JANUARY 13, 2025

The Newcastle City Council met in regular session at the Newcastle City Hall, 608 Broadway Ave, Newcastle, Texas at 6:00 pm on Monday January 13, 2025, with the following members present:

MEMBERS:

Mayor ProTem: Dickey Baynes
Council Member: Sarah Riley

Jeff Altebaumer Chad Owen- Absent

City Secretary: Alice Winder City Clerk: Julia Keith

OPENING PRAYER: Dickey Baynes opened the meeting in prayer at 6:22pm

VISITORS: None

PUBLIC FORUM: None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 2024- All city council approved of minutes. Sarah Riley made a motion and Dusty Hobbs second it. Approved 4-0

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIALS FOR DECEMBER 2024 – Financials were approved. Motion was made by Sarah Riley and Jeff Altebaumer second it. Approved 4-0

DISCUSSION RESTROOMS AT THE PARK HAVE BEEN WINTERIZED & LOCKED

(UPDATE)- Dusty Hobbs said that Gina Maxwell had told him that you could see daylight through the roof of the city park restrooms. A few city council members are going to go by and check it, to see what they can see. Motion was made by Dusty Hobbs and second by Sarah Riley. Approved 4-0

DISCUSSION ON RE-NEWING THE MEMBERSHIP WITH TRWA- City Council voted not to renew new membership with TRWA. **Approved 4-0**

DISCUSSION ON WHAT TO DO ABOUT WASTEWATER PERMIT POND

CERTIFICATION- Alice Winder (city secretary) will call around and try to find an engineer that we can call to come and get the ponds at the sewer plant certified. Motion was made by Jeff Altebaumer and second by Dusty Hobbs. **Approved 4-0**

DISCUSSION ON SOLID WASTE GRANT HAS BEEN APPLIED FOR (UPDATE) -

DISCUSSION ON YAR OF THE MONTH & MOST IMPROVED YARD- CITY RESIDENT

INCENETIVE – City Council voted on doing the YARD OF THE MONTH but not on the most improved yard. The city will purchase the Yard of the Month sign to go in the winner yard. Julia Keith (City Clerk) will be the one who will be out viewing the yards. Beginning in April.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Executive Session as Authorized by Texas Governmental Code Section 551.074

6:56-7:35pm.

Reconvenes in Open Session:

The city council has adopted a Post Employment On-The-Job Accident & Post Vehicle Accident Drug Testing Policy, effective immediately.

Everyone needs to do a better job clocking in & out.

The EPP (emergency preparedness plans) needs to be completed. And sent to TCEQ.

Check on the status of the report & charges we filed on J.C. Lewis for theft of services.

MAYOR'S UPDATE- On December 19th some of the city council members, Mayor Protem and our city attorney met with the Dollar Store Reps on video call. A lot of discussion went on that morning. One of the main topics that were discussed was the safety & traffic concerns at the 380 Highway location and another concern was the residents around the area that have their reasons for not wanting the Dollar Store in the residential area. The city has requested a traffic count done by TXDot. And TXDot conducted that count on 12/11-12/2024, those reports were sent to the Dollar Store rep and he basically said that they were still interested in building at the 380 Hwy location. They are supposed to be having a survey done soon, so the city can tell if this building will be considered in or out of city limit for the annexing. The city doesn't have a zoning committee and would not be able to create a zoning committee soon enough and causing lots of attorney fees that the city doesn't have. The city attorney advised that it was going to be almost impossible to detest them from building. She said that there's not anything that the city could do to stop them from building without getting sued. It sounds like the Dollar Store reps are determined to build on the 380 Hwy location. They said they would consider all of the city's concerns.

ADJORNMENT: Motion was made by Dusty Hobbs and seconded by Sarah Riley.

Dickey Baynes- Mayor ProTem

ATTEST:

Alice Winder, City Secretary