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**CITY OF NEWPORT  
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
MARCH 1, 2021**

10 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, March 1,  
11 2021 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom. 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, Kathy Green, Donny Ivie, Regina Lake,  
16 Leroy Mansko, Andy May and Julie Moss. Council Member Carol Falwell was absent.

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

18 A motion by May and second by Moss to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2021  
19 meeting carried (6/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Green, Ivie, Lake, May, and Moss.  
20 Leroy Mansko abstained due to being absent on February 1, 2021.

21 **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

22 Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- 23 • In accordance with Arkansas Code Ann. §14-59-116 the annual publication of the  
24 2020 City Financial Statement was published in the Newport Independent on  
25 February 11, 2021.
- 26 • The January 2021 Financial Statements for the General Fund, Street Fund, 911 Fund,  
27 Sewer Fund and Newport Airport Commission were given to each Council Member.  
28 Mayor Stewart asked that each Council Member review the financial statements and  
29 direct any questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey or to him.

30 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - NONE**

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32 **NEW BUSINESS:**

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34 **BID CONSIDERATION: TWO (2) NEW 2021 CHEVROLET TAHOE POLICE**  
35 **PURSUIT VEHICLES**

36 Mayor Stewart presented proof of publication in the Newport Independent and a handwritten  
37 tabulation of the two bids received. Superior Automotive in Siloam Springs, Arkansas bid  
38 \$36,325.26 each for a 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle. George Kell Motors in  
39 Newport, Arkansas bid \$36,000.00 each for a 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle.  
40 After discussion, a motion by Green and second by May to accept the bid from George Kell  
41 Motors for \$36,000.00 per vehicle carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Green, Ivie, Moss  
42 Lake, May and Mansko.

43  
44 **STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**

45 Mayor Stewart reviewed the State of the City, as required by Arkansas Statute 14-58-302.  
46 Mayor Stewart gave an informative overview of each department including:

- 47  
48 1. Sales Taxes received in February - City - \$151,768, County - \$88,926 and NEDC  
49 - \$75,884.

- 50 2. Police Department is fully staffed. Police Officers are taking the police vehicles  
51 home with them showing police presence in our neighborhoods.  
52 3. Fire Department is short two paramedics. A new Fire Pumper Truck is needed  
53 and the plan is to apply for a grant through White River Planning and  
54 Development.  
55 4. Court Department has a new judge – Judge Henry Boyce.  
56 5. The Advertising and Promotion Commission has approved funds for a new score  
57 board and 2 sets of bleachers for George Kell Park. High School Baseball will  
58 start this week at George Kell Park.  
59 6. Recycling Department is using women from Project New Start for recycling labor  
60 due to the Covid-19 restrictions on the Arkansas Department of Corrections.  
61 7. Mosquito Department is gearing up for mosquito season and will be taking bids  
62 for the mosquito chemicals in the next few days.  
63 8. Sewer Department has budgeted \$250,000 for sewer rehab for 2021. Last year  
64 unexpected repairs were required in a few areas costing approximately \$340,000.  
65 9. Sanitation Department continued picking up garbage during the snowstorm.  
66 10. Street Department will begin to work on the potholes left by the snowstorm in the  
67 coming weeks. Rice Road between the Airbase and the Prison is temporarily  
68 closed due to replacement of a tile with a railroad car.  
69 11. A grant through the USDA for a new Animal Shelter is being researched.  
70

71 **GOOD OF THE CITY**

72 The flooding caused by the combination of the heavy snow and heavy rain was discussed.  
73 Mayor Stewart stated at this time no houses are known to have flooded. Parts of town have  
74 curb and gutter which are designed to keep the water in the street and away from the houses.  
75 The center part of town the flood waters mainly go into the lake which is high at this time  
76 due to the amount of rain received. The north end of town flood waters go mainly into the  
77 big concrete ditch. The water hog pump was turned on as soon as the ditch got to a high  
78 enough level. The gates are open, the pumps are running and the river is low at this time  
79 therefore the flood waters are receding as quickly as possible.  
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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 5<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2021  
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85 \_\_\_\_\_  
86 MAYOR

87 ATTEST:  
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90 CITY CLERK