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**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

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The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, February 5, 2018 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

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Mayor Stewart called the meeting to order. City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey called the roll. Council members present were Michael Allen, Carol Falwell, Kathy Green, Regina Lake, Andy May, Leroy Mansko, Julie Moss and Neal Pankey. City Attorney Rob Ratton was present.

Following the invocation by Carol Falwell, those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion by Lake and second by Moss to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2018 meeting carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Falwell, Green, Lake, Mansko, May, Moss and Pankey. Allen abstained due to being absent on January 2, 2018. The January 16, 2018 Council Meeting was cancelled due to bad weather.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- The December 2017 Financial Statements for the General Fund, Street Fund, 911 Fund, Sewer Fund and Newport Airport Commission were given to each Council Member. Mayor Stewart asked that each Council Member review the financial statements and direct any questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey or to him.
- Sales Taxes received in January 2018 for December 2017 were City Sales Taxes - \$123,293, County Sales Taxes - \$79,507 and NEDC Sales Taxes - \$61,647.
- Mayor Stewart announced that Suddenlink Cable will be discontinuing Jonesboro’s Channel 8 on February 27th. He stated he tried contacting Suddenlink all day but was unable to speak to anyone with any authority. He stated he will contact KAIT Jonesboro tomorrow for information on their contact at Suddenlink. Mayor Stewart recognized Phil McDonald. Mr. McDonald stated his concerns over the loss of our local station.
- The State Aid Street Committee denied the Grays Addition request for repaving the streets; however, the City will re-submit the request in 2018.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution: Recognizing the Opioid Epidemic and to Engage in Litigation as a Member of the Municipal Legal Defense Program Against Those Entities and People Responsible for this Societal Crisis

Mayor Stewart stated that Don Zimmerman and Mark Hayes of the Municipal League have requested every Class A City to pass this Resolution. Mayor Stewart gave each

47 Council Member and City Attorney Ratton a copy of the Resolution and requested the
48 matter be tabled until the next meeting giving everyone time to study the Resolution.

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50 **Resolution: Authorizing the Arkansas State Police to Use Property Owned by the**
51 **City of Newport for a Temporary Troop “B” Headquarters During Construction of**
52 **Their New Headquarters**

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54 Mayor Stewart stated the Arkansas State Police had requested to use the former National
55 Guard Armory Building on Fairgrounds Road as their temporary Troop “B”
56 Headquarters. The Resolution was read in its entirety by City Attorney Ratton. A
57 motion by Moss and second by Falwell to approve the Resolution carried (8/0) with “yes”
58 votes by Allen, Lake, Moss, Falwell, Pankey, May, Mansko and Green.

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60 Mayor Stewart stated the Council needed to go into Executive Session to discuss a
61 personnel matter. A motion by Allen and second by Falwell carried with all present
62 voting “yes”.

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64 A motion by Allen and second by Lake to resume regular session carried with all present
65 voting “yes”. No action was required.

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67 With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

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69 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 20TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2018

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71 _____
72 MAYOR

73 ATTEST:
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76 CITY CLERK