

**City of Newark
City Council Meeting
August 14, 2014**

I. Call to Order

Mayor Gary Van Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 14, 2014. Those present were: Mayor Gary Van Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Linda Anderson, Councilmember Cary Mellema, Councilmember Mark Wondolowski, Councilmember Dan Sessler, Sergeant Satterfield, City Administrator Diane Rasor, and Public Works Director William Allen (by phone).

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mayor Van Wagner delivered the invocation and led the pledge to allegiance.

III. Action Items

1. Consider and act on the proposed maintenance and operations interest and sinking Tax Rate.

At the July 30, 2015 council meeting, the council was inadvertently advised the effective tax rate was (.5735). However the correct effective tax rate for the 2014-2015 is slightly lower at .5723. The Chief Appraiser requested that the City Council re-vote on the proposed tax rate.

Councilmember Sessler moved to approve .50 for the maintenance and operations tax rate and .0723 for the lower than previously interest and sinking tax rate; Councilmember Wondolowski seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Anderson, Councilmember Mellema, Councilmember Wondolowski, Councilmember Sessler. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The motion passed with 4 ayes 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

2. Discussion and possible action on revamping and overhauling the City website.

Councilmember Wondolowski stated the website looks old and the information is stale. He proposed advertising at college campuses for a student who may need to design a website for his resume. He will do the posting at the campuses and follow up with Council.

3. Discussion and possible action on City engineering services.

Councilmember Cary Mellema stated Mayor Van Wagner, City Administrator Diane Rasor and he met with Mark Lorange with Bury Engineering to discuss the City's basic engineering needs. Mr. Lorange had a very impressive port folio. The City Council directed the City Administrator to send out Request for Proposals to the engineering firms in the area.

4. Discussion and possible action on employee insurance options.

City Administrator Diane Rasor advised the Council that all of the bids have not been received to determine if a change in insurance companies or policies will be in the best interest of the City.

However, she did state the current Blue Cross/Blue Shield coverage for all three full time employees will only increase approximately \$300.00 this year and the increase is due to the Affordable Health Care fee that will be added to the premiums.

5. Discussion and possible action on the bids received to construct the City Hall Conference Room and the Maintenance Building Office

Texas Construction turned in a basic bid for the conference room of \$4,000 and Kevin Ivy turned in a bid for the same project of \$3,800. DFW Paving turned in a bid to add an office to the maintenance building at 898 Rogers Road for \$15,000 (with a shower). Kevin Ivy turned in a bid for the maintenance building basic office without a shower for \$6,900. Public Works Director William Allen answered questions concerning the R panel and R pane by phone. This item will be added to next week's agenda for more discussion.

6. Discussion and possible action on contract mowing for the City of Newark's right-of-ways and properties.

Two bids have been received with different mowing schedules and amounts. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson recommended developing a document that will entail the number of acres, the locations and the frequency of mowing needed to distribute to the interested parties. The Council recommended after the data is collected to advertise in the newspaper for bids and send out the bid specifications to Carter Russell, who may have been given incorrect information.

7. Discussion and possible action on finalizing the 2014-2015 proposed budget.

The City Council is pleased with the proposed budget. There was a request from Councilmember Wondolowski to begin a mileage log for all city vehicles to help in planning next year's fuel budget. The proposed budget hearing and adoption of the budget and tax rate is scheduled for September 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. At that time any changes, such as the bid for mowing, and employee insurance may be added or changed.

8. Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

APPROVED:

Gary Van Wagner, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Diane Rasor, City Administrator