



**CITY OF NEWPORT  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
NEWPORT CITY HALL  
November 18, 2021**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro Temore Chapdelaine called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on November 18, 2021.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

Present (4): Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Chapdelaine, Council Member Tom Ingemann, Council Member Marvin Taylor, and Council Member Rozlyn Johnson.

Not Present (1): Mayor Laurie Elliott

**4. ADOPT AGENDA**

City Administrator Deb Hill requested to move the Washington County Sheriff's report to follow the Consent Agenda.

Member Ingemann motioned to adopt the agenda as amended. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 4-0.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bill Sumner, residing at 737 21<sup>st</sup> Street, addressed the Council. Mr. Sumner stated the address for the new location of the Basic Needs Thrift Store is 6990 80<sup>th</sup> Street in Cottage Grove.

Wings of Newport residents Andrew Johnson, Lucretia Brewer, Laura Eastwood, and two others, along with Erin West, who is a tenant organizer at Homeline, addressed the Council. They expressed concerns with many apartment leases ending at the end of November and not having a new place to live. They requested help and asked Council to reach out to the Wings of Newport owner Chris Onken. Tenants were requesting more time to stay in their apartments and a meeting with Mr. Onken.

Charlene Harper, Crystal Rex, Mrs. Williams, Darlene Linden, Kara Lallman, Juan Rivera-Reges, Winston Davis, Rod Knase, Thelma Daniels, Wanda Grady, Antoine Thompson, Juan Gonzalez, Aydin Yaman, and Charlotte Cantti were in the audience and supported the speakers regarding the Wings of Newport.

Mayor Pro Tem Chapdelaine explained the City of Newport and the City Council does not have jurisdiction over these issues. He thanked everyone for coming and appreciated their comments. Member Taylor stated he will try and reach out to Mr. Onken.

**6. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Connection Agreement-** Cottage Grove
- B. Friends In Need Request**
- C. Gambling Permit-** Cottage Grove Lions
- D. List of Bills-** \$143,010.18
- E. Financial Report-** October 2021

Member Johnson motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 4-0.

**7. WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT**

Washington County Sheriff Deputy Sergeant Bill Harrell stated he planned to introduce two new deputies to Council, but they had to leave in response to a call.

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Ehlers Financial**

Jason Aarsvold, Senior Advisor with Ehlers, addressed the Council. Mr. Aarsvold presented the Council with an updated financial management plan. Mr. Aarsvold stated the tax base has grown almost 80% since 2013 and the city has been able to lower the actual tax rate from 70% to 54%. Mr. Aarsvold explained the projected capital needs and the funding strategies.

**9. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Steve Wiley stated the fundraiser for the Friends in Need food shelf will be on December 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Newport Center. They will be taking non-perishable food items, toys for kids, and cash or checks made out to the Friends in Need food shelf.

**10. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Not present.

**11. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

**A. Payment Application #10- H&U \$474,906.07**

Superintendent of Public Works Bruce Hanson stated he has pay application number 10 for H+U. The breakdown of labor is \$269,737.76, material is \$205,168.31, for a total payment of \$474,906.07. Superintendent Hanson gave an update on the new City Hall / Fire Hall / Public Safety Building. He stated about 75% of the bituminous is down and the concrete curbs are in.

Member Ingemann motioned to approve Pay Application No. 10 in the amount of \$474,906.07 to H+U. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 4-0.

Superintendent Hanson stated that Public Works is sweeping streets and reminded residents not to blow leaves into the streets.

## 12. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

### A. Resolution No. 2021-38 Amendment Request

Assistant to the City Administrator Travis Brierley stated earlier this year the Council approved a major subdivision for Cody Olson at 1851 Century Avenue. Part of the subdivision was to take one parcel and turn it into five which would allow four new single-family homes. A request has been made by Mr. Olson to leave two accessory structures on the site while he builds the first two homes. The accessory structures would be used to store construction materials during the winter months. The Council was presented with a proposed amendment to allow this request. Assistant Brierley explained the city has safeguards in place if Mr. Olson does not comply. If compliance is not met, the city would not issue temporary or full certificates of occupancy and therefore the homes could not be sold or occupied.

Member Johnson motioned to reconsider Resolution No. 2021-38. Seconded by Member Taylor. Approved 4-0.

Member Ingemann motioned to approved Resolution No. 2021-38 with changes as presented by staff. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Chapdelaine. Approved 4-0.

## 13. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Member Taylor stated the Planning Commission met last week and they are still working on the residential parking ordinance.

## 14. POTENTIAL CITY LAND PURCHASE/SALE and/or LITIGATION (This portion of the City Council meeting may be closed under MN Statute Section 13D.05)

### A. 596 7<sup>th</sup> Ave

Mayor Pro Tem Chapdelaine motioned to close the City Council Meeting. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 4-0.

The City Council Meeting was closed at 6:27 p.m. on November 18, 2021.

Member Johnson motioned to open the City Council Meeting. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Chapdelaine. Approved 4-0.

The City Council Meeting was opened at 6:35 p.m. on November 18, 2021.

## 15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Chapdelaine motioned to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 4-0.

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. on November 18, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Jill Thiesfeld,  
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Chapdelaine, Mayor Pro-Tem