July 16, 2026

The Newcastle City Council met in meeting at Newcastle City Hall, 608 Broadway Ave, Newcastle, Texas at 6:00 pm on Monday July 16th 2026, with the following members present:

MEMBERS:

Mayor:	Dickie Baynes
Council Member:	Sarah Riley (Absent)
	Chad Owen
	Dustin Hobbs
	Josh Duffield
	Nick Martin (Absent)
City Secretary:	Alice Winder
Public Works:	Brent Casteel
	AB Cheatham IV

PRAYER: 6:12pm Chad Owen opened in prayer.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Dickie Baynes

PUBLIC FORUM: David Pratt came out to thank everyone for helping out in the 250th Anniversary 4th of July Celebration.

APPROVAL OF JUNE FINANCIALS-ACTION REQUIRED – Chad Owen made a motion, and Dusty Hobbs seconded it. **Approved 3-0**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE- ACTION REQUIRED- Josh Duffield made a motion and Chad Owen seconded it. **Approved 3-0**

DISCUSSION ON RATE INCREASES FOR WATER, SEWER & TRASH- The rate increases are 15% for water, 4% for sewer and 3% for trash. Josh Duffield made the motion and Dusty Hobbs second it. **Approved 3-0**

DISCUSSION ON SB DEBIT RATE MEMO- This was a memo that came from the tax appraisal office. The city council members will take the literature home and read over it to see if this would be something to consider for next year.

DISCUSSION ON PRINT OUT OF THE SALES PAYEES- There was some discussion concerning the businesses on the list & how accurate and updated it is. Alice is going to do some more research on this list.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Started 6:30-7:15pm. Several items of concern. (1) we sent sludge samples to the lab and they're high on petroleum. Trying to come up with a plan on how to handle this issue moving forward. (2) the Public Works guys need to communicate better.

MAYOR'S UPDATE: The 2022 audit has been revised and needed approval. City Council approved of the revised audit. And mayor (Dickie Baynes) signed off on it. Approved 3-0

ADJORNMENT: Chad Owen made the motion, and Josh Duffield seconded it.

Dickie Baynes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alice Winder, City Secretary