



**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NEWPORT CITY HALL
February 3, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Elliott called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on February 3, 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 Ingemann 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 and expressed concerns about signs being placed in the right-of-way on Glen Road. Mr. Sumner inquired if Public Works could shovel the benches at the bottom of the pedestrian bridge, so they are more usable and if signs could be displayed reminding owners to clean up after their animals. Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Matt Yokiell stated Public Works can pull signs if they are on city streets, but not county streets.

6. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

A. List of Bills- \$279,914.58

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

7. WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

None.

8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Steve Wiley stated the Fire Department was part of an escort on Hwy 61 from Newport to Cottage Grove to welcome home the 134th Brigade that was deployed overseas.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

None.

10. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Assistant Yokiell stated they had a great turn out for Family Fun night. There were approximately 70 attendees with good weather and ice for skating. Mayor Elliott congratulated the Park Board and Staff for putting on this successful event.

Member Taylor stated a resident asked him why our water is sometimes cloudy or has a brownish tint. Assistant Yokiell stated that is iron in the water that rusts. Public Works flushes the hydrants in the spring and fall. Assistant Yokiell recommends turning the cold-water faucet on for 1-2 minutes and see if it clears up or reach out to Public Works for further assistance.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Monopole Construction

Assistant to the City Administrator Travis Brierley stated the city was approached several months ago from Tillman Construction who is looking to build a monopole communications tower in Newport. The tower would be approximately 125 feet tall and located at the Public Works site. A conditional use permit (CUP) is required for the construction of any tower. Staff has been presented with a preliminary contract that is being reviewed by the City Attorney.

Member Ingemann motioned to direct staff to move forward with contract negotiations for a monopole tower in Newport. Seconded by Member Johnson. Approved 5-0.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Elliott stated she met with Public Works to discuss playground priorities and Pioneer Park is first on the list. There was a design put together in 2018 that will be updated and brought to the Park Board for feedback.

Member Ingemann stated he attended the meeting with RDF and the bags for the food scrap items appears to be on schedule. This will happen later this year or early next year. The bags will be provided free of charge to Ramsey and Washington County residents. Member Ingemann stated the cable commission met and re-elected the officers.

Member Taylor stated he enjoyed the Family Fun night, and the Park Board did a great job. Public Works brought up tables and a campfire ring which was a big hit.

Member Johnson gave Council an update on the Newport library events. On February 10th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. kids can make a "love you to pieces" craft. On Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. is story time. On Mondays and Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. is peer tutoring if you need help with your homework. On Tuesdays from 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. is the "paws to read" where kids can read to a dog at the library. On February 16th from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. they will have an adult craft day. Adults can bring their own craft they are working on or use items from the library.

Member Chapdelaine stated he was asked by a resident if Newport will be hosting Pioneer Days this summer as they are hoping the event will be back.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m. on February 3, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Thiesfeld,
Administrative Assistant II

Signed: _____
Laurie Elliott, Mayor