



**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NEWPORT CITY HALL
September 16, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Elliott called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on September 16, 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 Ingemann. Approved 5-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

6. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes-** August 19, 2021 Regular Council
- B. Minutes-** August 19, 2021 Council Workshop
- C. Minutes-** August 19, 2021 Special Council
- D. Minutes-** September 2, 2021 Regular Council
- E. Minutes-** September 2, 2021 Council Workshop
- F. Administrative Assistant Full-Time**
- G. List of Bills-** \$605,676.52
- H. Financial Statement-** August 2021

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

7. WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

Washington County Sheriff Deputy Sergeant Bill Harrell stated he had nothing formal to report but will stand for questions. Mayor Elliott inquired if Sergeant Harrell would give the public an update on firework reporting. Sergeant Harrell stated they have been getting calls for fireworks, but explained they need to witness the violation in order to take action. Sergeant Harrell encouraged people to call 911 with a good description if they witness anything suspicious and they will be happy to check it out.

8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

None.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

A. 12th Ave and 12th St- Partial Payment No. 10

City Engineer Jon Herdegen stated Public Works and MSA walked the 12th Avenue and 12th Street project site with the contractor, A-1 Excavating, on September 9th. This week A-1 Excavating sprayed for weeds and mowed the boulevard areas. Next week A-1 Excavating will be back to re-seed and fix a couple minor items. The project quantities have been finalized, and now they are mostly doing warranty work. The contractor submitted Partial Payment No. 10 in the amount of \$78,176.96 and requested reducing the retainage fees from 5% down to 1%. Engineer Herdegen explained that would leave approximately \$18,000 for that contract which exceeds the total restoration bid and therefore feels it is appropriate.

Member Johnson motioned to approved Partial Payment No. 10 in the amount of \$78,176.96, which includes reducing the retainage fees to 1% for A-1 Excavating. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 5-0.

10. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

A. H&U Pay Request- \$491,012.23

Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Matt Yokiell stated H+U submitted Pay Application No. 8 in the amount of \$491,012.23 which includes labor and materials for the new City Hall / Fire Hall. Assistant Yokiell stated once permanent power is established the plan is to set up a camera inside the building so we can continue to monitor the progress.

Member Ingemann motioned to approve Pay Application No. 8 in the amount of \$491,012.23 for H+U. Seconded by Member Chapdelaine. Approved 5-0.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Resolution No. 2021-41- Preliminary Levy Payable 2022

City Administrator Deb Hill stated we need to approve the preliminary levy for 2022. Some highlights include reducing building permit fees as the Bailey Meadows development is almost built up and adding the billboard monies which is just over \$150,000. One-time expenses include the new website and new I.T. equipment. Administrator Hill explained we are looking at a levy increase of 11.37%, but 9.37% is captured money, and therefore the actual levy increase would be 2%. The 2% levy increase equates to 19.77 per year or \$1.65 per month for a medium valued home. Mayor Elliott stated there have been a lot of budget discussions, and the goal of the Council is to have a levy increase of less than 2% if possible.

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2021-41 – Approving the Preliminary Levy for 2022. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 5-0.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Elliott stated she attended a meeting where they brainstormed questions for the upcoming park survey. The consultant will bring a draft of possible questions to the next meeting. The survey calls will most likely start in mid-October and will come from a 507-area code.

Member Taylor stated he attended the Park Survey and the Planning Commission meeting. Member Taylor stated the Planning Commission discussed the residential parking ordinance.

Member Johnson stated the Paws-to-Read program is back at the library starting September 21st. Every Tuesdays from 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. children can read to a therapy dog named Charlie.

Member Johnson stated the library is gearing up for Banned Books Week 2021 which will be held Sept 27th – Sept 30th. That week they will be spotlighting the current and historical attempts to censor books. This year’s theme is “Books Unit Us. Censorship Divides Us”.

Member Johnson stated the library is seeking volunteers to help with circulation, tutors, programs, and data input.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m. on September 16, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Thiesfeld,
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: _____
Laurie Elliott, Mayor