CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 6, 2026

The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session April 6, 2026 in the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

Mayor Ratliffe called the meeting to order. Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer McKissac called the roll. Council members present were Michael Allen, Allen Edwards, Carol Falwell, Wendell Green, Regina Lake and Leroy Mansko. City Attorney Pettie was present. Council Members May and Moss were absent.

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

A motion by Lake and second by Falwell to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2026 Meeting carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Allen, Edwards, Falwell, Green, Lake and Mansko.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Ratliffe had the following reports:

- An electronic copy of the February 2026 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 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 March was $156,799 County Sales Tax was $106,427 and NEDC Sales Tax was $78,400.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

DISCUSS QUOTES RECEIVED FOR FIRE STATION #1 ROOF REPAIR

Mayor Ratliffe tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

REAPPOINTMENTS TO NEWPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

- **SCOTT FOUSHEE (TERM EXPIRING 5/1/31)**
- **LEE SCOGGINS (TERM EXPIRING 5/1/31)**
- **DEAN SIDES (TERM EXPIRING 5/1/31)**

A motion by Edwards and second by Falwell to reappoint Scott Foushee to the Newport Economic Development Commission with a term expiring 5/1/31 carried (6/0) with "yes votes by Allen, Edwards, Green, Falwell, Mansko and Lake.

A motion by Edwards and second by Mansko to reappoint Lee Scoggins to the Newport Economic Development Commission with a term expiring 5/1/31 carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Edwards, Green, Lake, Falwell, Allen and Mansko.

A motion by Edwards and second by Green to reappoint Dean Sides to the Newport Economic Development Commission with a term expiring 5/1/31 carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Falwell, Allen, Edwards, Mansko, Lake and Green.

APPOINTMENTS TO NEWPORT PLANNING COMMISSION

- **APPOINT DAKOTA TUCKER (TERM EXP. JULY 2029)**
- **REAPPOINT DR. JABEZ JACKSON (TERM EXP. JULY 2029)**
- **REAPPOINT DR. PATTI MULLINS (TERM EXP. JULY 2029)**
- **REAPPOINT MARY BRATCHER REID (TERM EXP. JULY 2029)**

A motion by Edwards and second by Allen to appoint Dakota Tucker to the Newport Planning Commission with a term expiring July 2029 carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Green, Edwards, Falwell, Lake, Allen and Mansko.

A motion by Edwards and second by Falwell to reappoint Dr. Jabez Jackson to the Newport Planning Commission with a term expiring July 2029 carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Lake, Mansko, Green, Edwards, Falwell, Allen.

A motion by Edwards and second by Mansko to reappoint Dr. Patti Mullins to the Newport Planning Commission with a term expiring July 2029 carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Mansko, Falwell, Green, Edwards, Lake and Allen.

A motion by Edwards and second by Lake to reappoint Mary Bratcher Reid to the Newport Planning Commission with a term expiring July 2029 carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Green Allen, Mansko, Edwards, Falwell and Lake.

BID CONSIDERATION: CONSTRUCTION OF A TURF SOFTBALL FIELD-GEORGE KELL PARK

Mayor Ratliffe tabled this item to receive additional information.

RESOLUTION: AEDC GRANT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AT AIRBASE INDUSTRIAL PARK

City Attorney Pettie read the Resolution authorizing the City of Newport to receive grant funds from AEDC, to expend matching funds as pledged, and authorizing the Executive Director of the NEDC to execute all grant paperwork on behalf of the NEDC and the City of Newport in its entirety. After discussion, a motion by Allen and second by Edwards to approve the Resolution carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Allen, Edwards, Green, Falwell, Mansko and Lake.

ORDINANCE: PERMITTING DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS FOR A PERIOD BEGINNING JUNE 21 AND EXPIRING JULY 5 OF EACH YEAR

City Attorney Pettie read the first reading of the Ordinance permitting the discharge of fireworks for a period beginning June 21 and expiring July 5 of each year in its entirety. After discussion, it was requested a cutoff of 11 p.m. each night and add any burn bans by the City of Newport. City Attorney Pettie will add these items for the second reading.

ORDINANCE: AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH HAWKEYE ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR CERTAIN ROAD REPAIRS AND WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS

City Attorney John Pettie read the Ordinance in its entirety. After discussion, a motion by Falwell and second by Edwards to suspend the rules in their entirety and forego the second and third readings carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Falwell, Allen, Edwards, Mansko, Lake and Green.

A motion by Allen and second by Mansko to approve the Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Hawkeye Enterprises, Inc. for a street project on Galeria Drive costing $112,384 carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Edwards, Green, Lake, Falwell, Allen and Mansko.

A motion by Allen and second by Edwards to approve the emergency clause carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Green, Edwards, Falwell, Lake, Allen and Mansko.

ORDINANCES: 6 ORDINANCES PERMITTING THE CITY TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITH:

- **D.T. ALLEN & CO., INC. AND MICHAEL ALLEN**
- **MICHAEL N. TURNER, CPA**
- **DARLING & GRADY RENTALS**
- **MOSQUITO PRODUCTS, LLC AND SHANE GRADY**
- **GEORGE KELL MOTORS, INC. AND DEAN SIDES**
- **GRADY'S AUCTIONS & REALTY, INC.**

Mayor Ratliffe stated that the next 6 Ordinances were to (A.C.A. § $14-42-107(b)$) permit an alderman, council member, official, or municipal employee to conduct business with the City. A motion by Edwards and second by Lake to suspend the rules in their entirety and read the Ordinance by caption only and forego the second and third readings for the following 6 Ordinances carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Lake, Mansko, Green, Edwards, Falwell and Allen.

City Attorney Pettie read the Ordinance by caption only for D.T. Allen & Co., Inc. and Michael Allen. A motion by Edwards and second by Mansko to approve the Ordinance carried (5/0/1) with "yes" votes by Mansko, Falwell, Green, Edwards and Lake. Allen abstained.

City Attorney Pettie read the Ordinance by caption only for Michael N. Turner, CPA. A motion by Edwards and second by Falwell to approve the Ordinance carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Green, Allen, Mansko, Edwards, Falwell and Lake.

City Attorney Pettie read the Ordinance by caption only for Darling & Grady Rentals. A motion by Falwell and second by Green to approve the Ordinance carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Falwell, Edwards, Green, Allen, Lake and Mansko.

City Attorney Pettie read the Ordinance by caption only for Mosquito Products, LLC and Shane Grady. A motion by Edwards and second by Falwell to approve the Ordinance carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Allen, Edwards, Green, Falwell, Mansko and Lake.

City Attorney Pettie read the Ordinance by caption only for George Kell Motors, Inc. and Dean Sides. A motion by Edwards and second by Allen to approve the Ordinance carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Edwards, Green, Lake, Falwell, Allen and Mansko.

City Attorney Pettie read the Ordinance by caption only for Grady's Auctions & Realty, Inc. A motion by Edwards and second by Mansko to approve the Ordinance carried (6/0) with "yes" votes by Falwell, Allen, Edwards, Mansko, Lake and Green.

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

PASSED AND APPROVED THE 4TH DAY OF MAY, 2026

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK