

**City of Newark  
City Council Meeting  
Thursday, March 15, 2018**

- 1. Call to Order and announce a Quorum is Present.** Mayor Gary Van Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, 2018 in the Newark Community Center located at 209 Hudson Street in Newark, Texas and announced that a quorum was present. Those present were: Mayor Gary Van Wagner, Mayor Pro-Tem Mark Wondolowski, Councilmember Chris Raines, Councilmember Eric Fleischer, Councilmember Michael Murray, City Administrator Diane Rasor and Assistant City Secretary Jeanine Inman. Those absent were: Councilmember Taylor Burton
- 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.** Mayor Van Wagner delivered the invocation and led the pledge to the flag.
- 3. Citizen Comments.** None.
- 4. Consent Agenda – Consider and act of the following items. February 15, 2018 Minutes, Accounts Payables for February 2018, Budget vs. Actual and Financial Statements, and Staff Reports – City Administrator, Municipal Court, Animal Control, Library, Building Permits, Code Enforcement and Public Works.**

Councilmember Fleischer moved to approve all items on the consent agenda; Councilmember Murray seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

- 5. Presentation and discussion concerning a proposed concept plan for the property located at 416 FM 718. (The old IGA building)**

Shawn Hearn, Plaidstone Properties and Tim Miller, Newark property and business owner, proposed Anything Auto, a car sales and repairs and U-Haul leasing business at 416 FM 718. They will work on the project in stages of less than 50 percent of the building and hope to open up in the fall. Phase 2 of the project that would require a sprinkler system, depending on the needs of the business, and is estimated to be installed around 2019. The Council was positive towards the business coming in and moving forward. No action was taken.

- 6. Consider and act on Newark MHP LLC'S applications to place manufactured homes on properties located at 405, 463, 451, 455, 459, 462 and 464 Sandy Bass Lane.**

Mr. Roger Knickerbocker, 404 Rogers Road, explained that is not opposed to the homes coming in. However, to the damage that occurs when the homes are brought in, he and his neighbor have to make the repairs.

Sandra Ray, Newark MHP LLC's representative, stated that she will have a crew standing by to make sure that repairs are taken care of. She gave Mr. Knickerbocker her number to contact with any issues or questions.

Councilmember Raines would like to have a set deposit amount for the homes being brought in to cover the repair costs. Mrs. Ray was agreeable to the deposit idea.

Councilmember Raines moved to approve Newark MHP LLC'S applications to place manufactured homes on properties located at 405, 463, 451, 455, 459, 462 and 464 Sandy Bass Lane and that the applicant would have to submit a deposit in the amount of \$1,000.00 to hold to cover the repair costs; Mayor Pro-Tem Wondolowski seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

**7. Consider and act on accepting playground equipment from the City of Decatur to place at Delora Doughty Park and authorizing Mayor Van Wagner to submit a letter releasing the City of Decatur of any liability.**

Ken Hatmaker discussed with the City Council some used playground equipment that the City of Decatur would donate to the City of Newark. The City would just need to send the City of Decatur a letter releasing them from any liability. The only costs to the City of Newark would be the painting and installation of the equipment. The City Council would like to look at the equipment first. No action taken.

**8. Consider and act on bids received on the remodel of the gymnasium.**

Architect Bill Peck told the Council bids were received from Landon Banks Enterprises and K. Tillman Construction and that both bids were over the amount budgeted.

Architect Peck explained that the Council can approve the bid, can delete unnecessary items with change orders that would have to be approved by the Texas Department of Agriculture. There is also the option to rebid it. Discussion on asbestos abatement, demolition, painting, stage removal and some labor costs.

Continued discussion on item in Executive Session to get the City Attorney's opinion.

**9. Discussion and possible action on Northwest Independent School District's boundary changes causing an approximate drop in the student population of Chisholm Trail Middle School from 1092 to 450 students.**

Mayor Van Wagner shared his concerns about the student population at Chisholm Trail Middle School being cut in half. Also, the cut in the number of teachers and how it will cause a financial impact on the City of Newark and its citizens.

Dr. Ryder Warren, Superintendent of Northwest ISD, addressed the City Council stating the proposed change began six years ago when the bond was approved for building Adams Middle School. The plan was put on hold due to the economy. Now because of the growth on the south side of the district, the School Board had to act quickly to accommodate the growth. A committee was formed to make recommendations and the School Board made the decision based on those recommendations.

The other middle schools will be at capacity next year except Chisholm Trail Middle School which will be less than half full.

Jan Van Wagner and Linda Ortberg questioned Dr. Warren concerning the students who would be separated from their friends, teachers and activities. If he said he did not want the students on the bus too long then why would he be sending them to a school farther away so that they will be longer on the buses. Also, that Adams will suffer overcrowding within a short time while Chisholm Trail will be under capacity. Has the School Board even considered the students being separated by their friends or why they said the students would be able to compete at the level they have in the past. No action was taken.

**10. Consider and act on Ordinance A-474 approving a tariff authorizing an annual rate review mechanism as a substitute for the annual interim rate adjustment process between Atmos Energy Corporation and the Steering Committee of cities served by others.**

Councilmember Fleischer moved to approve Ordinance A-474 approving a tariff authorizing an annual rate review mechanism as a substitute for the annual interim rate adjustment process between Atmos Energy Corporation and the Steering Committee of cities served by others; Mayor Pro-Tem Wondolowski seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

**11. Consider and act on appointing the judge and alternate judge for the general and special elections on May 5, 2018.**

Councilmember Fleischer moved to appoint Cydney Walvoord and Katrina Jones as the judge and alternate judge for the general and special elections on May 5, 2018; Councilmember Murray seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

**12. Discussion and possible action on the priority of projects' list. Water Master Plan, SCADA Upgrade, Hovey House and Public Works Vehicle.**


**Water Master Plan** -- The RFP's have not been done on this yet. No action taken. **SCADA Upgrade** -- Is on the list for budget. No action taken. **Hovey House** -- The foundation would cost approximately \$15,000 to repair. Discussion about getting it reappraised. **Public Works Vehicle** -- Since the vehicle purchase was based on 3 employees and there are only 2 employees, it was asked to have it removed from the list.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mayor Van Wagner announced that the City council would be adjourning into executive session per Texas Government Code: §551.071 – private consultation with the attorney for the City regarding any item on this agenda at 8:42 p.m.

Mayor Van Wagner announced that the City Council would close the executive session and reconvene in open session at 9:09 p.m.

13. **Adjourn.** Mayor Van Wagner adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
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Gary Van Wagner, Mayor

5/01/2018  
Date

ATTEST:

  
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Diane Rasor, City Administrator