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**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
MAY 21, 2018**

19 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, May 21,
20 2018 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

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

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

26 A motion by Allen and second by May to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2018 meeting
27 carried (5/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, May, Moss, Pankey and Mayor Stewart. Falwell,
28 Green and Lake abstained due to being absent on May 7, 2018.

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REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

34 Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- 35 • The 2017 Sewer Audit was given to each Council Member. Mandy Walker, P.A., formerly
36 an Arkansas Legislative Auditor, performed this year’s audit. The audit report stated “In my
37 opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the
38 modified cash basis financial position of the Department as of December 31, 2017 and 2016,
39 and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position and cash flows thereof
40 for the years then ended, in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as
41 described in Note 1(B).”
- 42 • The April 2018 Financial Statements for the Newport Airport Commission were given to
43 each Council Member. Mayor Stewart asked that each Council Member review the financial
44 statements and direct any questions to him or Jim Martin.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Retirement Notification from Chief of Police Michael Scudder

38 Mayor Stewart gave each Council Member a copy of the retirement notification letter from
39 Police Chief Scudder. Chief Scudder stated in the notification “On Friday June 29, 2018 at
40 the end of a normal business day I intend to resign my commission as Chief of Police and
41 take my retirement from both the Newport Police Department and the Newport Fire
42 Department”. A motion by Pankey and second by Falwell to accept the resignation of Police
43 Chief Scudder effective at the end of the business day on June 29, 2018 carried (7/0) with
44 “yes” votes by Green, Pankey, Allen, Moss, Falwell, May and Lake.

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47 Mayor Stewart stated he would like to go into executive session to discuss a new procedure
48 to select a new Police Chief. A motion by Allen and second by Moss to go into executive
49 session at approximately 6:05 p.m. carried with all present voting yes.

51 A motion by Moss and second by Lake to return to regular session at approximately 6:40
52 p.m. carried with all present voting yes.

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54 Mayor Stewart stated, as discussed in the executive session, the Council as a whole had
55 decided to conduct oral interviews at the next Council Meeting with Captain Dulaney and
56 Lieutenant Edwards. Officers will be dressed in their Class A uniforms and interviews will
57 be conducted in executive session one at a time. A decision will not be made at that time but
58 at a later date.

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60 A motion by Falwell and second by Moss to conduct oral interviews in executive session for
61 the position of Newport Police Chief at the next Council Meeting; Captain Dulaney and
62 Lieutenant Edwards will be dressed in Class A uniforms with determination of the next
63 Newport Police Chief to be made at a later date carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen,
64 Lake, Moss, Falwell, Pankey, May and Green.

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

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68 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 4TH DAY OF JUNE, 2018

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MAYOR

72 ATTEST:

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75 CITY CLERK