

**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 16, 2023**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to order and announce quorum is present.**

Mayor Pro Tem Chris Raines called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, and announced a quorum was present. Those in attendance were: Mayor Pro Tem Chris Raines, Councilmember Jennifer Hill, Councilmember Nathaniel Butler, Councilmember Richard Sidebottom, Councilmember Melanie Payne, City Admin Staff Michelle Peterson, Code Enforcement Officer Devon Kennedy, Director of Public Works William Allen, and City Secretary Jenni Moore.

**2. Pledge of allegiance and invocation.**

Mayor Pro Tem Raines led the pledge and Councilmember Hill led the invocation.

**3. Mayor Update.**

There was no Mayor update.

**4. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**5. Consider and act on the following items:**

**A. Council Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2023.**

**B. Accounts Payables for February 2023.**

**C. Financial Statements for February 2023.**

**D. Staff Reports- Municipal Court, Building Permits, Code Enforcement, and Public Works for February 2023.**

Councilmember Hill motioned to approve agenda item number 5 as a whole. Councilmember Payne second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

**6. Discuss, consider and act on a request from James Sims regarding the use of the baseball fields located at 161 Marshall Rd.**

Mr. Sims stated his interest in using the ball fields located at 161 Marshall Rd. for the teams that he manages. Mr. Sims had presented the City Secretary with his liability insurance prior to the meeting showing that he has already added the City of Newark on his current policy. Mr. Sims discussed his interest in investing in the city as well as the children of the city. He stated that he would be willing to help find volunteers to assist in cleaning up the field to make it up to usable standards. Mr. Sims also stated that he has his own bases to be used and would even be willing to help with maintenance if it is what is needed to make the fields usable.

Mayor Pro Tem Raines stated he would also volunteer to help get the fields cleaned up. City Secretary Moore shared a message from the mayor who was not present stating that Mayor Cardwell is in favor of the ballfield being cleaned up and utilized.

Councilmember Sidebottom motioned to allow Mr. Sims and his organization to use the baseball fields located at 161 Marshall Road immediately with insurance coverage with a permanent contract being addressed at the next council meeting. Councilmember Butler second the motion. All Approved. Motion was passed.

7. **Discuss, consider and act on a request from Irene Acosta to place a new mobile home on lots 12 and 13 on Country Living Dr.**

Councilmember Payne made motion to approve Irene Acosta to place a new mobile home on lot 12 and 13 of Country Living Dr. Councilmember Hill second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

8. **Discuss, consider and act on Ordinance No. A-542, an Ordinance cancelling the May 6, 2023 General Election and declaring each unopposed candidate elected to office.**

Councilmember Sidebottom made a motion on ordinance No. A-542 to cancel the May 6, 2023 General Election and declare each unopposed candidate elected to office. Councilmember Payne second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

9. **Discuss, consider and act on entering into a contract (No. DHS-SMC2023-06) with DHS Automation to provide services as needed for the City's Scada system.**

Public Works Director William Allen spoke to share that this will lock us into a contract so we would be a priority to service if we have any issues. He stated we already are serviced by this company and they have provided service for the Scada since it was installed. Director Allen stated that he is not asking for any money as it would come out of his current water and wastewater budget. Councilmember Hill made a motion on number nine to enter into a contract no. DHS-SMC2023-06 with DHS Automation to provide services as needed for the City's Scada system. Councilmember Butler second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

10. **Discuss, consider and act on appointing Joey Martin to the Newark Cultural Education Finance Corporation and the Newark Higher Education Finance Corporation.**

Joey Martin was not present, however he was not required to be. Mayor Pro Tem Raines and City Secretary Moore explained the urgent need to fill this position. Councilmember Butler made a motion to approve Joey Martin to the Newark Cultural Education Finance Corporation and the Newark Higher Education Finance Corporation. Councilmember Payne second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

11. **Discuss, consider and act on Resolution No. 361, a resolution approving the Texas Term Sheet for Opioid Litigation settlements and authorizing the mayor to execute and submit "Settlement Participation Forms" for settlements with Johnson and Johnson and opioid distributors.**

12. **Discuss, consider and act on Resolution No. 362, a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute and submit "Settlement Participation Forms" for settlements with Endo/Par and Teva.**

13. **Discuss, consider and act on Resolution No. 363, a resolution approving the Texas Term Sheet for Opioid Litigation settlements and authorizing the mayor to execute and submit "Settlement Participation forms" for settlements with Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart.**

Councilmember Hill made a motion to approve resolution numbers 361, 362, and 363, approving the Texas Term Sheet for Opioid Litigation settlements and authorizing the mayor to execute and submit all current and future settlement participation forms. Councilmember Payne second the motion. Councilmembers Butler, Hill and Payne approved; Councilmember Sidebottom opposed. The motion passed.

14. **Meeting adjourn.**

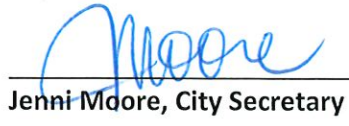
Mayor Pro Tem Raines adjourned the meeting at 7:46pm.

APPROVED:

  
Crystal Cardwell, Mayor

4/20/2023

Date

  
Jenni Moore, City Secretary

