



**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NEWPORT CITY HALL
April 1, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Elliott called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on April 1, 2021.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present (5): Mayor Laurie Elliott, Council Member Kevin Chapdelaine, Council Member Tom Ingemann, Council Member Marvin Taylor, and Council Member Rozlyn Johnson.

Not Present (0): None.

4. ADOPT AGENDA

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adopt the Agenda. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 5-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

6. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes- March 4, 2021 Workshop
- B. Minutes- March 18, 2021 Regular Council
- C. Chicken Permit- Staudt
- D. Ordinance No. 2021-05- Trash Containers
- E. Resolution No. 2021-18- Library Donation
- F. Resolution No. 2021-19- State of Emergency Extension
- G. List of Bills- \$108,459.42

Member Ingemann motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 5-0.

7. WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

None.

8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

None.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

City Engineer Jon Herdegen stated the contractor for the 12th Street & 12th Avenue improvement project will be returning on Monday to begin completing the final boulevard restoration and seeding work.

10. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

None.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Shoreland Ordinance

1. Ordinance No. 2021-06- Shoreland

City Planner Sherri Buss stated that Council was given a draft of the proposed changes to the Shoreland ordinance for approval. The City needs to address the overlap and inconsistencies between the new Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) ordinance and the old Shoreland ordinance as they cover much of the same area. The Minnesota DNR has given local governments the option to remove the Mississippi area from the Shoreland ordinance so that we would only have one ordinance covering that area. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed ordinance on March 9th. The Planning Commission received a comment from a resident, Bill Sumner, who stated he supports adopting the amendment and streamlining the governance on the Mississippi river.

Member Taylor inquired if we have more restrictive standards in our zoning, would they take precedence over what is in the Shoreland ordinance. Planner Buss stated that the stricter standards always apply.

Member Taylor motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-06 for the Shoreland Ordinance. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 5-0.

B. Pioneer Day 2021

Assistant to the City Administrator Travis Brierley stated he reached out to Cottage Grove and found that Strawberry Fest is cancelled for this year. Assistant Brierley stated we would not have corn and there are many uncertainties and logistics that make planning difficult this year. Staff recommends that Council cancels Pioneer Day for 2021.

Member Ingemann suggested we should get a committee of citizens that would be willing plan Pioneer Day in the future instead of having City staff organize this event. Assistant Brierley stated in the past there was such committee, but over time with turnover, it was brought back to the City to organize.

Member Ingemann motioned to postpone Pioneer Day until 2022. Seconded by Member Chapdelaine. Approved 5-0.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Elliott reminded residents that Newport has an adopt-a-park/trail program on the City's website to help clean up our community by picking up trash.

Member Taylor stated one of Newport Athletic Association's primary members has moved to Woodbury. Member Taylor has been in contact with Steve Bern who has led this program. Member Taylor encouraged members of the public to contact him if they are interested in volunteering and getting this program up and running again. This association may meet on a quarterly basis, with the busiest time during the summer season.

Member Ingemann stated the RDF plant is planning a groundbreaking on April 22nd for the new building. Currently, the plan is for this event to be virtual.

Member Chapdelaine stated he met with the watershed district to continue planning for the overlooks replanting project. It is a long process, so it may take 1-2 years to complete the project. Member Chapdelaine stated he met with Great River Greening, a river-based organization, to get some ideas for our riverfront areas.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 5-0.

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m. on April 1, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Thiesfeld
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: _____
Laurie Elliott, Mayor