

City of Newark
City Council Minutes
Thursday, June 19, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Gary Van Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2014 in the Newark Municipal Building located at 209 Hudson Street, Newark, Texas. Those present were Mayor Gary Van Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Linda Anderson, Councilmember Mark Wondolowski, and Councilmember Doug Anderson. Councilmember Cary Mellema, Councilmember Dan Sessler, and City Administrator Diane Rasor were absent.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag - Councilmember Anderson delivered the invocation and Mayor Van Wagner led the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

III. Citizens Comments - None

IV. Regular Meeting

1. Approval of June 12, 2014 minutes.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson moved to approve the June 12, 2014 minutes; Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

2. Consider and act on Ordinance No. A-412 establishing and implementing a program to charge mitigation rates for the deployment of emergency and non-emergency services by the Newark Volunteer Fire Department for services provided.

Assistant Fire Chief Jerry Taylor stated the billing service that provided the ordinance revised sections relating to call rates and other questionable items. To answer the question of the fire department's call volume, Mr. Taylor stated at one time he sent an annual report of the call volume, but then the Council wanted to totally separate from the fire department so the reports stopped. The cost of operating the fire department has increased just like the city's operating cost. The mitigation fees are determined by "typical mitigation rates", which is where the insurance companies and the billing services agree on a fair amount to charge for each service provided. The Fire Department does bill citizens if they caused an incident by being negligent. The Fire Department has never bill for responding to a house fire. If City property is damaged, the city can attach a bill to the fire department's charges to collect from the insurance company.

Councilmember Doug Anderson moved to approve Ordinance No. A-412 establishing mitigation rates for the fire department; Mayor Pro Tem Linda Anderson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

3. Consider and act on the Stipulation, Agreed Settlement, and Consent Order from the Railroad Commission of Texas for violation of Commission rules for underground pipeline damage prevention.

Mayor Van Wagner explained the City was fined for not getting line locates from the gas company and ended up hitting a gas line while excavating. The fine was reduced from \$5,000 to \$2,500. Mayor Van Wagner recommended paying the fine.

Mayor Pro Tem Linda Anderson moved to pay the Railroad Commission of Texas Pipeline Safety Division Damage Prevention Section twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) for our negligence and their rule cited 18.4, 18.11, and 18.11 (b); Councilmember Doug Anderson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

4. Consider and act on Ordinance No. A-418 amending the City of Newark's original budget for the October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 fiscal year as a change in the budget is necessary for municipal purposes.

Mayor Van Wagner stated this is for the financing for the resident deputy program, which will be based on forty (40) hours a week.

Councilmember Wondolowski moved to approve Ordinance No. A-418 amending the City of Newark's original budget for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014; Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

5. Consider and act on allocating funds to construct a conference room behind the council chambers.

There are neither plans nor estimates for this project so this item will be postponed until the next meeting.

6. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

APPROVED:

Gary Van Wagner, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Diane Rasor, City Administrator