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CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 19, 2019

13 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, August
14 19, 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, Regina Lake,
17 Andy May and Julie Moss. City Attorney Rob Ratton was present. Council Members Leroy
18 Mansko and Neal Pankey were absent.

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

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

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30 **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

31 Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- 32 • The July 2019 Financial Statements for the General Fund, Street Fund, 911 Fund and Sewer
33 Fund were given to each Council Member. Mayor Stewart asked that each Council Member
34 review the financial statements and direct any questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey or
35 to him.
- 36 • The next Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday September 3rd due to the holiday.
- 37 • Parks Director Johnny Long gave an informative overview of the work being done on the
38 Newport High School Baseball Field at George Kell Park.

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43 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - NONE**

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46 **NEW BUSINESS:**

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52 **APPOINT COURTNEY BAKER TO CITY OF NEWPORT CITY BEAUTIFUL**
53 **COMMISSION FOR TERM EXPIRING 8/30/2021**

54 Mayor Stewart stated that Courtney Baker would like to be appointed to the Newport City Beautiful
55 Commission. A motion by Moss and second by Lake to appoint Courtney Baker to the Newport City
56 Beautiful Commission with a term expiring 8/30/2021 carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by May, Lake,
57 Moss, Green, Falwell and Allen.

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62 **CONDEMNATIONS FOR 602 NEWPORT AVENUE AND 412 HAZEL STREET,**
63 **CITY INSPECTOR RATLIFFE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

64 Mayor Stewart recognized City Inspector Derrick Ratliffe. Ratliffe gave pictures of the
65 dilapidated and unsafe property at 602 Newport Avenue and 412 Hazel Street to the Council.
66 Ratliffe stated that he had been in contact with the property owner David Foster and the
67 property owner has made no effort to rectify the conditions of these properties. Notification
68 was sent certified mail to Mr. Foster on August 2, 2019 and receipt was signed on August 5,
69 2019. Mayor Stewart requested each Council Member look at the properties before the

52 September 16th Council Meeting. A Resolution for condemnation will be presented at that
53 meeting if no action is taken by Mr. Foster.

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55 **RESOLUTION: GRÄNGES AMERICAS TAX CREDITS, JON CHADWELL TO**
56 **ADDRESS COUNCIL**

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58 Mayor Stewart recognized Newport Economic Development Commission Director
59 Chadwell. Director Chadwell gave an informative review of the request by Gränges
60 Americas for an endorsement to participate in the Tax Back Program (The Consolidated
61 Incentive Act of 2003, Section 15-4-2706(d). City Attorney Ratton read the Resolution in its
62 entirety. A motion by Allen and second by Falwell to endorse the request by Gränges
63 Americas to participate in the Tax Back Program carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Allen,
64 Lake, May, Green, Moss and Falwell.

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66 **EXECUTIVE SESSION (PERSONNEL)**

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68 A motion by Allen and second by Moss to go into executive session to discuss personnel and
69 to allow City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey to also go into executive session carried (6/0) with
70 “yes” votes by Falwell, Lake, May, Allen, Moss and Green.

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72 A motion by Moss and second by Falwell to return to regular session carried (6/0) with “yes”
73 votes by Allen, Falwell, Green, Lake, May and Moss.

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75 Mayor Stewart stated no action taken in executive session. After discussion, a motion by
76 Allen and second by Lake to increase the hourly rates of the employees in the Shop,
77 Recycling, Commercial Sanitation, Residential Sanitation, Street, Parks and Wastewater,
78 with the exception of the department heads, by \$1.00 per hour beginning on August 24th,
79 2019 carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Green, Falwell, Lake, Allen, Moss and May.

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

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83 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 3RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2019

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MAYOR

87 ATTEST:

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90 CITY CLERK