



**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NEWPORT CITY HALL
January 6, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Elliott called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on January 6, 2022.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present (4): Mayor Laurie Elliott, Council Member Kevin Chapdelaine, Council Member Marvin Taylor, and Council Member Rozlyn Johnson.

Not Present (1): Council Member Tom Ingemann.

4. ADOPT AGENDA

Mayor Elliott requested to amend the agenda to add a local emergency discussion during the mayor's report.

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

6. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes- December 2, 2021 Workshop

B. Minutes- December 16, 2021 Regular Council

C. Approved Planning Commission Minutes- November 9, 2022

D. Resolution No. 2022-01- Official Depository

E. Resolution No. 2022-02- Official Safety Deposit Box

F. Resolution No. 2022-03- Official Newspaper

G. Resolution No. 2022-04- 2022 Fee Schedule

H. Resolution No. 2022-05- Election Judges

I. Gambling Application- Rocky Mounty Elk's

J. Kennel License- Boughton

K. List of Bills- \$3,530,397.06

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Member Taylor. Approved 4-0.

7. WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

None.

8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

None.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

None.

10. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Superintendent of Public Works Bruce Hanson informed the Council that Emily White and her Girl Scout Service unit would like to hold their winter outdoor activity kickoff in Bailey Park on January 14th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Superintendent Hanson reminded residents that it is illegal to push and blow snow into the streets as it can cause hazards.

Member Taylor inquired when the ice rink will open. Superintendent Hanson stated the Loveland ice rink and warming house will open on Friday.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Resolution No. 2022-06- Variance 460 12th St

City Planner Nathan Fuerst stated there is a variance request for a driveway setback at 460 12th Street. Leeland Kinnell is the property owner and the zoning for this property is R-1. The Planning Commission voted unanimously on December 14th to recommend this item to Council. The current driveway is considered legal-nonconforming with respect to its proximity to the side yard lot line and surface material. The applicant is requesting to improve the surface of the driveway, but the location cannot be moved due to the configuration on the site of the home and detached garage.

Member Chapdelaine motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2022-06 for a Variance at 460 12th Street. Seconded by Member Taylor. Approved 4-0.

City Administrator Deb Hill stated office staff will be working in shifts with two people in the office and two people working remotely. City Hall office hours remain the same and will be open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Laurie Elliott stated she would like to discuss the declaration of a local emergency and see how the Council feels about zoom Council meetings. Council discussed and some would like to remain in person while others feel more comfortable with zoom meetings. Mayor Elliott stated at this time she will not proclaim a state of emergency and revisit this at the next meeting.

Mayor Elliott thanked the many community members that helped neighbors shovel and blow snow during the large snowfall we received.

The Park Board is planning a Family Fun night at Loveland Park on January 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be a bonfire and activities. Superintendent Hanson stated there will be skates you can use from the Newport on the Move organization.

Mayor Elliott encouraged residents to sign up to autopay their utility bill. You can pay directly from a checking or savings account at no additional charge. If you are interested, please go to the City Website.

Mayor Elliott stated we received a donation from Corrine Marz for a print of the Red Rock Prairie by Henry Lewis. Mr. Lewis did many drawings along the Mississippi River. This print will get framed and ready for the new City Hall. Staff will prepare a resolution to accept this donation.

13. COUNCIL REPORTS

Member Chapdelaine stated next week he and the City Engineer Jon Herdegen will be attending the 3M drinking water meeting.

Member Taylor stated he has visited many outdoor ice rinks and encouraged residents to reach out to Council if they have any suggestions or ideas for Newport. Some ideas include options for extending the season of the ice or utilize the warming house in a different capacity during the year.

14. POTENTIALLY CLOSED MEETING

(Meeting closed pursuant to the Attorney-Client Privilege under Minn. Stat. 13D.05, Subd. 3 (b), to discuss threatened litigation regarding the construction of the new City Hall.)

Member Chapdelaine motioned to close the City Council Meeting under MN Statute 13D.05. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 4-0.

The City Council Meeting was closed at 5:58 p.m. on January 6, 2022.

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

The City Council Meeting was opened at 7:20 p.m. on January 6, 2022.

15. ADJOURNMENT

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

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m. on January 6, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Thiesfeld,
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: _____
Laurie Elliott, Mayor