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**CITY OF NEWPORT
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 4, 2025**

5 The City Council of the City of Newport, Arkansas met in regular session August 4, 2025 in
6 the chambers of the Municipal Courtroom.

8 Mayor Ratliffe called the meeting to order. City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey called the roll.
9 Council members present were Michael Allen, Allen Edwards, Carol Falwell, Wendell
10 Green, Leroy Mansko, Andy May and Julie Moss. City Attorney Pettie was present.
11 Council Member Regina Lake was absent.

13 Following the invocation by Andy May, those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

15 A motion by Edwards and second by Allen to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2025
16 Meeting carried (5/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Edwards, Green, May and Mayor Ratliffe.
17 Moss, Mansko and Falwell abstained due to being absent on July 7, 2025.

19 A motion by Edwards and second by Allen to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2025
20 Special Meeting carried (5/0) with “yes” votes by Allen, Edwards, Green, May and Moss.
21 Falwell and Mansko abstained due to being absent on July 17, 2025.

23 **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

25 Mayor Ratliffe had the following reports:

- 27 • An electronic copy of the June 2025 Financial Statements for the General Fund, Street
28 Fund, 911 Fund, Sewer Fund, Administration of Justice Fund, Grant Fund, Intoximeter
29 Fund, District Court Cost Fund, Court Automation Fund, Drug Control Fund,
30 Advertising & Promotion Fund, Fed Aid Grant Fund, Judge/Clerk Retirement Fund,
31 NEDC Fund and Newport Airport was sent to each Council Member with their
32 council package. Mayor Ratliffe asked that if any Council Member had any questions
33 to please direct their questions to City Clerk/Treasurer Hembrey.
34 • City Sales Tax received in July was \$175,052, County Sales Tax was \$116,660 and
35 NEDC Sales Tax was \$87,526.

37 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

39 **RESOLUTION: GRANTING A PERMIT TO CHARLES & TINA MOORE TO**
40 **OPERATE TAXICABS IN CITY UNDER THE NAME “CITY CAB”**

42 After discussion, City Attorney Pettie read the Resolution in its entirety. A motion by Allen
43 and second by May to accept the Resolution authorizing Charles and Tina Moore to operate
44 taxicabs within the city limits of Newport, Arkansas under the name “City Cab” carried (7/0)
45 with “yes” votes by Edwards, Green, May, Falwell, Moss, Allen and Mansko.

47 **NEW BUSINESS:**

48
49 **CODY SMITH TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

50
51 Mayor Ratliffe recognized Mr. Cody Smith. Mr. Smith stated he was running for State
52 Representative for District 39. Mr. Smith gave an informative overview of his platform.

53
54 **POLICE CHIEF LARRY DULANEY TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

55
56 Mayor Ratliffe recognized Police Chief Larry Dulaney. Police Chief Dulaney stated on May
57 6, 2025 a vehicle entered the water on Newport Lake. The vehicle was inverted with the
58 driver still in the vehicle. Officer Landon Martin, Officer Scott Phillips and Officer Xavier
59 Stephens entered the waist high lake water and cut the driver's seat belt, brought the driver to
60 the lake bank and began CPR until the ambulance arrived. Police Chief Dulaney stated the
61 driver is alive today due to the actions of these officers. Police Chief Dulaney presented each
62 officer with a Life Saving Award and the thanks of the City of Newport. Chief Dulaney then
63 gave an informative overview of Police Department accomplishments.

64
65 **ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION FROM FRANK PLEGGE FROM NEWPORT**
66 **AIRPORT COMMISSION AND APPOINT MADISON EDDINGTON TO FILL**
67 **THAT TERM EXPIRING 9/30/29**

68
69 A motion by Edwards and second by May to accept the resignation of Frank Plegge from the
70 Newport Airport Commission carried (7/0) with "yes" votes by Falwell, Moss, Allen,
71 Edwards, May, Mansko and Green.

72
73 After discussion, a motion by Falwell and second by Moss to appoint Madison Eddington to
74 fill the position of Frank Plegge on the Newport Airport Commission with a term expiring
75 9/30/29 carried (7/0) with "yes" votes by Green, Edwards, Falwell, May, Allen, Mansko and
76 Moss.

77
78 Mayor Ratliffe stated ASU-N Chancellor Dr. Johnny Moore has resigned from the Newport
79 Economic Development Commission due to taking a position in another state. Vice-
80 Chancellor Typhanie Myers has agreed to serve out Dr. Moore's term ending 5/6/30.
81 After discussion, a motion by Edwards and second by Mansko to accept the resignation of
82 Dr. Johnny Moore carried (7/0) with "yes" votes by Green, Edwards, Falwell, May, Allen,
83 Mansko and Moss.

84
85 A motion by Allen and second by Edwards to appoint Typhanie Myers to the Newport
86 Economic Development Commission with a term expiring 5/6/30 carried (7/0) with "yes"
87 votes by Moss, May, Falwell, Edwards, Green, Allen and Mansko.

88
89 **RESOLUTION: NEW AMBULANCE RATES**

90
91 City Attorney Pettie read the Resolution in its entirety. After discussion, a motion by
92 Edwards and second by Allen to accept the Resolution fixing ambulance rates carried (7/0)
93 with "yes" votes by Moss, Mansko, Green, May, Edwards, Falwell and Allen.

94 **ORDINANCE: NEW SEWER RATES (FIRST READING)**

95
96 City Attorney Pettie read the 1st reading of the Ordinance establishing new rates rendered by
97 the Sewer System of Newport in its entirety.

98
99 With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

100
101 PASSED AND APPROVED THE 2ND DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025

102
103
104
105 _____
MAYOR

106 ATTEST:

107
108 _____
109 CITY CLERK