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CITY OF NEWPORT
SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 24, 2020

The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in a special session Wednesday, June 24, 2020 in the lobby of the Municipal Building. Seating was placed approximately 6 feet apart due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

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

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

DISCUSS IT SCHOOL LOCATION LEASE

Mayor Stewart stated after looking at available sites for the new IT School, the Iron Mountain Depot would be the best location for the IT School on a temporary basis. A grant to build a state of the art IT building is being requested and would take approximately two years to complete the process. Mayor Stewart stated the people that have booked the Depot will be offered the NEDC Building at no cost. Mayor Stewart recognized Jon Chadwell, Director of the Newport Economic Development Commission. Chadwell gave an informative overview of the reasons the Depot is the best location.

A facilities use agreement between the City of Newport and the Newport Economic Development Commission was presented to the Council that would give the NEDC exclusive use of the Depot for a period of 24 months beginning September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2022. The NEDC would pay all costs related to utilities, insurance, repairs and maintenance that arise as a result of the Center's operations. A motion by Pankey and second by Lake to give the NEDC exclusive rights to the Iron Mountain Depot for the IT Apprenticeship Center for a period of 24 months and to give Mayor Stewart the authority to sign a facilities use agreement with the Newport Economic Development Commission carried (7/0) with "yes" votes by Moss, Pankey, Green, May, Lake, Mansko and Allen.

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

PASSED AND APPROVED THE 6TH DAY OF JULY, 2020

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK