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**CITY OF NEWPORT  
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
MARCH 19, 2018**

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The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

Mayor Stewart called the meeting to order. Deputy City Clerk Angela McKissac called the roll in the absence of City Clerk/Treasurer Deborah Hembrey. Council Members present were Michael Allen, Carol Falwell, Kathy Green, Leroy Mansko, Andy May, and Neal Pankey. City Attorney Rob Ratton was also present. Council Members absent were Regina Lake and Julie Moss.

Following the invocation by Andy May, those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion by Allen and second by Falwell to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2018 Meeting carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Falwell, Green, Mansko, May, and Pankey.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- Addressed the letter provided to the Council from Governor Asa Hutchinson inviting the Mayor to attend a special meeting on March 26, 2018 that will unveil a new initiative designed to better equip and prepare communities for competitiveness and economic growth. Mayor Stewart and NEDC Executive Director Jon Chadwell will attend this meeting, and Mayor Stewart stated any Council Member was welcome to attend if interested.
- 2020 Census preparation has begun. Mayor Stewart met with Alan Green, Census Partnership Specialist for Arkansas, this morning. He informed Mayor Stewart of some changes from the 2010 Census. Also, the Census Bureau is requesting that all Class A Cities form a Complete Count Committee. Mr. Green suggested that this committee could be made up of the City Council, and he was also aware of the Freedom of Information Act that would apply to the City Council. A motion made by Falwell and seconded by Mansko that the City Council be used for this Complete Count Committee carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Green, Allen, Mansko, May, Falwell, and Pankey.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appoint John Pettie to Newport Planning Commission to Fill Unexpired Term of Marvin Thaxton (Term Expiring July 2020)**

Mayor Stewart reported that Marvin Thaxton had resigned from the Planning Commission. Mayor Stewart spoke with Attorney John Pettie, and he is willing to serve

46 on the Planning Commission. A motion made by Falwell and seconded by Pankey to  
47 appoint John Pettie to the Newport Planning Commission for a term expiring July 2020  
48 carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Mansko, Allen, Falwell, May, Green, and Pankey.  
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50 **Resolution: Administrative Agreement with White River Planning and**  
51 **Development District, Inc. for George Kell Park Grant**

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53 City Attorney Rob Ratton read the Resolution in its entirety. A motion made by Pankey  
54 and seconded by Allen to approve the Resolution carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Allen,  
55 Falwell, Pankey, May, Mansko, and Green.  
56

57 **State of the City Address**

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59 Mayor Stewart reviewed the state of the City, as required by Arkansas Statute 14-58-302,  
60 by giving an informative review of each department. Revenues and expenses continue to  
61 be monitored very closely. A few other items reported were:

- 62 • Bids will be opened in April for the structure to house the Water Hog Pump  
63 System at the Galeria Pump Location. A possible completion date for this project  
64 may be mid-August. Mayor Stewart reminded the Council that this was a  
65 \$250,000 grant from the Delta Regional Authority with a \$40,000 match coming  
66 from Levee District funds.
- 67 • Spring inspection of the Levee System will be in April or May.
- 68 • A possible grant opportunity has been found with the USDA to refurbish Fire  
69 Station 2.  
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71 With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.  
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74 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2018  
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78 MAYOR

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80 ATTEST:

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84 CITY CLERK