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**CITY OF NEWPORT**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL**  
**FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

23 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session Monday, February  
24 6, 2023 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom. Regular Council Meetings are being  
25 held once a month due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

26 Mayor Ratliffe called the meeting to order. City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey called the roll.  
27 Council members present were Michael Allen, Carol Falwell, Donny Ivie, Regina Lake,  
28 Andy May, Julie Moss and Marcus Simpson. Council Member Leroy Mansko arrived a few  
29 minutes later. City Attorney John Pettie was present.

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

31 A motion by Lake and second by Moss to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2023  
32 meeting carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Falwell, Ivie, Lake, May, Moss and  
33 Simpson.

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**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mayor Ratliffe had the following reports:

- An electronic copy of the December 2022 Financial Statements for the General Fund, Street Fund, 911 Fund, Sewer Fund, Administration of Justice Fund, Grant Fund, Intoximeter Fund, District Court Cost Fund, Court Automation Fund, Drug Control Fund, Advertising & Promotion Fund, Fed Aid Grant Fund, Judge/Clerk Retirement Fund, NEDC Fund and Newport Airport was sent to each Council Member with their council package. Mayor Ratliffe asked that if any Council Member had any questions to please direct their questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey.
- City Sales Tax received in January was \$168,055, County Sales Tax was \$106,409 and NEDC Sales Tax was \$84,028.
- Ms. Sharon Pankey sent a letter to the Mayor resigning from the Newport Beautiful Commission.
- Mayor Ratliffe presented two quotes to repair 2<sup>nd</sup> Street at the entrance to the drive through at Merchants and Planters Bank.

○ Newport Construction Inc.	\$43,800.00
○ Curt Coles	\$16,550.00

- After discussion, a motion by Allen and second by Simpson to use Curt Coles to repair the area carried (8/0) with “yes” votes by Lake, Mansko, Falwell, Simpson, Ivie, May, Allen and Moss.
- Mayor Ratliffe stated the Police Department will start in-house online training on intervention when excess force is being used. Mayor Ratliffe recognized Lieutenant Mark Harmon. Lieutenant Harmon gave an informative overview of the revised policy of the Newport Police Department on intervention.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

50 **JON CHADWELL, NEWPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
51 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ABOUT ANNUAL N.E.D.C.**  
52 **STRATEGIC PLAN**

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54 Director Chadwell gave each member a copy of the NEDC 2023 Comprehensive Strategic  
55 Plan. Director Chadwell gave a very informative overview of the (9) nine Strategic  
56 Objectives. Director Chadwell invited all the elected officials to a meeting of the “Economic  
57 Development Strategies and Networking Northeast Arkansas Elected Officials” on February  
58 28, 2023 at the Embassy Suites in Jonesboro. Director Chadwell stated the Newport  
59 Economic Development Commission would pay for any official that wished to attend.  
60 Director Chadwell also invited the Council to a round table discussion on a possible  
61 agreement concerning leasing of property from the City of Newport to the Newport School  
62 District. The meeting will be held on Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

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

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66 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2023

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MAYOR

70 ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK