



CITY OF NEWPORT
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CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 18, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Elliott called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on August 18, 2022.

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

Assistant to the City Administrator Travis Brierley stated there was an update under the Consent Agenda – Annual Appointments as we had a person apply for the Parks Board. We also swapped out Former City Administrator Deb Hill’s name on key positions.

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Sumner, residing at 737 21st Street addressed the Council. Mr. Sumner stated Basic Needs is hosting a Family Fun Night in Veterans Park in St. Paul Park on Saturday, August 27th at 12:00 p.m. Free produce is available from South Washington County on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at 8600 90th Street in Cottage Grove. The Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) had its first meeting in this new building. They discussed plans to celebrate 30 years of HPC. Forms have been provided to staff for a scholarship to send a member of the HPC to the 42nd Annual Preserve Minnesota conference in September. The HPC had a table at Pioneer Day where they answered questions on houses and events from Newport’s past. The upcoming talk at our library will cover the two cemeteries in Newport.

6. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Annual Appointments-** Park Board Vacancy
- B. **Resolution No 2022-32-** Official Depository
- C. **Resolution No 2022-33-** Safety Deposit Box
- D. **List of Bills-** \$395,376.04
- E. **July 2022 Financial Statements**

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

7. WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

No report.

8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Steve Wiley stated the Fire Department is fully operational out of the new building. There have been about six calls since Saturday afternoon and things seem to be going well. He is very excited to have one building. Mayor Elliott stated it was great to have the Fire Department participate in the Pioneer Day parade.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

No report.

10. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

A. H&U Pay Request- \$192,947.78

Superintendent of Public Works Matt Yokiell stated they are still working through punch list items, but the new City Hall / Public Safety building is working well.

Superintendent Yokiell stated there is Pay Request No. 19 to H+U in the amount of \$192,947.78. The labor breakdown was for \$126,928.13 and material breakdown was \$66,019.65. Member Chapdelaine stated it would be interesting to see how close to budget we are. Mayor Elliott stated Superintendent Yokiell should bring that information to the next meeting.

Member Chapdelaine motioned to accept Pay Request No. 19 in the amount of \$192,947.78 for H+U Construction. Seconded by Member Ingemann. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Elliott inquired the schedule for the new playground equipment at Pioneer Park. Superintendent Yokiell stated the equipment should be delivered this coming Monday. The old equipment has been removed along with most of the pea gravel, which was donated to MnDot. MnDot offered to haul the pea gravel, which saved us time and fuel as there were roughly 30-35 loads. The new playground will take 4-6 weeks to complete.

11. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Assistant Brierley stated he wanted to give an update on the new City Hall. We have most of our furniture, but are still waiting on the high-density shelving, conference tables, IT switch and server.

Mayor Elliott stated we will have an open house sometime in October or when our furniture arrives.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Elliott stated she was in the Pioneer Day parade which was a lot of fun. It was a perfect weather day and a great turnout. The corn vendor was a hit, and the taco truck was supposed to be there, but unfortunately had to cancel last minute. Mayor Elliott stated our City Administrator search has closed. Our consultant is now working on selecting semi-finalists and that information will come out to Council next week. Names of semi-finalists are private data so no information about them or their background can be shared at this stage of the process.

Member Johnson stated Pioneer Days was a success.

Member Taylor stated it was nice to see Pioneer Days back and there is always room for new ideas. It was a great turnout.

Member Ingemann stated last week he toured the new RDF facility. They are looking to hopefully start the food scrap program in selected neighborhoods in October/November timeframe.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m. on August 18, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Thiesfeld,
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: _____
Laurie Elliott, Mayor