



CITY OF NEWPORT  
2060 1<sup>ST</sup> Avenue  
Newport, MN 55055  
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**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2022**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bill Sumner, residing at 737 21<sup>st</sup> Street, addressed the Council. Mr. Sumner reminded residents the Newport's Farmer Market will continue operating at the Newport Center on Hastings Avenue until the end of September on Sunday's from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Basic Needs organization is having a fundraising music event at Willy's restaurant on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**6. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes- Council Workshop July 21, 2022
- B. Resolution No 2022-34- Accepting Donations
- C. List of Bills- \$280,785.96

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

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

Washington County Sheriff's Deputy Sergeant Bill Harrell reminded residents that school starts at Newport Elementary next Tuesday so please drive safe and use caution around the students.

**8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Steve had no formal report. Mayor Elliott inquired how the new building is working out for the fire department. Chief Wiley stated the new building is awesome. The facility is top notch.

**9. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

No report.

## 10. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Superintendent of Public Works Matt Yokiel stated the playground equipment at Pioneer Park has been installed, but it is not ready for use yet. The fall protection will be installed in the next two and a half weeks. Superintendent Yokiel shared some pictures of the current state of Pioneer Park. Mayor Elliott stated the survey the majority of those surveyed a year ago were in favor of upgrading our playground equipment. Pioneer Park was the first park that was upgraded, and it will be ADA compliant.

Mayor Elliott inquired if there is an update on the dog park. Superintendent Yokiel stated they have not had time to investigate this with the new City Hall and new playground.

## 11. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

### A. Ordinance 2022-05- Signs

City Planner Nathan Fuerst stated the zoning text amendment for our sign ordinance is returning to Council. The request was from Vollrath at 910 Hastings Avenue who had requested a large banner affixed to a building. This banner was larger than city standards and they wanted it up for a longer duration. This item went through the Planning Commission, a Public Hearing, and Council review. This is now back in front of City Council with revisions based on feedback that staff received. The draft ordinance will allow for one temporary banner in addition to the temporary signage which is already permitted on a parcel. It will allow for the banner to be 80 square feet in size. It would be allowed up to 120 days through a zoning permit.

Member Ingemann motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-05 – Signs update. Seconded by Member Chapdelaine. Approved 5-0.

Planner Fuerst stated he found out this week that the Met Council approved the Comprehensive Plan Amendment that the city had adopted several months ago. It is now fully in effect, and we will be revising the maps accordingly.

## 12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Elliott stated yesterday she signed documents for the sale of the old City Hall. Abbott Services purchased the property. They are a fabrication company that fabricates small parts for medical devices. They anticipate it will be a couple of months before they move in as they will be remodeling. Mayor Elliott stated we had a Special Meeting earlier today to continue with our selection for City Administrator.

Member Taylor stated it was nice to see Pioneer Day back.

Member Johnson stated the Newport Library is starting something new called the morning wrap session. The morning wrap session will be on Monday's at 10:00 a.m. starting on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The Library continues looking for volunteers.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

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

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m. on September 1, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Jill Thiesfeld,  
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Laurie Elliott, Mayor