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**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 7, 2019**

The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, January 7, 2019 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

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, Leroy Mansko, Andy May, Julie Moss and Neal Pankey. City Attorney Rob Ratton was present.

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

Mayor Stewart welcomed New Vision Students to the Council Meeting.

A motion by Pankey and second by Falwell to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2018 meeting carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Falwell, Green, Lake, Mansko, Moss and Pankey. May abstained due to being absent on December 17, 2018.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- The Airport Commission Financial Statements for November 2018 were given to each Council Member.
- Sales Taxes received in December 2018 were City Sales Taxes - \$124,377, County Sales Taxes - \$80,417 and NEDC Sales Taxes - \$62,189.
- Mayor Stewart stated the next Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 6 p.m. due to the holiday.
- Both boom trucks (limbs and trash trucks) have been in shop for repairs. Both trucks should be back in service this week.
- New recycling baler should be delivered next Monday. Council Member Allen has been hired to remove the old baler and set the new baler.
- A copy of the letter from Suddenlink Cable announcing a rate increase was given to each Council Member.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Organization of City Council ACA §14-43-501

Mayor Stewart stated that ACA 14-43-501 requires that the Council assemble and organize the governing body annually in January. Mayor Stewart asked if the Council had any changes to the current organization of the Council. A motion by Allen and second by Mansko to appoint Neal Pankey as the 2019-2020 President Pro Tempore in the event that Mayor Stewart is unavailable to conduct the Council Meeting carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Lake, Green, Falwell, Mansko, May, Allen and Moss. Pankey abstained. A motion by Moss and second by Allen to conduct the City Council Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Monday at 6 p.m., unless there is a Monday holiday then the regular meeting of the Council will be held the following Tuesday at 6 p.m. carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Moss, Allen, Mansko, May, Falwell, Pankey, Green and Lake.

52 **Bid Consideration: New Backhoe/Loader for Wastewater Treatment Plant**

53
54 Mayor Stewart presented proof of publication in the Newport Independent and a handwritten
55 tabulation for a new backhoe/loader. Bids were opened on December 20, 2018. One bid was
56 received from Case Construction Heartland Equipment for \$77,000 minus \$8,000 for a trade-
57 in of a 2005 New Holland Loader Backhoe for a net bid of \$69,000. A motion by Allen and
58 second by Falwell to accept the bid from Case Construction Heartland Equipment for a net
59 bid of \$69,000 carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Mansko, Pankey, Lake, May, Green,
60 Moss and Falwell.

61
62 **Bid Consideration: Remodeling of Fire Station #2**

63
64 Mayor Stewart presented proof of publication in the Newport Independent and a handwritten
65 tabulation for remodeling of Fire Station #2 located near 2nd and Walnut Streets. Bids were
66 opened on December 27, 2018. Two bids were received: John Brownd Construction for
67 \$107,000 and Newport Construction Company for \$139,500. A motion by Allen and second
68 by Falwell to accept the bid from John Brownd Construction for \$107,000 carried (8/0) with
69 “yes” votes by Mansko, Allen, Falwell, May, Lake, Green, Pankey and Moss.

70
71 **Appointment of Jeff Sampson to Airport Commission to Fill Unexpired Term of Joe**
72 **Taylor, Jr. for the Term Expiring 9/30/2021, James McLarty, Chairman to Address**
73 **Council**

74
75 Mayor Stewart stated this would be passed until the next Council Meeting.

76
77 **Appointment of Mary Bratcher Reid to Planning Commission to Fill Unexpired Term**
78 **of Jane Parnell for the Term Expiring 7/2020**

79
80 A motion by Pankey and second by Green to appoint Mary Bratcher Reid to the Planning
81 Commission to fill the unexpired term of Jane Parnell for the term expiring 7/2020 carried
82 (8/0) with “yes” votes by Falwell, May, Green, Moss, Pankey, Allen, Mansko and Lake.

83
84 **Discuss Depot Rental**

85
86 Mayor Stewart reported the Depot was rented on New Year’s Eve. Mayor Stewart went to
87 the Depot the next morning and found AK-47 shells, shotgun shells and pistol shells. The
88 police also picked up over 200 spent shells. After discussion, a motion by Pankey and
89 second by Falwell to no longer rent the Depot on New Year’s Eve carried (8/0) with “yes”
90 votes by Green, Allen, May, Falwell, Pankey, Mansko, Moss and Lake.

91
92 **Discuss Residential Sanitation Rate**

93
94 After discussion, the Council requested City Attorney Ratton draw up an Ordinance to
95 increase the rates of residential sanitation by \$3 per month and commercial sanitation by \$5
96 per month due to the increase in expenses.

97
98 **Discuss Mosquito Control Rate**

99
100 Mayor Stewart stated the mosquito control expenses for 2018 were approximately \$47,000
101 more than revenues. After discussion, a motion by Allen and second by Moss to have City
102 Attorney Ratton draw up an Ordinance increasing the mosquito control rate to \$5.50 per

103 month plus taxes carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Green, Allen, May, Falwell, Pankey,
104 Mansko, Moss and Lake.

105

106 **Ordinance: Waiving Competitive Bidding for Construction of a Sewer Lift Station**

107

108 Mayor Stewart stated a waiver for competitive bidding was needed for the sewer lift station.
109 Martin Steward, Wastewater Superintendent was in attendance to answer any questions. City
110 Attorney Ratton read the Ordinance in its entirety.

111

112 A motion by Pankey and second by Allen to suspend the rules in their entirety and forego the
113 2nd and 3rd readings carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Mansko, Pankey, Lake, May,
114 Green, Moss and Falwell.

115

116 A motion by Allen and second by Falwell to accept the Ordinance waiving the competitive
117 bidding for the construction of the sewer lift station carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Pankey,
118 Moss, Green, Allen, May, Falwell, Lake and Mansko.

119

120 A motion by Allen and second by Falwell to approve the emergency clause carried (8/0) with
121 “yes” votes by Mansko, Allen, Falwell, May, Lake, Green, Pankey and Moss.

122

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

124

125 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 22ND DAY OF JANUARY, 2019

126

127

128 _____
MAYOR

129 ATTEST:

130

131 _____
132 CITY CLERK