

Town of Mount Olive
January 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, Town Manager Jammie Royall and Town Clerk/Administrative Assistant Sherry Davis.

Mayor Jerome Newton delivered the invocation and 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 Tommy Brown made a motion to remove Action - Memo 01-03 - Consider Approval of Facility Encroachment Agreement Between the Town of Mount Olive and CSX Transportation, Inc. for the Sewer Collections Rehabilitation Project until the February 3, 2025 meeting. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made a motion to approve the updated agenda. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the December 2, 2024 Regular Board Meeting. December 5, 2024 Special Board Meeting. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay made the motion to approve both. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then opened the public forum. No one signed up. Mayor Jerome Newton stated there have been some questions of his character in a couple of meetings. He was asked if there were any recordings twice. He said that is a lie, the only thing being recorded by him is the Facebook live which is allowed in a public meeting. He has not recorded in any secret meetings. He wanted to clear that up.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons of 600 Oliver Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-394-4482 stated he wanted to sign up for the public forum. He stated that he appreciates Jordan Conley and he is the Public Works Director we needed. He loves to speak with his Uncle Norbert Simmons. His uncle asked him what he is going to do after his commissioner term is up. Commissioner Delreese Simmons stated he hates people talking about his felony past. He reads the bible and if you are going to throw a stone here is a stone to throw. He slammed a rock on the podium. He said throw it, if any of you live sin free. He just got caught. Both David and Moses were used by God.

Mayor Jerome Newton advised Commissioner Delreese Simmons his time was up. Commissioner Delreese Simmons replied, no disrespect to the Mayor but he doesn't care about the three minutes. He discussed a conversation he had with Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay after the last board meeting. He said that he was thinking about running for the Town Manager position. He stated Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay said they will string you up. Commissioner Delreese Simmons commented we as African Americans take this very seriously.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons said everybody is talking about firing Town Manager Jammie Royall but he's only been good to him.

Mayor Jerome Newton thanked Commissioner Delreese Simmons for his comments and closed the public forum.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Non-Action-Memo 01-01 – Update by Town Attorney Carroll Turner Regarding the Minimum Housing Code/Boarding Rooms Ordinance. Town Attorney Carroll Turner advised he is working on including room houses in the ordinance. This is a fairly serious problem and we are working on it. He hopes to have a completed draft available by the next meeting.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo 01-02 - Consider Adoption of Resolution Readopting the CDBG-I (Community Development Block Grant – Infrastructure) Compliance Plans for the two 2020 CDBG-I Projects.

1. Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Plan
2. Equal Housing Opportunity Resolution
3. Fair Housing Complaint Procedure
4. Language Access Policy and Plan
5. Section 504 Grievance Procedure

Community Development Block Grants Administrator David Harris explained we adopted fifteen of these when we started. Typically they are valid through the life of the project but the funding agency has updated their requirements. However, it only applies to the ones listed. Basically, we are just re-adopting them.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve Action-Memo 01-02. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion. Commissioner Danny Keel seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action Memo 01-03 - Consider Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #4 Move Monies from Capital Reserve Funds to Fund 30 & Fund 10 Salaries

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT#04

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Mount Olive, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

Section I. FUND 30 TRANSFERS

A. Revenue

B. Expenditure

Salaries — Collections Department	30-8210-0200	\$ 5,000
Salaries — Public Works Department	10-4510-0200	\$ 5,000
Capital Reserve	30-8250-0600	(\$10,000)

Section II. Explanation

1. This amendment increases Water Sewer (Collections) expenses available for the current fiscal year in the amount of \$5,000.00 and Public Works in the amount of \$5,000.00. These funds are moved from Capital Reserve (Fund 30) for the overtime salaries paid to employees of Public Works and Water Sewer Collections, all part of SOC required work.

Finance Director Jamie Butler stated this is moving monies from Capital Reserve for the Special Order of Consent to cover overtime expenses needed for repairs.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons asked how much was left in this account. Finance Director Jamie Butler responded approximately one hundred and ninety five to two hundred thousand dollars. We started with two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars. Commissioner Delreese Simmons wanted to know if cutting positions would help with this. Finance Director Jamie Butler stated that would be a Board of Commissioners decision. They can work on solutions in the upcoming budget year.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve Action- Memo 01-03 Budget Ordinance Amendment #4. 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 01-04 -. Consider Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #5 Recognize Additional Airport Revenues received in Fiscal Year 2024-2025

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT#05

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Mount Olive, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

Section I. FUND 35 REVENUE RECOGNITION

A. Revenue

Airport — Wayne County Contribution	35-3500-0000	(24,941.76)
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B. Expenditure

Utilities — Airport	35-7200-1300	\$ 14,941.76
Repair and Maintenance - Buildings	35-7200-1500	\$ 10,000.00

Section II. Explanation

1. This amendment increases Mount Olive Municipal Airport revenue by (\$24941.76). This revenue was received after closeout of FY 23/24, therefore it will be recognized in FY 24/25. Expenses will be increased for the current fiscal year in the amount of \$24,941.76 to match the additional revenue received.

Finance Director Jamie Butler stated Wayne County did not send us our entire allotment for last fiscal year. She reminded everyone this is a 24-25 receivable so it had to be placed in this year. Starting immediately we will receive the entire allotment annually instead of quarterly.

Mayor Jerome Newton made a motion to Approve Action-Memo 01-05. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jerome Newton then discussed Action- Memo 01-06 - Consider Scheduling a Closed Session Meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. **CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS SEC. 143-318.11 (*Motion/Second-Roll Call)**

- (a) 6: To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting. G.S. 143-318.11

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Commissioner Delreese Simmons advised he would not be able to attend, Commissioner Vicky Darden said that was her birthday, Mayor Jerome Newton stated he would be able to attend.

Mayor Jerome Newton requested a motion to approve Action-Memo 01-06. Commissioner Tommy Brown made a motion to approve. Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay seconded. Mayor Jerome Newton asked each commissioners individually their vote. The vote passed 4-1 as follows:

Commissioner Tommy Brown – Yes
Commissioner Vicky Darden – Yes
Commissioner Danny Keel – Yes
Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay – Yes
Commissioner Delreese Simmons - No

Town Manager Report:

- He wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- He said his manager's report will be posted on the website.
- He wanted to acknowledge all employees. He is proud of all of them. They worked on Thanksgiving and Christmas and did not complain.

Mayor & Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Vicky Darden

- She reminded everyone of the annual Black History Parade on Saturday, February 22, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. The rain date is Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 1:00 P.M.
- She loves to give back to the community so everything is free.
- She stated Martin Luther King, Jr. died for everyone and the parade is not just for black people.

Commissioner Tommy Brown

- He wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- He advised everyone to beware of certain fruits from certain trees. They are not nourishing.

Commissioner Danny Keel

- He stated the lighting issue notifications are being resolved.
- He advised we are working on the water issues.
- He agrees with Commissioner Delreese Simmons regarding Jordan Conley and Glenn Holland.
- He said the Christmas Parade went well.
- He commented a lot of things are getting done, we have begun the striping of the downtown parking spaces, the Special Order of Consent work is being done.
- He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons

- He said thanks guys. Town Manager Jammie Royall has the bid to pave Dora Lane. He has a copy of the bids because Town Manager Jammie Royall gave him a copy.
- He advised the small leaf machine is down and we need some new trash carts.
- He stated he has talked with Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill regarding people still building on.
- He announced that Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill passed his Electrical exam.
- He commented he would like to know who is on the secret Airport Committee.
- He thought we would get answers by this time.
- He stated he appreciates our Mayor and what he is trying to do. His Uncle Norbert Simmons sat them both down because Commissioner Delreese Simmons did not believe in him at first.
- He said he is a modern day Moses.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay

- She apologized to Commissioner Delreese Simmons for her very poor choice of words.

Mayor Jerome Newton

- He thinks things are good. Commissioner Danny Keel did an excellent job
- He thanked Jordan Conley, the Fire Department and the Police Department for their help at the Pickle Drop.
- He commented wow Mrs. Brenda Davis and Ms Annette Kirby did not sign up for the Public Forum, that's a first.
- He wished everyone a prosperous New Year.
- He announced a celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, February 19, 2025 at the Holy Ghost Cathedral, 812 East James Street, Mount Olive, NC (Pastor Grimes) at 3:00 P.M. Antonio Blow will be the guest speaker and the Male Chorus will perform, they are very good.

Ms. Tatetia Robinson asked if she could speak. She thanked Mayor Pro-Tempore Barbara Kornegay for apologizing. She feels relieved because it made her feel some kind of way. She had to walk out for a minute after hearing the comment. She apologized if she was out of order.

Mayor Jerome Newton thanked everyone for coming. He hopes we get on a new path.

Our next Regular Board meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

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