

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2023

7:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Cardwell called the meeting to order at 7:16pm, and announced a quorum was present. Those in attendance were: Mayor Crystal Cardwell, Mayor Pro Tem Chris Raines, Councilmember Nathaniel Butler, Councilmember Richard Sidebottom, City Admin Staff Brittany Mayhue and Michelle Peterson, Code Enforcement Officer Devon Kennedy and City Secretary Jenni Moore.

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

Mayor Cardwell led the pledge and the invocation.

3. **Mayor Update.**

Mayor Cardwell shared about the success of the senior luncheon held in April. Mayor Cardwell asked Heart for Park member Laura Pixler to share regarding the April on the park. Laura Pixler shared that the Easter event in the park was a huge success as well as sharing details about the upcoming Mother's Day, Father's Day and back to school event. Mayor Cardwell stated that with the park grant we are waiting on applications to build the MDD park board and that it should be on the next months city council agenda. Mayor Cardwell spoke about the coffee with the mayor event at the library event.

4. **Public Comments.**

No Public Comments

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

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

B. **Accounts Payables for March 2023.**

C. **Financial Statements for March 2023.**

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

Councilmember Sidebottom made a motion to consider and act on the agenda items A-D and accept them as a whole. Councilmember Butler second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

6. **Resolution authorizing Newark Higher Education Finance Corporation Education Revenue Bonds (Orenda Education) series 2023A and Newark Higher Education Finance Corporation Education Revenue Bonds (Orenda Education) taxable series 2023B; loan agreement; trust indenture; a public hearing; and other matters in connection therewith.**

Ted Christensen spoke regarding this loan, stating this was actually one of his clients that he led to the City of Newark for this process. Mr. Christensen stated this loan is for \$12,500 for a school in Georgetown. Mr. Christensen stated that the corporation has met earlier that evening and approved the loan and that payment was scheduled for June. Mayor Pro Tem Chris Raines made the motion authorizing Newark Higher Education Finance Corporation Education Revenue Bonds (Orenda Education) series 2023A and Newark Higher Education Finance Corporation Education Revenue Bonds (Orenda Education) taxable series 2023B; loan agreement; trust indenture; a public hearing; and other matters in connection therewith. Councilmember Butler second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

7. **Consider and adopt a resolution approving the issuance of tax-exempt obligations to finance projects for Divine Savior Academy – Sienna Plantation, Inc.**
Ted Christensen spoke regarding this loan and stated it was brought to him by another attorney. Mr. Christensen stated he did not have a timeline for the closing on this line at this time, it is also for \$12,500. Mayor Sidebottom motioned approving the issuance of tax-exempt obligations to finance projects for Divine Savior Academy – Sienna Plantation, Inc. Mayor Pro Tem Raines second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.
8. **Discuss, consider and act on Ordinance No. A-543, granting Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC an electric franchise agreement to operate in the City of Newark.**
Sabrina Easley who is the area manager for Oncor spoke regarding this matter. Mrs. Easley stated that this was just a renewal of the franchise agreement that the City has had with them for the past 20 years. Oncor is looking to renew the agreement for the next twenty years under the same terms as the past 20. Mrs. Easley stated that the contract actually expired last year and that the agreement will backdate to the date it expired. Councilmember Butler motioned to consider and act on Ordinance No. A-543, granting Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC an electric franchise agreement to operate in the City of Newark. Mayor Pro Tem Raines second the motion. All approved. Motion passed.
9. **Consider and act on Resolution No. 364, authorizing continued participation with the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and authorizing the payment of the five cents per capita to the ACSC to fund regulatory and related activities related to Atmos Energy Corporation.**
City Secretary Moore informed the council that Atmos is a monopoly provider, so the steering committee comes together to regulate the rates and then we pay five cents per capita for that. Councilmember Sidebottom motioned to act on resolution No. 364, authorizing continued participation with the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and authorizing the payment of the five cents per capita to the ACSC to fund regulatory and related activities related to Atmos Energy Corporation. Mayor Pro Tem Raines second the motion. All approved. Motion passed.
10. **Discuss and consider implementation of a park rental process and associated fees.**
City Admin Staff Michelle Peterson presented to ask them to allow work to begin on an ordinance regarding park rental processes and fees. Council discussed coming back to discuss this topic next month allowing them all time to look over the fees and policies and agree on what fees would be best for the ordinance.
11. **Discuss and act on setting Budget Meeting dates for May 2023.**
Council discussed meeting bi-weekly and then monthly for budget meetings. Mayor Pro Tem Raines asked if there were any special things coming up that may conflict with the budget being set too early. City Secretary Moore stated that the City Hall building needs to be addressed, regarding the debilitating conditions of the building. Mayor Cardwell stated that she had asked Code Enforcement officer Devon Kennedy to begin ideas for a new building. Mayor Cardwell also stated that a contractor was called in and stated that there is not really anything that can be done to make this building safe for daily occupancy. Council decided to have meetings on Wednesday evenings setting the dates of May 10th, 2023 and May 24th, 2023 at 6:00 PM as the first two budget meetings.
12. **Meeting Adjourn.**
Mayor Cardwell adjourned the meeting at 7:56pm.

APPROVED:

Crystal Cardwell
Crystal Cardwell, Mayor

5-18-23
Date

Jenni Moore
Jenni Moore, City Secretary

