

Town of Mount Olive
May 5, 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 Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the published agenda. Commissioner Vicky Darden made the motion to approve. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the April 4, 2025, Special Called Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Danny Keel made the motion to approve. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the April 7, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made the motion to approve. Commissioner Danny Keel 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.

Mayor Jerome Newton then opened the public forum. He reminded everyone there is a three- minute time limit and to govern yourselves accordingly. There will be no attacks or outbursts or you may be removed.

Mrs. Linda Boykin 600 East Main Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-922-9367 praised Mayor Jerome Newton. She then stated that she sent a letter of concern to the Board of Commissioners and did not receive a response from anyone other than the Town Attorney Carroll Turner. She contacted the North Carolina League of Municipalities and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality regarding boarding houses. She said there are junk cars, chickens and cornfields on the south side. We take pride in our community, please take this into consideration before making such decisions.

Mr. Lowayne McCullen of Goldsboro, NC, 919-921-5095 stated in January he was advised the damage to his car due to hitting on pothole on December 24, 2024, would be taken care of. He feels he was misled. He asked if he needed to show proof of where another man's car was repaired for hitting another pothole and he did not have to show any proof. Mr. McCullen said he could have taken his car to the Jaguar place in Raleigh. He commented that he gave fifteen years as a basketball coach, fix my car like you did the other man's.

Ms. Brenda Artis of Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-738-0317 stated she came to this board in February of 2025 to discuss issues with regards to vacant housing being connected to the water system. There are families wanted to move into these homes but they can't get water. A house on Church Street has been sold. People are taking advantage of and selling houses out from under the heirs. You see dumpsters at some of these houses, why can they get water, and we can't. Mayor Jerome Newton advised we would get back to her.

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

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Non-Action-Memo 05-39 – Presentation of Awards by Commissioner Vicky Darden to the following: Ricky McKinny (Farmer), Patricia McKinney (Florist), Rickanesha McKinny Coley (Cosmetologist/USAF Reserve), Damien McKinny (Truck Driver) and Damon Coley (Firefighter).

Commissioner Vicky Darden stated they do so much for their community. Unfortunately, Damien could not be here today. Rickanesha jointed the United States Air Force at the age of forty- one.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo - 5-40 - 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. Town Attorney Carroll Turner advised this is an amendment to our current ordinance. The initial reading took place on April 7, 2025. He made a minor change per request of the board of commissioners. One item in paragraph ten was the only thing that was added. Town Clerk Sherry Davis advised this ordinance was placed on the website. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill stated he will hand deliver and have those businesses affected sign.

Town Attorney Carroll Turner stated this amendment ordinance we be effective thirty days from today. Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve Action Memo -5-40. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made the motion to approve. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo - 05-41 - Consider Approval of Letter of Agreement for Airport Safety/Maintenance Projects with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Division of Aviation at No Cost to the Town. Mayor Jerome Newton asked if there were any questions and requested a motion to approve. 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 – 05-42 – Consider Approval of the Charter for Greater Wayne Regional Wastewater Committee. The committee members to serve are Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay, Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland and Public Works Director Jordan Conley. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion to approve. Commissioner Danny Keel seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo - 05-43 – Budget Ordinance Amendments #8 – Powell Aid Fund - Move funds from Powell Aid Savings into Powell Aid Budget (Fund 12) for paving streets: Movement of funds from Powell Aid to Public Works for the purchase of equipment used for storm drain repairs on Smith Chapel, Hillsboro and Silver Streets. Finance Director Jamie Butler stated this was discussed at the last meeting and asked if there were any questions.

Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland explained that Meredith Street will be taken off this first round list. He had to leave it on here for bid purposes. He stated there will be upcoming drainage work on Meredith Street. He is adding Roberts and West James Street.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons advised that he would like this to be included in the motion so there will be a record in the minutes. Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the listed streets with the exception of Meredith Street. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made the motion to approve. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded, and the motion passed.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Budget Ordinance Amendment # 10 Move Funds From Department 4110 to Department 4510 from the Executive Search to Public Works Salaries. Commissioner Delreese Simmons asked Finance Director Jamie Butler to make the public understand. Finance Director Jamie Butler responded this money was approved last year for an assistant/town manager search. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion to approve. Commissioner Danny Keel seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo – 05-44 – Consider Setting a Date for a Special Called Meeting to Present the 2025/2026 Proposed Budget, Consider Approval of CDBG- NR 2023 Recommendation for Professional Services, Selection of Attorney, Asbestos Inspector and Surveyor and Consider Approval of Resolution Accepting Funding for CDBG – I Sewer Line Rehabilitation 2024 Project #s 19-I- 4203 & 24-I-4203. Possibly, May 20, 2025, at 5:00 P.M., 5:30 P.M. or 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the Special Called Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. in the Town Board meeting room. Commissioner Tommy Brown approved the motion. Commissioner Danny Keel seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

Interim Town Manager Report: Presented as follows:

STREET SIGNS

Church Street replacement has been completed. The Town is currently replacing signs on Breazeale Avenue.

IRON AND DISCOLORED WATER REPAIRS

We are changing the operation at the Gordon Street Plant, and we have seen a reduction in the discharge of iron. Work is expected to begin this month at the Boling Plant. Any resident still experiencing discolored water, please contact our offices at 919-658-9539.

SECURITY CAMERAS INSTALLATION

All six cameras are installed and operational.

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
SW Center Street from Kornegay to Short	

LIGHTING PROJECT STATUS

The areas mentioned below have been completed. This was our first phase of additional lighting. We are now working on the second phase.

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

As required by the Special Order of Consent the January through March 2025 quarterly report was sent to the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality on May 1, 2025. This report is available on our website.

MAPLE AND NELSON STREET DRAINAGE PROJECT

Our engineering firm has reached out to NCDOT Division 4 and district engineers, and they've agreed to review the plans for this project.

FIND AND FIX SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT

The Town is awaiting the finalized 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). More information will be provided as it becomes available.

WATER BILLING DEPARTMENT HOURS

Effective Monday, May 12, 2025, the Town of Mount Olive Water Billing Department will resume normal hours of operation as follows:

Monday thru Friday – 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Normal operating procedures will also resume on this date. This will include late fees and water account cutoffs. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call 919-658-9537 Ext. 114 or 919-658-9539 Ext. 108.

Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland advised Gordon street has changed operation and they are seeing a reduction in iron. They will continue to flush but he needs good water for that.

Mayor & Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Danny Keel

- He thanked everyone for their interest in the town.

Commissioner Vicky Darden

- She thanked Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland for the street signs and for locating the darker areas that need additional street lighting.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons

- He has been noticing Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland riding around town. He doesn't feel that is his job to do, even if people under him are not doing their job.
- He commented that people get upset because he tells the truth and is transparent.
- He said he received a phone call, and he hopes no one is trying to interfere with the bids. He commented stop with the good ole boys system.
- He is glad we are getting additional lighting and paving. Some roads need it more than Meredith Street.
- He asked if the board could get the packets earlier, we need a week to read this one. He said he is not knocking Ms. Sherry.

Commissioner Tommy Brown

- He thanked everyone for coming out.
- He said the North Carolina Pickle Festival was nice
- He didn't receive his packet until Sunday, but the packets were given to the department that distributes them at 2:00 P.M. on Friday at 2:00 P.M. Police Chief Jason Hughes advised the Police Department.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay

- She said the North Carolina Pickle Festival went well.

Mayor Jerome Newton

- He commented we will look into the agenda packets issue internally. He will meet with Interim Town Manager Glenn Holland and Town Clerk Sherry Davis.
- He stated people say the Interim Town Manager is not really the Town Manager, so he doesn't get the support he needs.
- He said for two weeks he has trash that has not been picked up. He clarified not garbage or yard waste but trash.
- He advised we have had our differences and if the Department Heads are not doing their jobs then he and the Town Manager will sit down and do a formal counseling. They can improve or resign. We don't have time for incompetence. I will be there with him as a witness.
- He commented the North Carolina Pickle Festival was good even though it did not have a car show. There was more room to spread out.
- He was able to view the cameras at the command center. It was great and everyone did an awesome job, the department heads did great and thank God for the weather.
- He said we now have some transparency and are working more closely as a board. This is one town, one community, one Mount Olive.

Mayor Jerome Newton stated our next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 2, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Meeting Room.

With there being no further business, Commissioner Vicky Darden 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