The Newell City Council met in special session on Thursday October 2, 2025, at 6:30pm in City Hall with Mayor Wayne Westergaard presiding. Council members present, Larry Nielsen, Bill Henrich, Dennis Ziegler and Jeff Shedd. Absent Ana Johnson. City Clerk, Public works and Determination/Nuisance Board also in attendance.

Approval of Agenda: Henrich Motioned, Nielsen 2nd, all ayes.

The council welcomed the city attorney Gary Armstrong to discuss enforcement procedures for nuisance properties, abandoned structures, and unpaid fines. Key discussion points were property maintenance enforcement strategies, transferring unpaid fines to property taxes, issuing notices for nuisance properties, procedures for handling unkept yards, junk vehicles, and dilapidated structures. Specific property concerns discussed multiple properties with maintenance issues, potential legal actions against non-compliant property owners and the process for issuing warnings and potential fines will be starting to be enforced.

Action Items to be taken, send notices to property owners regarding city code violations. Review and update property maintenance code, coordinate with treasurer's office with the help of city attorney for fine collection.

Recommendations from the city attorney give property owners specific timeframes to address maintenance issues. Use graduated fine system to encourage compliance. Consider legal action if property owners do not respond. Nielsen motioned for adjournment, 2nd by Ziegler, all ayes. Meeting adjourned 7:09pm.

Heather Copp – City Clerk Wayne Westergaard - Mayor