



**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NEWPORT CITY HALL
January 7, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Elliott called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on January 7, 2021.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present (4): Mayor Laurie Elliott, Council Member Kevin Chapdelaine, Council Member Tom Ingemann, and Council Member Marvin Taylor.

Not Present (0): None.

4. ADOPT AGENDA

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 4-0.

5. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes-** December 3, 2020- Regular Council
- B. Minutes-** December 10, 2020- Special Council
- C. Minutes-** December 17, 2020- Special Council
- D. Minutes-** December 17, 2020- Regular Council
- E. Proclamation No. 2021-01-** State of Emergency
- F. Resolution No. 2021-01-** Official Depository
- G. Resolution No. 2021-02-** Official Safety Deposit Box
- H. Resolution No. 2021-03-** Official Newspaper
- I. Resolution No. 2021-04-** 2021 Fee Schedule
- J. Resolution No. 2021-05-** Election Judges
- K. Resolution No. 2021-06-** Declaration of Emergency Extension
- L. Resolution No. 2021-07-** Polling Location
- M. Master Subscriber Agreement**
- N. Resolution No. 2021-08-** Approving Master Subscriber Agreement
- O. LMC Liability Coverage Waiver**
- P. List of Bills-** \$1,613,305.08

Member Taylor requested to have Resolution No. 2021-03 and Resolution No. 2021-06 pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda with the removal of items H and K. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 4-0.

Member Taylor inquired if the Pioneer Press reaches enough Newport residents. Assistant to the City Administrator Travis Brierley stated this item was changed last year from The Bulletin to the Pioneer Press which has circulation in Newport. The newspaper was also approved by our attorney. Member Taylor stated his concern was on the effectiveness of the Pioneer Press. Assistant Brierley stated all public notices are also posted on the City's website.

Member Taylor motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2021-03 for the Official Newspaper. Seconded by Member Chapdelaine. Approved 4-0.

Member Taylor inquired about the necessity of declaring the state of emergency. Mayor Elliott stated that it allows us to meet remotely. Assistant Brierley stated the resolution is a required follow up to the proclamation that was approved during the consent agenda. This resolution allows us to hold remote meetings and provides flexibility for the City to react to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2021-06 for the Declaration of Emergency Extension. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 4-0.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

7. 2021 APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Elliott stated there is a list of the 2021 appointments in the packet for approval. Member Taylor stated he did not see anything in our ordinance that establishes a civil defense director. Member Ingemann stated it has always been the Fire Chief. City Administrator Deb Hill stated we have an emergency management plan that implements Fire Chief Steve Wiley.

Member Ingemann motioned to approve the 2021 appointments as presented. Seconded by Member Chapdelaine. Approved 4-0.

8. WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

Washington County Sheriff's Deputy Sergeant Bill Harrell stated earlier today they were dispatched to the 2100 block of 3rd Avenue for a female with a firearm. They had additional police resources from St. Paul Park, Cottage Grove, Woodbury, and the Washington County SWAT Team assisting with negotiations that lasted over an hour. The female was taken into custody by use of less lethal munitions and was minimally injured. No officers were injured.

Sergeant Harrell stated during the week of Christmas they caught a mail thief in Newport that was actively stealing mail on Ford Road. The caller took pictures and immediately called police with a good vehicle description. Sergeant Harrell reminded residents to call if they see anything suspicious.

Sergeant Harrell stated that Deputy Dave Eichman has asked to leave the Newport contract for personal reasons as he has moved farther away from Newport. Deputy Eichman has been replaced by Deputy Keith Schipp. Sergeant Harrell stated that Deputy Schipp will do a great job and fits in with our core values.

9. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

None.

10. ENGINEER'S REPORT

None.

11. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Superintendent of Public Works Bruce Hanson stated that tomorrow night the skating rinks will open. The lights will be on from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The warming houses will not be open.

12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Bailey Road Study

City Planner Sherri Buss stated that prior to the comprehensive plan, the Bailey Road area was included in the residential estates (RE) district. In the RE district, any property within 100 feet of municipal services is treated as R-1. The City extended municipal services to the public works parcel as a part of extending services to Bailey Meadows. With the comprehensive plan, the Bailey Road area was zoned R-2. In January 2020, the Council placed a one-year moratorium on development in the Bailey Road area to consider regulations to address the steep slopes, stormwater, transportation, and other issues for future development of the area. The City recently extended the moratorium to May 2021. The Planning Commission updated the bluff area overlay ordinance and the PUD ordinance with the idea of regulating development that would occur in this area under R-2. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and one of the outcomes was they believe the zoning for this area should be RE due to the topography. The Council has continued the zoning discussions for this Bailey Road area and are considering several options.

Member Ingemann stated he would like a PUD for the eastern Libby property, but leave the rest of the area RE. Planner Buss stated the Libby property is required to be R-1 even if Council zones the entire area RE due to the proximity of municipal services. Planner Buss stated a change was made to our PUD ordinance that does not allow any multi-family residential uses in the RE, R1-A, or R-1 district.

Member Ingemann inquired about R-2 densities. Planner Buss stated in R-2 you can have townhouses, smaller multi-family developments, as well as single family homes. The Bailey Meadows development is R-2 and that is how they were able to build the villa homes which are about 7 units per acre. Villas would not be allowed in R-1.

Planner Buss stated if this area is zoned with the drafted R-3 (PUD) district, then anyone who develops must have a PUD which requires a conditional use permit (CUP). Mayor Elliott stated in that case the control is limited to how clearly the requirements are defined. Planner Buss stated that most PUD ordinances are general because the City would be in negotiations with the developers.

Member Taylor stated he is opposed to a PUD. Member Taylor stated the two big issues are topography which is covered by the updated bluff overlay ordinance and the access issues which is covered in the subdivision ordinance. Member Taylor would support RE or R-1, but nothing beyond that. Member Chapdelaine stated he is not interested in anything denser than R-1 and the only reason he was looking at PUD was for creativity. Most of the Council would like this area zoned RE, with the understanding that the Libby property can develop R-1.

Member Chapdelaine motioned to send this to the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing in February to change the Bailey Road zoning area to RE. Seconded by Member Taylor. Approved 3-1 (Ingemann).

13. MAYOR'S REPORT

None.

14. COUNCIL REPORTS

Member Taylor thanked Bill Sumner for coming to this council meeting after serving for 12 years.

Member Ingemann stated there was a cable commission meeting where they set their budget.

Member Chapdelaine congratulated Mayor Elliott and Member Taylor and is looking forward to the next four years.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 4-0.

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m. on January 7, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Thiesfeld
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: _____
Laurie Elliott, Mayor