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**CITY OF NEWPORT  
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
MARCH 2, 2026**

13 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session March 2, 2026 in  
14 the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

15 Mayor Ratliffe called the meeting to order. City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey called the roll.  
16 Council members present were Michael Allen, Allen Edwards, Carol Falwell, Wendell  
17 Green, Regina Lake, Leroy Mansko, Andy May and Julie Moss. City Attorney Pettie was  
18 present.

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

20 A motion by Lake and second by Green to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2026  
21 Meeting carried (7/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Edwards, Green, Lake, Mansko, May and  
22 Moss. Falwell abstained due to being absent on February 2, 2026.

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**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

34 Mayor Ratliffe had the following reports:

- 35 • A paper copy of the 2025 Financial Statements Publication was presented to each  
36 Council Member with their council package.
- 37 • An electronic copy of the January 2026 Financial Statements for the General Fund,  
38 Street Fund, 911 Fund, Sewer Fund, Administration of Justice Fund, Grant Fund,  
39 Intoximeter Fund, District Court Cost Fund, Court Automation Fund, Drug Control  
40 Fund, Advertising & Promotion Fund, Fed Aid Grant Fund, Judge/Clerk Retirement  
41 Fund, NEDC Fund and Airport was sent to each Council Member with their council  
42 package. Mayor Ratliffe asked that if any Council Member had any questions to  
43 please direct their questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey.
- 44 • City Sales Tax received in February was \$186,640, County Sales Tax was \$123,373,  
45 and NEDC Sales Tax was \$93,320.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**DISCUSS FIRE STATION #1 ROOF**

Mayor Ratliffe recognized Mr. Nate Easley from Cleanway Restoration and Construction.  
Mr. Easley gave an informative overview of the damage and process for repairing the roof  
damage at Fire Station #1 from a hail storm. After discussion, the Council requested the  
insurance report be sent to each member electronically with depreciation allowance included.

**BID CONSIDERATION: GARBAGE BAGS**

Mayor Ratliffe presented proof of publication in the Newport Independent and the  
handwritten bid tabulation for the garbage bags. Two bids were received:

Sigma Supply, Inc.	\$10.39/per roll includes sales tax
Unipak Corp.	\$8.85/per roll includes sales tax

51 After discussion, a motion by Green and second by Moss to accept the bid of \$10.39 per roll  
52 from Sigma Supply, Inc. (due to the durability of Sigma trash bags) carried (8/0) with “yes”  
53 votes by May, Green, Moss, Allen, Mansko, Edwards, Falwell and Lake.

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55 **STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**

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57 Mayor Ratliffe reviewed the State of the City, as required by Arkansas Statute 14-58-302.  
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59 Mayor Ratliffe gave an informative overview of the City including the following:  
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- 61 1. Police Department is fully staffed with each shift having three patrol officers. Crime  
62 rate continues to decrease.
- 63 2. Fire Department has begun working on getting the ambulance billing done in house.  
64 Four more firefighters have become EMT’s.
- 65 3. Recycling Center’s Brittney Kilgore continues to work hard keeping the Recycling  
66 Center productive with the aid of the Arkansas Department of Correction Workers.
- 67 4. Superintendent Scudder continues to reduce the cost of repairs by doing repairs in  
68 house. Sanitation Department runs two trucks four days a week. Street Department  
69 has started cleaning storm drains.
- 70 5. Juice Tech Inc. has donated funds to the City. A portion of the funds will be used to  
71 remove dilapidated houses that have been condemned.
- 72 6. Sewer Department has started the sludge removal process budgeted for this year.  
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74 With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.  
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76 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2026  
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MAYOR

80 ATTEST:

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83 CITY CLERK