne Transportation Authority (Gateway) discussed the Mount Olive Bus Services Route. The Town reached out to GWTA about seven years ago and that is when the fixed route started. He advised it is a fixed route, and most riders are between the ages of 58 and 88 years old. Two-thirds or riders are female. This service makes it easy for citizens to get around when they have no other mode of transportation and/or handicapped. Most riders use the service for grocery shopping, medical appointments and going out to eat. Most feel they have no other alternatives, some of their friends have moved away and others do not want to burden their friends. We provide translation cards for riders who do not speak English.

Mr. Don Willis commented he knows it is budget time, and he wanted to make sure everyone knows how important this service is to our community. The cost is \$4,200.00, half is paid by a grant and the Town of Mount Olive is responsible for the other half. Please note there has been no increase in price in the seven years of the route. He explained there were 1,639 trips last year. From July 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024 there were 1,017 trips. Mr. Don Willis stated that there needs to be 2,700 or better. The cost of the service is \$1.00 per rider in town and \$3.00 per rider to Goldsboro. Elderly riders pay half of these amounts.

He said that even though it is a fixed route, they can deviate to pick up people at home. There are three connectors to Goldsboro and sometimes four. He stated a high schooler used this service to get back and forth to Wayne Community College. He thanked everyone for their time and asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay asked if the 2,700 is riders or trips. Mr. Don Willis replied trips and we can make modifications to continue. Mayor Jerome Newton wanted to know if there is an average number of riders and if the price is \$1.00 or \$.50. Mr. Don Willis responded we track by fares not individual riders. Mayor Jerome Newton said he would be curious to know. Mr. Don Willis advised he will see what he can do.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed 04-24- Presentation from the North Carolina Pickle Festival Committee. Mrs. Lynn Williams stated April is a big month for the North Carolina Pickle Festival. Ms. Julie Beck said there will be three events going on Friday night. Carnival Rides for \$15.00 each, the 5K Cuke Patch Glow Run and Spare Change will be playing at R&R Brewery. Mrs. Lynn Williams advised that Saturday is a full day. They plan to focus on the Pickle themed foods, arts and crafts, four stages with live entertainment and a petting zoo. There will be improved safety and more parking this year. Last year was our largest crowd.

Mrs. Lynn Williams and Ms. Julie Beck are planning to attend a parking summit on April 15, 2025, they will have more details after that. They will be focusing on safety, the New Orleans attack is on their mind and they are working with police, fire and EMS. They will prohibit any vehicles from coming in. They were unable to come to an agreement with the car show participants, so there will not be one this year. They are partnering with Wayne County Public Schools this year and will have more free shuttles. Residents have expressed concerns about people parking on both sides of the street. There will be additional no parking signs this year. They have been working diligently since last year.

The North Carolina Pickle Festival Committee has been working with Mayor Jerome Newton, Commissioner Delreese Simmons, Interim Town Manager and Julie Beck regarding a partnership. It is helpful to understand each other's issues. She appreciates the opportunity. Mrs. Lynn Williams asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Jerome Newton asked if they should finalize the Memorandum of Agreement and if they had a date to come back together. Mrs. Lynn Williams replied they should be ready within one week.

Mayor Jerome Newton then requested a motion to go into Public Hearing:

1. Recommendation of the Mount Olive Planning Board that Chapter 59, Article V, Section 59-185 - Auto Mechanic/Repair Shops/Towing Service of the Mount Olive Code of Ordinances be amended to regulate the number and placement of damaged, wrecked vehicles or those awaiting repair on the premises of an auto repair shop.
2. Recommendation of the Mount Olive Planning Board that Chapter 53, Article IV, Division 4, Rooming Houses of the Mount Olive Code of Ordinances be amended to regulate Rooming/Boarding Houses as to number of occupants per bedroom and other minimum requirements.

Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion to go into public hearing. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Town Attorney Carroll Turner advised that both items were brought up by Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill last year. He stated this amendment well covers all the concerns. He explained since this is an amendment to an ordinance this is considered the first reading. Then a second reading is required and this will take place at our May 5, 2025, meeting.

He stated regarding item 1, there are many locations around town with fifty cars around their businesses. This is extremely unsightly and not safe. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill said this amendment will help to maintain a healthier environment. Mrs. Linda Boykin wanted to know if this would affect the business located on Elmore Street. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill responded, it only affects auto mechanic shops. Commissioner Danny Keel assured Mrs. Linda Boykin the town ordinance will take care of the issue she is referring to.

Mr. Joe Hatch asked if this was a permitted use. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill answered yes. Commissioner Vicky Darden wanted to know if this addressed the eighteen wheelers. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill stated we have already passed that ordinance and are working on it. Mayor Jerome Newton commented we have to enforce these mechanic shop regulations even if it does not appear to be a mechanic shop. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill advised this amendment covers this as well. If they are operating within 100 feet of a residential area they must obtain a conditional use permit.

Commissioner Vicky Darden asked what about the guy on Breazeale Avenue. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill said this will take care of this. Ms. Annette Kirby wanted to know if a mechanic shop has a chain link fence, do they have to do anything else. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill stated they are asking for those businesses to put up a screen and make sure the fence is at least six feet in height. Ms. Cindy Bell asked if this would take care of existing and new businesses and if it is effective thirty days after adoption which will be another thirty days. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill responded he will discuss with Town Attorney Carroll Turner.

Ms. Annette Kirby said she has a garage on Breazeale Avenue and she is afraid if it is screened vandalism will increase and no one can see. Mayor Jerome Newton suggested putting up security cameras.

Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill then discussed the amendment to the room houses ordinance. He advised there will be annual inspections and the utilities will have to be put in the owner's name. Town Attorney Carroll Turner commented we added that language. Mayor Jerome Newton wanted to clarify the owner of the property will be responsible and not the tenants. Code Enforcement Officers Justin Hill answered yes.

Mayor Jerome Newton asked if there were any other questions. Mr. Don Fairman wanted to know if the owners will have to register as a boarding house. He said you have people that are shift livers, one works at night and one during the day and they take turns living in the same room. How will that be enforced? Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill stated he will investigate this issue but if any citizens are aware of such situations, please contact his office. Mr. Don Fairman asked if any of these houses had been shut down. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill replied yes.

Ms. Annette Kirby asked how do you identify there are shifts? Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill answered, we work with the Police Department in checking out the compliant. Mayor Jerome Newton commented that the owners have to realize they will be fined. Mrs. Linda Boykin asked, do they not need a business license. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill said yes, they do. Ms. Annette Kirby asked if there was a way to specify the number of shifts. Mayor Jerome Newton responded, we do not have the manpower. Ms. Annette Kirby said she is more concerned with them not realizing. Mayor Jerome Newton advised it is the responsibility of the homeowner to educate them.

Ray McDonald, Jr. wanted to know how you differentiate between apartments and rooms. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill commented that apartments are considered a dwelling not a room. Commissioner Vicky Darden asked, how do we stop them? Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill answered this amendment to the ordinance should address this. He asked if there were any further questions.

Mayor Jerome Newton then requested a motion to come out of the public hearing and back into regular session. Commissioner Vicky Darden made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo -04-25- Consider Approval of the Recommendation of the Mount Olive Planning Board that Chapter 59, Article V, Section 59-185 - Auto Mechanic/Repair Shops/Towing Service of the Mount Olive Code of Ordinances be amended to regulate the number and placement of damaged, wrecked vehicles or those awaiting repair on the premises of an auto repair shop.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the first adoption of Action Memo – 04-25. Commissioner Danny Keel made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo - 04-26 - Consider Approval of the Recommendation of the Mount Olive Planning Board that Chapter 53, Article IV, Division 4, Rooming Houses of the Mount Olive Code of Ordinances be amended to regulate Rooming/Boarding Houses as to number of occupants per bedroom and other minimum requirements. Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the first adoption of Action Memo 0-26. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Tommy Brown made a motion to approve Action- Memo 03-20. Commissioner Danny Keel seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo - 04-27 – Consider Approval of Recommendation by Airport Commission to Accept Talbert & Bright Engineering Request for Qualifications Airport's Master Agreement for Professional Services as Required by the Federal Aviation Administration and the North Carolina Division of Aviation. Talbert & Bright Engineers Jay Talbert and John Massey were present to answer any questions. Mr. Jay Talbert advised there are a lot of safety improvements being made at the airport and he is proud to be a part of this success story. He asked if there were any questions. Mayor Jerome Newton stated what the Master Agreement is, he said it is a thick document. Mr. Jay Talbert responded it is required by the Federal Aviation Administration and is at no cost to the Town. They only get paid when there is a specific project and that is through grant funding. Commissioner Danny Keel commented they are providing engineering services to the Town for the airport. Mr. Ray McDonald, Jr. who serves on the Airport Commission, advised this required by the North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Aviation and the Federal Aviation Administration. We are required to have an engineering firm. Talbert & Bright Engineering is the only firm who responded to our request for qualifications. This agreement is no different than the one we are working under now; it just has to be renewed.

Commissioner Tommy Brown made a motion to approve Action Memo – 04-27 and accept Talbert & Bright Engineering Request for Qualifications Airport's Master Agreement for Professional Services. Commissioner Danny Keel seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo - 04-28 - Consider Approval of Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Mount Olive and the North Carolina Pickle Festival. Mayor Jerome Newton asked the Board to consider tabling this item to a later date until a few items are discussed. Commissioner Danny Keel made the motion to table Action Memo -04-27 until a later date. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo – 04-29 - Consider Approval of ADP Proposal for Payroll and Human Resources Services. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland explained our switch to Black Mountain Software will now be delayed until next year. Our current payroll software will no longer be supported by the end of this month. There are two options, one without the Human Resources Module and one with. The

option with the Human Resources Module is less expensive plus we receive discounts. Commissioner Tommy Brown clarified this covers Human Resources and Payroll. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland replied yes, just the payroll module is a little more expensive. A portion of the software can be used now and we will have it in place if it is needed in the future. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay asked if these quotes will be the actual costs. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland stated yes, we have lost support on the system we are using now. It will take three weeks to get the new software implemented and this quote expires on April 11, 2025. This needs to be put into place as soon as possible.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made a motion to approve Action Memo – 04-29 choosing the payroll and human resources module as recommended by Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion was approved 5-0.

Action Memo – 04-30 was removed from the agenda and this action was approved above.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo – 04-31 – Consider Approval of Capital Project Ordinance for SRP-SW-ARP-0050 – Townwide Storm Water Masterplan. Commissioner Tommy Brown made a motion to approve Action Memo -04-31. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo – 04-32 – Consider Approval of Capital Project Ordinance for SRP-D-ARP-0359 – Water Meter Replacement. Commissioner Danny Keel made a motion to approve Action Memo – 04-32. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo - 04-33 - Budget Ordinance Amendments
#8 – Powell Aid Fund - Move funds from Powell Aid Savings into Powell Aid Budget (Fund 12) for paving of streets: Movement of funds from Powell Aid to Public Works for purchase of equipment used for storm drain repairs on Smith Chapel, Hillsboro and Silver Streets.

#9 – SOC Funds (30-8250) Move funds from SOC Reserve to Collections salaries for compliance work completed by Donald Dewitt

Finance Director Jamie Butler asked if there were any questions regarding Budget Ordinance Amendment #8. Commissioner Delreese Simmons stated this item should be tabled. He said there are a few roads listed that town employees could repair. They only have a couple of bad spots; one would cost \$14,000.00 and the other one \$5,000.00. Talton Avenue could be repaired by town employees. All this money could be used somewhere else. He does agree there are some roads on the north side that need to be repaired. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland asked Commissioner Delreese Simmons how he came up with these roads because that is not the list he has. Commissioner Delreese Simmons responded Jammie Royall left the list with him. He asked Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland if he rode all these streets. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland answered yes, the Community Development Block Grant could not use the additional funding to repair them. He said he would be glad to go out for a look at the streets Commissioner Delreese Simmons is referring to.

Finance Director Jamie Butler asked if the Board of Commissioners would be willing to approve \$10,000.00 only. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland said we can just table this until the next meeting, though he would love to have the contracts signed before then.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to table until our next meeting. Commissioner Delreese Simmons made the motion to table Action Memo-4-33 Budget Ordinance Amendment #8 until the next board meeting. Commissioner Danny Keel seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Finance Director Jamie Butler asked if there were any questions regarding Budget Ordinance Amendment #9. Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve Action Memo 04-33 Budget Ordinance Amendment #9. Commissioner Danny Keel made the motion to approve. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo 04-34 – Discussion Regarding Gordon Street Water Plant Repairs. Commissioner Delreese Simmons wanted to know how far the lines from Gordon Street go. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland stated everything is fed off Gordon Street. Commissioner Delreese Simmons stated there are ten houses that live near the Gordon Street Water Plant. The further away you are the less sediment you get. It seems like those living closer have 98% sediment and those further away have 20% sediment. He brought cups if anyone would like to drink his water. Some people cannot afford to buy cases of water. He talked about this in November of 2024, but no one would second his motion. On Thanksgiving Day he went to the hotel, and he fought for them. He has the text messages. He said the estimate to repair the water at the Burlington plant is \$150,000.00. Why can't we find the monies to fix this? He has to let his water run for 5 to 10 minutes before he can use it.

Mayor Jerome Newton asked Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland what his recommendation is. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland responded they are working on reducing the iron levels and are looking at the records for the flushing protocol. Older lines are causing part of this problem. Mayor Jerome Newton suggested determining by testing what we need to do then we can discuss the funding. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland hopes we can make some adjustments to the sand and improve the issue a great deal.

Mayor Jerome Newton advised we can find out what the problem is then find the funding by getting the Board of Commissioners to come together. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland stated there are eight filters, we can test a couple of them and then bring forward a proposal. Commissioner Delreese Simmons asked how often do you change the filters. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland commented if it is green sand, it can be recharged. Green sand is the best. Commissioner Delreese Simmons stated he does not want to table this. Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland replied, give me two to three weeks.

Interim Town Manager Report: Presented as follows:

STREET SIGNS

Street signs have been received. Work began last week beginning on Church Street to replace missing signs. The Town will start on Breazeale Avenue next.

IRON AND DISCOLORED WATER REPAIRS

Some residents are still experiencing discolored water. If you are still having issues, please contact our offices at 919-658-9539.

WATER DISTRIBUTION

The water distribution department has multiple water leaks. They are planning to replace 4,400 feet of water mains in the areas of Elmore Street, East College Street, Pollock Street, South Johnston Street and Smith Chapel Road

SECURITY CAMERAS INSTALLATION

Five cameras are currently in operation. The final camera is scheduled to be installed next week. Spectrum has completed the internet supply connection to the poles where the cameras will be installed.

PAVING OF ROADS

Quotes have been received for the resurfacing. The Town is currently reviewing.

The following streets are for this spring's round of work.

200 Block of Hillsboro	SW Center from Maple to Kornegay College Street
Elizabeth Street	East College Street
Jefferson Street	Michael Martin Road
Patton Street	West James and Roberts Street
Meredith/Hillcrest to Dead End	SW Center Street from Kornegay to Short

SIGN MACHINE STATUS

At this time, the Town is deciding whether we should surplus the sign machine or work with a company to provide on-site training.

LIGHTING PROJECT STATUS

The areas mentioned below are scheduled.

400 Block South Church Street.
Connor Street and Kornegay Street
Elmore Street between James and Main Street
Pollock Street between Elmore and Beems Street
Gordon Street will require poles to be set.
Please note Department Of Transportation streets will take longer because of paperwork.

SPECIAL ORDER OF CONSENT/MORATORIUM

The Town continues to work with the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality. We are working diligently with our engineering firm, grants project manager and grant administrators to meet all deadlines and begin the construct phase on the Sewer Collections Rehabilitation (VUR - \$8,000,000.00) and Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvements (VUR - \$6,000,000.00) grant projects.
No time has been given by the Engineer for either project.

MAPLE AND NELSON STREET DRAINAGE PROJECT

We have been working with our engineers, the funding agency and the North Carolina Department of Transportation discussing options to decrease the costs of this project.

FIND AND FIX SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT

The Town has received a letter of intent to fund from the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality. The project purpose is a Find and Fix Sewer Rehabilitation. The total funding amount is \$4,406,120.00. Viable Utilities Reserve Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 (one hundred percent of all eligible costs). The State Reserve Project Grant is \$2,203,060 (one hundred percent of all eligible costs). There is a State Reserve Project Loan for up to \$1,203,060 repayable at 0.9% interest.

RECYCLABLE CENTER NEW HOURS EFFECTIVE APRIL 7, 2025

Effective Monday, April 7, 2025, the Recyclable Center Located on Talton Avenue will have new hours of operation. Please see below:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday's – Closed
Tuesday & Thursday's – 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Saturday's – 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
Sunday's – Closed

Mayor & Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Vicky Darden

- She advised the mayor she was sorry for the loss of his mother.
- She stated she is working on a project for parents who have lost a child. She would like a picture of the child and would like to form a committee. She has not lost a child but wants to help those who have. Anyone interested can speak with her after the meeting. She has discussed this with Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland and Mayor Jerome Newton.
- She commented that the young lady who recently had a house fire was very thankful for the donations.

Commissioner Tommy Brown

- He thanked everyone for coming out.
- He is looking forward to the North Carolina Pickle Festival.
- He stated Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland is doing a great job and does not need to be micromanaged.

Commissioner Danny Keel

- He agrees with Commissioner Tommy Brown. He is so glad to have a Town Manager so hands on and doing so many things touching on so many areas.
- He stated the old pipes will not be fixed overnight.
- He thanked Lynn Williams and Julie Beck for their hard work.
- He said to Mayor Jerome Newton; he was sorry for the loss of his mother.
- The department head reports show that a lot of things are getting done.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons

- He thanked Finance Director Jamie Butler and the water department crew. He said they deserve more than they are getting. She was not hired to take payments. She has not been offered a raise and she has to work on the budget.
- He commented them girls are catching hell; this is very serious.
- He thanked Lynn Williams and Julie Beck. He does not want to stop the North Carolina Pickle Festival. He just wants things to be fair, going forward things will be right.
- He said, I am fighting for you guys but can only do so much. You guys need to come up and speak. We have a great Mayor.
- He thanked Public Works Director Jordan Conley.
- He said, do not run for my seat.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay

- She thanked the department heads for their monthly reports..
- She thanked Lynn Williams and Julie Beck for their hard work on the North Carolina Pickle Festival.

Mayor Jerome Newton

- He thanked everyone for coming out tonight.
- He stated he will work to get the meetings under 2 ½ hours, that is just too long.
- He thanked everyone for the kind words after the loss of his mother.
- He thanked the Mount Olive Police Department for the support they gave.
- He thanked all the citizens and the Board of Commissioners. He and his family sincerely appreciate it.
- He commented may the grace of God be with all of you.

Mayor Jerome Newton stated our next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Meeting Room.

With there being no further business, Commissioner Danny Keel made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerome Newton
Mayor

Sherry Davis
Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk