The Newell City Council met in regular session Monday, April 7, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall pursuant to the laws and rules of said Council in regular session. Mayer Westergaard called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Roll Call:** Council members Ana Johnson, Larry Nielsen, Jeff Shed and Bill Henrich were present, Dennis Ziegler absent. Others present were city employees, Heather Copp, Doug Lange, Pat Cross and Ginger Lyman & Chad Wilson. Bruce Erie, Jensen Bodholdt, Deputy Cary for Town Reports. Special agenda guests, Community Garden, Pool Committee & NF Baseball Softball Association were also present.

**Approval of Agenda:** Henrich Motioned, Johnson 2nd to approve the agenda. All Ayes.

**Consent Agenda:** After Discussion, Johnson motioned Nielsen 2nd approval the consent agenda, which included 3/3/2025 & 3/3/2025 regular & special session minutes, Claims Report 3/15/25 through 4/15/25 (Bills), March Treasures Reports including Revenues MTD $45,129.33 Expenses MTD $66,761.81, & Bank Balances.

**Citizens Forum:** Westergaard opened the meeting to public comment at 7:02pm. Bobbie Westergaard spoke briefly about the future of the community garden. Council could not respond, item was moved back to agenda, forum Closed 7:07pm.

**Town reports:** Sheriff – March 124 hours patrol, detailed with the listing of calls was presented by BV Co. Deputy Sheriff Cary.

Fire – Chief Erie reported 1 firefighter has stepped down from his role. Department has accepted 2 new applicants, Michael Hammen and Camden Nehring. Johnson motioned to approve 2nd by Nielsen all ayes.

Library – Director Bodholdt updated the council on plans to change the floor layout. They are also hiring a children’s librarian for the summer season. Resolution #03-25 approving the transfer from library Warme account to library checking account in the amount of $35.35 Moved by Nielsen 2nd by Johnson. RCV Johnson, Nielsen, Shedd & Henrich ayes no nays. Resolution #04-25 approving the transfer from library Enrich IA savings account to library checking account in the amount of $1,308.87 Moved by Henrich 2nd by Shedd. RCV Johnson, Nielsen, Shedd & Henrich ayes no nays.

**Community Garden –** Bobbie Westergaard would like to step down as the coordinator and is actively looking for a replacement. Discussion was made if area clubs would like to takeover and she will follow up on the leads. A shed or location for tools and supplies is needed, as the previous shed was sold by the owner. Westergaard asked the council for a beautification budget of $1000 for supplies and plant replacements. Nielsen motioned to approve, Johnson 2nd all ayes.

**Park –** Musical Playground was delivered last week. City is currently working on removal of trees and blueprinting the area for concrete bids.

NF Baseball Softball Association brought in another bid for fence replacement, after discussion and time frame it was motioned by Johnson, 2nd by Henrich all ayes to accept the bid from Midwest Fence. The association will be contributing funds for the electrical work that is scheduled to be replaced.

**Pool Committee –** Fundraiser Puzzle & Pub is this Saturday. Resolution #05-25 approving the transfer from Pool checking account to Pool CD account in the amount of $100,000. Moved by Henrich 2nd by Shedd. RCV Johnson, Nielsen, Shedd & Henrich ayes no nays.

**Golf Course –** Lyman reported that opening went well. Plumbing is up and running. Wilson reported the purchase of mower blades and will be ordering rock for cart paths.

**Public Works –** City Superintendent LangereportedMarch water usage 2,770,000 gals, an average of 89,000 gals a day. Wastewater 5,060,000 gals an average of 163,000 gals a day.

Release of lagoons planning 4/15

City Clean up date will be June 13, 2025.

Tree Planting – Nielsen addressed council on thoughts of citizen tree planting in the city right away. Council would like it to be discussed with the city attorney for legal advice.

**Clerk –** Garage Sale Weekend set May 30 – June 1st. Insurance settlement in the amount of $50,000 will be received for the damage to park property. 14 recycling reminders mailed per request by CRS. Attended Gworks software workshop in March, city is scheduled to start onboarding July 21st. School color run route set, Fire Department and Sheriff have responded to attending and helping with public safety. Reports that are due in the coming weeks ARPA Funds, Cemetery Perpetual Care, Bitco Insurance Workman’s comp audit, and Wellmark prescription report. Clerk will be attending 2 conferences, April 9-11 and 21-22. Clerk requested assistance from council to liquidate the patrol car. Council will work on details with the volunteered help of Cross. Nielsen added that he has spoken to auctioneers regarding selling ammo and guns.

**Meeting Dates** - Public hearing adopting FY26 Budget 4/21/25 6:30pm. Next Regular session May 5th 7:00pm. Johnson motioned for adjournment, 2nd by Nielsen, all ayes. Meeting adjourned 8:29pm.

Heather Copp – City Clerk Wayne Westergaard - Mayor