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**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 5, 2020**

10 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, October
11 5, 2020 in the lobby of the Municipal Building. Seating was placed approximately 6 feet
12 apart due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Regular Council Meetings are being held once a month
13 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

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

18 Following the invocation by Neal Pankey, those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

19 A motion by Allen and second by Falwell to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020
20 meeting carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Falwell, Mansko, May, Moss and Pankey.
21 Kathy Green and Regina Lake abstained due to being absent on September 8, 2020.

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REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- The August 2020 Financial Statements for the General Fund, Street Fund, 911 Fund and Sewer Fund 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. The budget process has begun.
- Derrick Ratliffe, City Inspector, reported on the cutting of the commercial grass properties. Street signs are being systematically replaced with new signs.
- Halloween trick or treat will be on Saturday October 31st - however, anyone not wanting to participate due to Covid concerns please remember the standard practice of no outside lights. The Newport Elementary School will have a trick or treat drive-thru on Thursday October 29th at the Newport Elementary School. The Newport Police Department will not have a trick or treat event this year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Newport Police Department will assist the School with any donations received.

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NEW BUSINESS:

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**APPOINT TOMIO “TOMMY” OKADA TO NEWPORT ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO FILL UNEXPIRED TERM OF SHOTA
“DAVE” KAJIKAWA (TERM EXPIRING 5/26/25)**

41 Mayor Stewart stated the Newport Economic Development Commission has asked that
42 Tomio “Tommy” Okada, the new CEO of Arkansas Steel Associates, be appointed to fill the
43 unexpired term of Shota “Dave” Kajikawa. A motion by Moss and second by Allen to
44 appoint Tomio “Tommy” Okada to the Newport Economic Development Commission with a
45 term expiring 5/26/2025 carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Green, Allen, May, Falwell,
46 Pankey, Mansko, Moss and Lake.

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**REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE WHITE RIVER REGIONAL PORT AUTHORITY
COMMISSION**

- DERECK HAIGWOOD (TERM EXP. 10/2/23)
 - DEAN SIDES (TERM EXP. 10/2/23)
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52 Mayor Stewart stated both Dereck Haigwood and Dean Sides had expressed their willingness
53 to be reappointed to the White River Regional Port Authority. A motion by Pankey and
54 second by Falwell to reappoint Dereck Haigwood to the White River Regional Port Authority
55 with a term expiring 10/2/2023 carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Lake, May, Moss, Mansko,
56 Falwell, Pankey, Allen and Green.

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58 A motion by Falwell and second by Moss to reappoint Dean Sides to the White River
59 Regional Port Authority with a term expiring 10/2/2023 carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by
60 Mansko, Moss, Allen, Lake, Pankey, Green, Falwell and May.

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62 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

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64 **GOLF CART ORDINANCE CONSIDERATION**

65 Mayor Stewart stated that after the 1st reading of the proposed Golf Cart Ordinance last
66 month some changes had been made to the Ordinance. The new proposed Ordinance
67 changes the age of the driver from 16 years old with a driver’s license to a driver 14 years old
68 or older and deletes the requirement for a flag and mirror. City Attorney Pettie read the 1st
69 reading of the new proposed Ordinance in its entirety. After lengthy discussion, the current
70 Golf Cart Ordinance will remain in effect and the proposed Ordinance will be tabled for the
71 present.

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

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75 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 2ND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2020

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MAYOR

79 ATTEST:
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82 CITY CLERK