

City Council Meeting
Thursday, September 18, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
Municipal Building – 209 Hudson Street, Newark, Texas 76071

I. Call to Order

Mayor Gary Van Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Newark Municipal Building located at 209 Hudson Street. Those present were Mayor Gary Van Wagner, Mayor Pro Tem Linda Anderson, Councilmember Cary Mellema, Councilmember Mark Wondolowski, Councilmember Dan Sessler, Library Director D'Laine Young, Administrative Assistants Patti Boyd and Sarah Williams, Water Operator Jaret Holmes, 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. Citizens Comments

Mr. Ken Davis, representative of Newark Estates, gave an update on the company's homes on Sandy Bass Lane. An eviction notice was given to the residents at 401 Sandy Bass, not just because of the code violations, but also because they are behind on their lot rent. The first rehabilitation will be to 427 Sandy Bass Lane on Tuesday of this week. They are behind schedule because 441 Sandy Bass needed more than they planned for after it was moved into Newark.

IV. Public Hearing - A public hearing concerning planning documents prepared for the City of Newark under a Planning/Capacity Building Program Contract #712124 as funded by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Mayor Van Wagner opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m. There were neither proponents nor opponents. Mayor Van Wagner closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

V. Consent Agenda – A. Consideration of the August 21 and September 4 Minutes, B. Consideration of the Accounts Payables – August 21 through September 5, 2014, C. Consideration of the Budget and Financials, D. Consideration of Staff Reports

Councilmember Sessler moved to accept items A, B, C, and D as stated; Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

VI. Regular Meeting

1. Consider and act on awarding the mowing contract that will begin October 1, 2014.

The lowest bid is from Matt Newby, who also submitted an agreement for the Council to consider. Mayor Van Wagner recommends Mr. Newby on the basis that he knows the City well and has mowed City property before.

Councilmember Wondolowski would like the Mayor to address when the mowing season starts and ends and also if we don't need grass mowed throughout the City will he pick up trash if needed. Also Exhibit "A" Item No. 6, needs to be addressed to make sure mowing or weed eating is done all the way up to the railroad tracts.

Councilmember Sessler moved to give Mayor Van Wagner the authority to negotiate the contract, it's in the budget, it's approved and it's the lowest bid so the Mayor should consummate the contract; Councilmember Mellema seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

2. Consider and act on Ordinance No. A-424 amending the Newark Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2 – Animal Control.

After this ordinance is passed, the Council has directed Staff to advertise on the water bill that swine will not be allowed inside the City limits. Change Sec. 2.06.004 – Location of Buildings to read, "Shall be no closer than fifty feet (50') to any dwelling and/or property line (100' in SFE zoning). Delete Sec. 2.06.005 (b) 2 and Change Sec. 2.06.005 (b) 3 to (b) 2, referring to enclosure in a sanitary condition.

Councilmember Sessler moved to adopt Ordinance No. A-424 as amended; Councilmember Wondolowski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

3. Consider and act on the Contract of Service between Wise County, Texas and the Newark Public Library for services as a county library.

Councilmember Mellema moved to accept the Contract of Service; Councilmember Wondolowski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

4. Consider and act on the Interlocal Agreement for Animal Control Services between Wise County, Texas and the City of Newark.

Councilmember Mark Wondolowski moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Animal Control Services; Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

5. Discussion and possible action on use of the "old ballpark" property on the corner of Rogers Road and Marshall.

Mayor Van Wagner suggested selling half of the property and using the money to restore the other half back into a ball field to possibly have a City team. Councilmember Sessler pointed out that the City had tried to keep the ball park in shape but it continued to get vandalized until finally the teams moved to Aurora.

The Council directed the Staff to advertise the sale of the property.

6. Discussion and possible action on appointing a person to the vacant seat – Place #2 on the City Council.

It was suggested to advertise on the website and continuing adding this item to the agenda each month.

7. Consider and act on paying part time employees for holidays and one week vacation.

Mayor Van Wagner said paying part time employees for holidays and one (1) week vacation is worth it to keep a good team that can be trusted. The current policy requires employees give two (2) weeks advance before taking vacation.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson moved to approve (contingent upon a written policy with guidelines and possibly based on an accrual basis) to pay part-time employees for holidays and one (1) week vacation and the policy to be presented to the Council at the October 16th meeting; Councilmember Mellema seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

8. Adjourn.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

Gary Van Wagner, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Diane Rasor, City Administrator