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CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 1, 2022

The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday August 1, 2022 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom. Regular Council Meetings are being held once a month 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, Carol Falwell, Kathy Green, Donny Ivie, Regina Lake, Leroy Mansko and Andy May. City Attorney John Pettie was present. Council Member Julie Moss was absent.

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

Mayor Stewart welcomed new Police Chief Larry Dulaney. Mayor Stewart stated Chief Allen Edwards retired and has taken a position with Modern Woodman.

A motion by Allen and second by Lake to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2022 meeting carried (5/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Green, Lake, Mansko and May. Ivie abstained due to being absent on July 11, 2022.

A motion by Allen and second by Green to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2022 meeting carried (5/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Green, Lake, Mansko and May. Falwell and Ivie abstained due to being absent on July 20, 2022.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- An electronic copy of the May and June 2022 Financial Statements for the Newport Airport Commission was sent to each Council Member with their Council package. Mayor Stewart asked that if any Council Member had any questions to please direct their questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey or himself.
- After discussion, a motion by Falwell and second by Green to reappoint Allen, Ivie and May to the City Council Parks Grant Committee carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by May, Allen, Green, Ivie, Mansko, Falwell and Lake.
- Steve Carpenter was hired to demolish 3 burnt out buildings. NEDC will pay for the cleaning up of these structures.
- The first intersection in the Sink Addition has become elevated due to hot weather. Estimates are being done to repair this intersection. The repair will require 4 different pouring of concrete due to the flow of traffic to the residential homes. Mayor Stewart asked the Council to consider using the ARPA reimbursement funds to fund the project after the estimates are obtained.
- Bids will be opened on August 25th for a new Dog Pound.
- Bids will be opened on August 4th at 10 a.m. for the new George Kell Park Concession Stand.
- Ritter Communications has stated in about 3 months they hope to be going on line with residential high speed internet and cable.
- City Sales Tax received in July was \$170,160, County Sales Tax was \$103,610 and NEDC Sales Tax was \$85,080.

- 51 • After discussion, a motion by Allen and second by Mansko to appropriate \$46,800 of
52 ARPA funds for the concrete ditch repair carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by May, Allen,
53 Green, Ivie, Mansko, Falwell and Lake.
54

55 **NEW BUSINESS:**

56

57 **REAPPOINTMENTS TO NEWPORT PLANNING COMMISSION**

- 58 • **RICHARD CARRAWAY (TERM EXP. JULY 2025)**
59 • **JESSE DAVIS (TERM EXP. JULY 2025)**
60 • **TODD WATSON (TERM EXP. JULY 2025)**
61

62 A motion by Lake and second by Green to reappoint Richard Carraway to the Newport Planning
63 Commission with a term expiring July 2025 carried(7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Green, Ivie,
64 Lake, Falwell, May and Mansko.
65

66 A motion by Green and second by Falwell to reappoint Jesse Davis to the Newport Planning
67 Commission with a term expiring July 2025 carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Falwell, Ivie,
68 Allen, May, Lake, Green and Mansko.
69

70 A motion by Falwell and second by Lake to reappoint Todd Watson to the Newport Planning
71 Commission with a term expiring July 2025 carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by May, Mansko,
72 Green, Allen, Lake, Falwell and Ivie.
73

74 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

75

76 **MELVIN BLEVINS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ABOUT MALCOLM AVENUE**
77 **PROPERTY**

78

79 Mayor Stewart recognized Melvin Blevins. Mr. Blevins gave an outline of items that he has
80 obtained estimates on to start the process of getting his property at 1203-1205 Malcolm into
81 City Code.
82

83 **NEW BUSINESS:**

84

85 **JIM MCLARTY TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ABOUT SUDDENLINK**

86

87 Mayor Stewart stated Mr. McLarty had asked to be placed on the Agenda to voice his
88 dissatisfaction with Suddenlink. Mayor Stewart stated he had informed Mr. McLarty that Ritter
89 Communications was hoping to be able to provide internet and cable service to residents in
90 approximately 3 months. Mr. McLarty was not present at the meeting to address the Council.
91

92 With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.
93

94 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 6TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022
95

96

97

MAYOR

98

ATTEST:

99

100

101 CITY CLERK