

**City Council Minutes  
Special Called Meeting  
Thursday, September 4, 2014**

**I. Call to Order**

Mayor Van Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2014 in the Newark Municipal Building located at 209 Hudson Street, Newark, Texas. Those present were Mayor Gary Van Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Anderson, Councilmember Cary Mellema, Councilmember Mark Wondolowski, Councilmember Dan Sessler, Public Works Director William Allen, Court Personnel Sarah Williams, and City Administrator Diane Rasor.

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

**III. Public Hearing: To hear input on the proposed revenues, expenditures, and capital improvement projects included in the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget.**

Mayor Van Wagner opened the public hearing at 7:19 p.m. There were neither proponents nor opponents. Mayor Van Wagner closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

**IV. Action Items**

**1. Consider and act on Ordinance No. A-421 providing for a fee to defray costs of collection of delinquent fines, fees, court costs, and other debts pursuant to Article 103.0031 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.**

Mr. Tony Fidelie and Mr. Ernie Richardson from the firm of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott LLP, gave an overview of the company's delinquent fines collection service. The firm has been collecting fines since 1970 and they currently have a 35% collection rate. The service is completely budget neutral (no cost) to the City since the firm adds a 30% collection fee on top of the court cost and fines.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson moved to approve Ordinance No. A-421; Councilmember Mellema seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

**2. Consider and act on a Contract for Court Fees and Fines Collection Services between the City of Newark and Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L. P.**

Councilmember Mellema moved to enter into a contract for court fees and fines collection services with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott; Councilmember Sessler seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

**3. Consider and act on participating in a Municipal Lease/Purchase Finance Program to purchase City vehicles.**

The municipal lease/purchase finance program allows a city to purchase a vehicle at a discounted rate with a three (3) year, four (4) year, or five (5) year payment plan. The program also allows the City to opt out at the end of each fiscal year and return the vehicle with no penalty or lease the vehicle and make a one dollar (\$1.00) payment to purchase the vehicle at the end of the lease. The City's financial advisors, Government Capital Corporation, are offering the program at 5.12% interest for a five (5) year lease.

Councilmember Mellema moved to approve Resolution No. 208 to participate with Government Capital Corporation in a municipal lease/purchase finance program for a City truck; Councilmember Wondolowski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

**4. Consider and act on adding thirty-five \$35,000 to the proposed 2014-2015 budget for contract mowing services.**

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson moved to add thirty-six thousand (\$36,000) to the 2014-2015 budget for contract mowing services; Councilmember Sessler seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed. Councilmember Wondolowski stated as a matter of principal he would rather approve the original thirty-five thousand (\$35,000) instead of rounding the amount out at \$3,000, which was originally requested.

**5. Discussion and possible action on adding \$20,000 to the Capital Improvements Budget for installing a more efficient and effective call systems on the City's elevated water tower, wells, and lift stations.**

The City is currently paying AT&T phone service over thirteen thousand (\$13,000) per year for four (4) phone lines to a water tower and lift stations. With the installation of wireless equipment to the wells and lift stations for approximately thirty-thousand (\$30,000), the phone bills with Verizon will drop to two-thousand five hundred and twenty (\$2,520) annually.

Councilmember Wondolowski moved to add twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars to the capital improvements budget (for the communication equipment) for the water tower, wells, and lift stations. Councilmember Sessler seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

**6. Consider and act on Ordinance No. A-422 adopting the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget.**

Councilmember Mellema moved to adopt Ordinance No. A-422; Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion. Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Anderson, Councilmember Mellema, Councilmember Wondolowski, and Councilmember Sessler. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The motion passed with four (4) ayes, zero (0) nays, and zero (0) abstentions.

**7. Consider and act on Ordinance No. A-423 adopting the 2014-2015 tax rate.**

Councilmember Mellema moved to adopt Ordinance A-423 (0.50 M&O and 0.0734 I&S tax rate); Councilmember Sessler seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

**8. Consider and act on Change Order No. 1 for the 2013-2014 Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements – Filtration System for \$4,078.00.**

The new filtration system at the wastewater treatment plant was designed to allow growth in the City by increasing the flow capacity from one-hundred thousand (100,000) gallons per day to one-hundred and fifty thousand (150,000) gallons per day. However, the design did not take into account the four (4) inch lines running to the filtration system. The lines need to be upgraded to eight (8) inch lines, which will add \$4,078 to the cost of the filtration system project.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson moved to approve Change Order No. 1 for the filtration system; Councilmember Wondolowski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

**9. Adjourn.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Van Wagner, Mayor

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Date

**ATTEST:**

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Diane Rasor, City Administrator