

**City of Newark
City Council Minutes
August 20, 2015**

I. Call to Order and Announce a Quorum is Present

Mayor Gary Van Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. on August 20, 2015 in the Newark Municipal Building located at 209 Hudson Street, Newark, Texas and announced a quorum was present. Those present were Mayor Gary Van Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Mark Wondolowski, Councilmember Cary Mellema, Councilmember Manuel Duenas, Director of Public Works William Allen and City Administrator Diane Rasor.

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

III. Public Hearing – 2015 Proposed Property Tax Rate for the City of Newark.

Mayor Van Wagner opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m. There were no proponents or opponents. Mayor Van Wagner closed the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

IV. Citizen Comments

Mayor Van Wagner opened the comments up to Newark residents only. Mr. Don Drain, 190 Hudson Street, stated he wants to sell his property at 701 Main Street. He just learned that it was zoned residential but he said in the past it had been zoned commercial. City Administrator Diane Rasor advised Mr. Drain he would need to apply for a zoning change.

V. Consent Agenda – Consider and act on the following items: A. July 16, 2015 City Council Minutes, B. Accounts Payables from July 17th through August 21, 2015, C. Budget vs. Actual and Financial Statements, D. Staff Reports – City Administrator, Municipal Court, Library

Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski moved to approve the consent agenda as a whole; Councilmember Mellema seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

VI. Regular Meeting

1. Consider and act on hiring a City Librarian.

Councilmember Duenas moved to hire Linda Ortberg as the City Librarian; Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

2. Update from the property manager on the progress of repairing manufactured homes on Sandy Bass Lane.

Sandra Ray, the property manager of Newark Estate Ventures, stated one of the boarded up manufactured homes will be removed soon and in two (2) weeks they will do another one. Ms. Ray asked that they be allowed to put speed bumps on Sandy Bass. All the new homes have plumbing and electrical and she is going to wait until the homes are ready to be occupied to put in HVAC. The homes should be available for occupancy in a week.

3. Update and possible action on the property at 726 McCanne Street.

This item is postponed until September 17, 2015 meeting.

4. Discussion and possible action Ordinance No. A-431 regarding the zoning change to Lot 14, Water Board – Newark Subdivision on Marshall Road.

Mayor Van Wagner stated that the residents surrounding this property are in the County and that keeps the City from enforcing codes. He believes building on these lots will bring the property value up. Councilmember Duenas recommended the City work with the County so it would attract investors to the lake. Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski considered buying a franchise in 2005; however he was told that Newark did not have enough “roof tops” to support a franchise from the companies he approached. He believes this would generate revenue for the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski moved to adopt Ordinance No. A-431 changing the zoning to Single Family Estates (SF-E); Councilmember Duenas seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

5. Update on “Contingency Plans” for the Water Wells and Wastewater Treatment Plant operations in the event of GRID loss.

Bury Engineering researched another wastewater treatment plant the size of Newark’s and the cost of their generator was \$130,000. They recommended installing the generator system in steps. Public Works Director William Allen said he would put the automatic switch gear on the wells, water tanks and the wastewater treatment plant as a first step. Then the City could rent a generator. The City of Boyd has a contract with a fuel company to supply their generator with fuel in case of a power outage.

Mayor Van Wagner stated the City would continue working on a plan.

6. Consider and act on Resolution 292 adding a second regular council meeting each month.

Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski moved to approve Resolution No. 292 designating the second and third Thursday of each month for regular council meetings; Councilmember Mellema seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

7. Consider and act on sponsoring the Cruis'n Days Event for the Newark Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and the following request: (A) Permission and assistance with road closings during the parade (specifically the closure of Hudson Street between Main and McCanne.), (B) Permission to use the Delora Doughty Park to set up concessions, games, bounce houses, bingo and concessions, (C) Resident Deputies available if needed.

A representative from the Ladies Auxiliary of the Newark Volunteer Fire Department stated Cruis'n Days is scheduled for September 23, 24, and 25, 2015. They will be adding bingo on Friday night.

Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski moved to sponsor the Cruis'n Day Event for the Newark Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and approve Items A, B, and C; Councilmember Mellema seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

8. Discussion on the City of Newark wastewater income, expenditures, and rates.

City Administrator Diane Razor stated this year the City will spend approximately \$77,000 more on the wastewater system than they will generate from the wastewater charges. The last time the sewer rates were increased was in 2013 and it was a very small increase. Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski stated we needed to continue researching the rates to see if they need to be raised.

9. Budget Workshop – Discussion on the 2015-2016 Budget. All the line items were discussed at the budget workshop and the changes discussed at that time were made. This will be the first time the City has raised taxes since 2008.

10. Consider and act on accepting Councilmember Cary Mellema's resignation and appointing Mr. Chris Raines to Place #1 on the Newark City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Wondolowski moved to accept Councilmember Mellema's resignation and appoint Mr. Chris Raines to Place #3 on the Newark City Council. All approved. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

APPROVED:

Gary Van Wagner, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Diane Razor, City Administrator