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**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 4, 2019**

13 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday,
14 November 4, 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 Leroy Mansko, Andy May, Julie Moss and Neal Pankey. City Attorney Rob Ratton was
18 present.

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

20 A motion by May and second by Green to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2019
21 meeting carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Green, Lake, Mansko, May, Moss and
22 Pankey. Falwell abstained due to being absent on October 21, 2019.

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NEW BUSINESS:

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RESOLUTION: AMBULANCE RATES INCREASE

33 Mayor Stewart recognized Deanna Long, owner of White River EMS Ambulance Service.
34 Ms. Long is contracted to manage Newport’s ambulance service billing. Long gave an
35 informative overview of the need to increase the ambulance rates. City Attorney Ratton read
36 the Resolution in its entirety. After discussion, a motion by Green and second by Moss to
37 accept the Resolution carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Moss, Allen, Mansko, May, Falwell,
38 Pankey, Green and Lake.

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REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

46 Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

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- The September 2019 Financial Statements for the Newport Airport Commission were given to each Council Member. Mayor Stewart asked that each Council Member review the financial statements and direct any questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey or to him.
 - Municipal Health Benefit Fund has notified us that the health insurance premiums for the first half of 2020 will not increase.
 - Sales Taxes received in October 2019 were City Sales Taxes - \$127,156, County Sales Taxes - \$76,099 and NEDC Sales Taxes - \$63,578.
 - Arkansas Parks and Tourism has approved a 50/50 grant for a cover over the Newport High School Baseball Field, heat and air unit for the press box, fall materials for the playgrounds, a new net for spectator protection on the Newport High School Baseball Field and one wheelchair accessible swing for Lockwood Park. The total project is estimated to cost \$20,000 with \$10,100 being paid by the grant.
 - Areas of Galeria Drive are being resurfaced.
 - Mayor Stewart is meeting with Amanda Reynolds concerning the running of the Newport City Pool for 2020.
 - Both commercial garbage trucks are broken down at this time. The employees used the grappling truck and were able to dump all the dumpsters today. The trucks should be repaired in a short period of time.

52 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - NONE**

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54 **GOOD OF THE CITY**

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56 Councilman May congratulated the Police Department for the success of their Halloween
57 Trunk or Treat at Village Mall. Police Chief Edwards stated he wanted to thank all the other
58 agencies and people in the County that helped make it a success.

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60 Mayor Stewart stated the street issue at 3rd and Vine has been reported to the Arkansas
61 Highway Department due to it being on the right-of-way of the Highway Department.
62 Mayor Stewart stated he will monitor the area and will apply for a permit for our people to
63 fix the issue if it becomes necessary.

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

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67 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 18TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2019

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MAYOR

71 ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK