

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8

**CITY OF NEWPORT  
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 5, 2022**

9 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday,  
10 December 5, 2022 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom. Regular Council Meetings  
11 are being held once a month due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.  
12

13 Mayor Stewart called the meeting to order. City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey called the roll.  
14 Council members present were Michael Allen, Carol Falwell, Kathy Green, Donny Ivie,  
15 Regina Lake, Andy May and Julie Moss. Council Member Leroy Mansko arrived a few  
16 minutes later. City Attorney John Pettie was present.  
17

18 Following the invocation by Carol Falwell, those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.  
19

20 A motion by May and second by Falwell to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2022  
21 Meeting carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Falwell, Green, Ivie, Lake, May and Moss.  
22

23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

36 Mayor Stewart had the following reports:

- 37 • An electronic copy of the October 2022 Financial Statements for the Newport Airport  
38 was sent to each Council Member with their council package. Mayor Stewart asked  
39 that if any Council Member had any questions to please direct their questions to City  
40 Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey or himself.
- 41 • Mayor Stewart stated the Arkansas Department of Transportation should be letting us  
42 know any day on the naming rights of the new bridge.
- 43 • Mayor Stewart asked Parks Director Long to give an update on the possibility of  
44 some new tournaments starting this spring at George Kell Park. Director Long stated  
45 he had been contacted by ASUN – Kevin Pearce. ASUN is planning to start a junior  
46 college softball program in 2023 and a baseball program in 2024. Director Long  
47 stated that a meeting is being planned to work out the details.
- 48 • City Sales Tax received in November was \$164,594, County Sales Tax was \$106,594  
49 and NEDC Sales Tax was \$82,297.  
50

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1133**

40 After discussion, a motion by Lake and second by Green to read the Ordinance by caption  
41 only carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Moss, Ivie, Green, May, Lake, Mansko, Allen and  
42 Falwell. City Attorney Pettie read the Ordinance by caption only.  
43

44 A motion by Allen and second by Mansko to suspend the rules in their entirety and forego  
45 the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Moss, Ivie, Green, May, Lake,  
46 Mansko, Allen and Falwell.  
47

48 A motion by Allen and second by Moss to accept the Ordinance carried (8/0) with “yes”  
49 votes by Falwell, Ivie, Moss, Allen, May, Lake, Green and Mansko.  
50

51 **NEW BUSINESS:**

52

53 **APPOINT CHARLIE STEEL TO NEWPORT PLANNING COMMISSION (TERM**  
54 **EXPIRING 12/2025)**

55

56 Mayor Stewart stated he had spoken with Charlie Steel about being on the Newport Planning  
57 Commission and Mr. Steel had agreed if the Council chooses him. A motion by Moss and  
58 second by Falwell to appoint Charlie Steel to the Newport Planning Commission with a term  
59 expiring 12/2025 carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Ivie, Moss, Allen, Mansko, Falwell,  
60 Green, Lake and May.

61

62 **RESOLUTION: CONTRACT OF OBLIGATION WITH DIVISION OF**  
63 **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

64

65 Mayor Stewart gave a brief overview of the contract of obligation required by the Division of  
66 Environmental Quality. City Attorney Pettie read the Resolution in its entirety giving the  
67 Mayor the authority to enter into a Contract of Obligation with the Division of  
68 Environmental Quality as authorized by Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-6-1603. A motion by  
69 Allen and second by Moss to approve the Resolution carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Lake,  
70 May, Moss, Mansko, Falwell, Ivie, Allen and Green.

71

72 **RESOLUTION: REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE NEWPORT ECONOMIC**  
73 **DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION 2023 BUDGET**

74

75 Mayor Stewart presented the 2023 Proposed Budget for the Newport Economic Development  
76 Commission. City Attorney read the Resolution in its entirety. After discussion, a motion by  
77 Lake and second by Moss to approve the Resolution acknowledging review and approval of  
78 the 2023 Newport Economic Development Commission Proposed Budget carried (8/0) with  
79 “yes” votes by Allen, Green, Ivie, Moss, Lake, Falwell, May and Mansko.

80

81 **RESOLUTION: REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE NEWPORT AIRPORT**  
82 **COMMISSION 2023 BUDGET**

83

84 Mayor Stewart presented the 2023 Proposed Budget for the Newport Airport Commission.  
85 Mayor Stewart recognized Chairman McLarty who gave an overview of the Airport and  
86 future plans. City Attorney Pettie read the Resolution in its entirety. After discussion, a  
87 motion by Ivie and second by Mansko to approve the Resolution acknowledging review and  
88 approval of the 2023 Newport Airport Commission Proposed Budget carried (8/0) with “yes”  
89 votes by Mansko, Falwell, Green, Lake, Moss, Allen, Ivie and May.

90

91 **RESOLUTION: ADOPT 2023 CITY BUDGET**

92

93 Mayor Stewart stated he hand delivered a copy of the Proposed 2023 City Budget to each  
94 Council Member on December 1, 2022. Mayor Stewart gave a detailed review of the  
95 proposed 2023 revenues and 2023 expenses by each department and answered questions  
96 from the Council. Mayor Stewart stated the hope for salary increases of more than 3% was  
97 crushed by the 35.8% increase in the cost of health benefit premiums for 2023. The 2023  
98 Proposed Budget includes a 3% salary increase with the cost to the employee for health  
99 benefit premiums remaining at \$66.16 per month. After discussion, City Attorney Pettie read  
100 the Resolution in its entirety. A motion by Allen and second by Lake to approve the

101 Resolution adopting the Proposed 2023 Budget for the City of Newport carried (8/0) with  
102 “yes” votes by Green, Allen, May, Falwell, Ivie, Lake, Moss and Mansko.

103

104 **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING 2023 SALARIES FOR CITY CLERK/TREASURER**  
105 **AND CITY ATTORNEY**

106

107 Mayor Stewart stated that A.C.A. § 14-43-313 requires a first class city to set the salaries of  
108 the City Clerk/Treasurer and City Attorney by Ordinance. City Attorney Pettie read the  
109 Ordinance in its entirety. A motion by Allen and second by Moss to suspend the rules in  
110 their entirety and forego the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of the Ordinance authorizing the 2023  
111 salaries of the City Clerk/Treasurer and City Attorney carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by May,  
112 Mansko, Moss, Green, Allen, Lake, Falwell and Ivie.

113

114 A motion by Green and second by Moss to accept the Ordinance carried (8/0) with “yes”  
115 votes by Moss, Ivie, Green, May, Lake, Mansko, Allen and Falwell.

116

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

118

119 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2023

120

121

122

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

123

ATTEST:

124

125

126

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK