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CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 17, 2019

13 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, June 17,
14 2019 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

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

19 Following the invocation by Julie Moss those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

20 A motion by Allen and second by Falwell to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2019 meeting
21 carried (5/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Falwell, Green, Mansko and Moss. May abstained
22 due to being absent on June 3, 2019.

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REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

34 Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- 35 • The May 2019 Financial Statements for the General Fund, Street Fund, 911 Fund and Sewer
36 Fund were given to each Council Member. Mayor Stewart asked that each Council Member
37 review the financial statements and direct any questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey or
38 to him.
- 39 • The swimming pool should be opened June 24th. Phillip Brown has found enough lifeguards
40 to open the pool.
- 41 • The City has formed a Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census. Rita Cooper will be
42 the designated liaison between the City and the Census Bureau. The Committee has people
43 from all areas of Jackson County.
- 44 • Parks Director Johnny Long stated Newport is a member of the Ozark League. The Ozark
45 League has selected Newport to host the 13 year old and under boys baseball tournament.
46 The tournament will take place June 24th through June 29th.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

**Resolution: Application to Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism for Parks
Grant**

Mayor Stewart stated a baseball field cover for the American Legion/High School Baseball
Field will be the proposed project for the 2020 Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism’s
Outdoor Recreation Grant. City Attorney Ratton read the Resolution in its entirety. A
motion by Moss and second by Falwell to authorize the Mayor to submit an application to the
Department of Parks and Tourism for the 2020 Grant carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by
Falwell, May, Green, Moss, Allen and Mansko.

Resolution: Application for Rural Services Block Grant for Purchase of Fire Truck

Mayor Stewart stated a new fire truck will be requested in the 2020 budget. This fire truck
will cost approximately \$300,000. The City is eligible for a Rural Services Block Grant in

52 the amount of \$75,000 toward the purchase of this fire truck. City Attorney Ratton read the
53 Resolution in its entirety. A motion by Allen and second by Mansko to authorize the Mayor
54 to apply for the Rural Services Block Grant carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Moss, Green,
55 Allen, May Falwell and Mansko.

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57 **Resolution: Administrative Agreement with White River Planning and Development**
58 **District, Inc. for Rural Services Block Grant (Purchase of Fire Truck)**

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60 City Attorney Ratton read the Resolution in its entirety. A motion by Allen and second by
61 May to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an administrative agreement with
62 the White River Planning and Development District, Inc. to provide administrative services
63 concerning the Rural Services Block Grant carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by May, Green,
64 Moss, Allen, Falwell and Mansko.

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66 **Consider Ball Field Leveling Project at George Kell Park**

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68 Mayor Stewart stated the American Legion/High School Baseball Field is in need of a
69 renovation. Mayor Stewart stated Brad Kieffner, Jeff Sampson and him went and spoke with
70 Newport Superintendent Dr. Ken James about a joint project of renovating the baseball field.
71 Dr. James spoke to the school board and the board agreed to pay for half of the renovation.
72 Mayor Stewart recognized Brad Kieffner and Jeff Sampson. Kieffner and Sampson gave an
73 informative overview of the project with an expected project cost of approximately \$28,000.
74 A motion by Green and second by Moss to approve the spending of 50% (approximately
75 \$14,000) of the cost of renovating the American Legion/High School Baseball Field carried
76 (6/0) with “yes” votes by Mansko, Falwell, Green, Moss, Allen and May.

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78 **Good of the City**

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80 Council Member Mansko stated he would like to see an Ordinance forbidding grass cuttings
81 and trash from being blown into the street. City Inspector Ratliffe and Mayor Stewart will
82 research and report back to the Council.

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84 Council Member Green stated a reception will be held June 18th from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. for Dr.
85 Ken James at the school administration building. All are invited.

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

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90 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 27TH DAY OF JUNE, 2019

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MAYOR

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ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK