The City Council of the City of Newell, Iowa met in regular session Monday, February 3, 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, Dennis Ziegler and Bill Henrich were present. Others present were city employees, Heather Copp, Jensen Bodholdt, Doug Lange, Pat Cross and Ginger Lyman. Laura Degner, Bruce Erie, Tanya Landgraf, Deputy Watts for Town Reports. Special agenda guests Tim Rebnord and NF Baseball Softball Association were also present.

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

**Citizens Forum:** Westergaard opened the meeting to public comment at 7:00pm. No one was present that wished to comment, Closed 7:01pm

**Consent Agenda:** After Discussion, Nielsen motioned and Shed 2nd to approve the consent agenda, which approved 1/20/2025 Minutes, Claims Report 1/15/25 through 2/4/25 (Bills), December Treasures Reports including Revenues MTD $93,382.86, Expenses MTD $96,702.67, & Bank Balances. Alcohol License renewal approval – Al’s Corner Oil Co. DBA Sparky’s One Stop #6 Class B. Seasonal Help Update of applications received, 4 GC clubhouse attendants, 2 GC Mower, 3 Cemetery/City mowers & help, and 1 Shelter House, deadline to apply is February 21st. Council tabled Resolution #03-25: Support of the Newell Pool Project till Feb 20th budget meeting to set a dollar amount. Upon roll, all voted aye.

**Town reports:** Sheriff – January 155 hours patrol, detailed with the listing of calls was presented by BV Co. Deputy Sheriff Watts. Fire – Chief Erie approached council advising he still would like to recruit 11 more fire fighters to fill his roster. Ambulance – Director Degner reported Newell had 7 calls, 4 were responded to in January.Library – Board President Landgraf thanked the community for taking the time to fill out the library survey and looks forward to making some impactful changes.

**Park -** Board Meeting Feb 16th topics on GC 2025 rates, happy hour specials, clubhouse flooring and cleanup from sewer work on their agenda for discussion. BV Co. Community Foundation Grant Money of $15,770 was picked up by city clerk. City has 12 mo. to complete the musical playground project. The equipment order will be signed and sent back to Boland Recreational this week, quoted cost of $36,094 which includes installation. Motioned by Henrich 2nd by Johnson, all ayes. City will again donate $150 towards the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 19th at 1pm –Danielle Bohlman with HWY 7 Auto will oversee the annual hunt. Johnson motioned, 2nd by Henrich all ayes. NF Baseball Softball Association presented 2 quotes for fence replacement at the south ball field. 1st option - 160’-48’ high 9 ga. galv. KK chain link fencing with 10’ double gate $5,552.58. 2nd option - 595’– 48” high 9 ga. galv. KK chain link fencing, 10’ double gate, 2-12’ in ground foul poles. $14,202.67. Removal and disposal of existing fence would be done by the association with the help of the city. Council motioned by Henrich 2nd Nielsen to table this item until budget meeting. All ayes.

**Golf Course –** Cash register and card reader upgrade was addressed by Manager Lyman. More information and pricing will be provided by Lyman for Feb 20th meeting. Ziegler commented the closing date of the golf course was 1 week sooner than the previous year he motioned to have it open until Oct 18th, 2025, 2nd by Nielsen, motion carried with a 3 – 2(Johnson & Shed) vote.

**Public Works –** City Superintendent LangereportedJanuary Water usage 2,790,000 gals, an average of 90,000 gals a day. Wastewater 2,664,000 gals an average of 85,935 gals a day. Sewer work at golf course commencing, change order was approved to replace water lines that were not in original quote, motioned by Henrich 2nd by Ziegler all ayes.

**Clerk –** Copp presented the following new items on the agenda**.** Security and IT Network update, Tim Rebnord joined council to go over in more detail quotes that his firm made for the city regarding security cameras, IT network updating, new IT equipment, technical support and cyber security contract. This was only informational, and council will address costs for future budget FY26. Insurance Renewal Updates were given, Dram Ins for GC needed approved to open by 4/1. Johnson motioned to go forward with the current agent and provider it was 2nd by Shed, motion carried 4-1(Nielsen) vote.

Ziegler motioned, 2nd by Johnson all ayes to participate in the Buena Vista County Journal’s March 5th Edition "Newspaper in Education Week". Newell Fonda 4th grade students will be drawing business ads which will be featured in the issue. Cost is $50 for a 2x3 ad, council approved 2 ads, both City & GC.

Street Closure for NF School Color Run/Walk – April 16th 12pm – 1pm or TBD. Motioned by Nielsen, 2nd by Henrich, all ayes. School officials will be contacted by Public Works as to what route can be used and what safety measures need to be taken. Fire Dept. Asst. Chief Cross volunteered firetrucks at intersections for street barricades. Procedures for incoming donation requests were discussed and council advised it on a case-by-case basis. Donation gift certificate of 18 hole & cart for 2 people was motioned by Ziegler, 2nd Henrich, all ayes to the Sheriff Reserve fundraiser.

Deputy Clerk Jensen Bodholdt gave the council her formal resignation. Her last day as Deputy Clerk will be February 28, 2025. Copp asked the council to hold off on advertising and hiring a new deputy until she is comfortable in her City Clerk role.

**Mayor -** Westergaard appointed Henrich to the personal committee, Brandi Ernst to Park Board and Pat Cross to Determination Board. Motioned by Johnson, 2nd Nielsen, all ayes.

Nims Training is required by all City employees and council members, websites and information was handed out.

**Future meeting dates**– Park Board 2/16/25 TBD, Council budget work special session 2/20/25 6:30pm, regular session 3/3/25 7:00pm, public hearing for proposed tax rate 4/7/24 6:30pm with regular session to follow at 7:00pm, and public hearing adopting FY26 Budget 4/21/25 6:30pm.

Nielson motioned for adjournment, 2nd by Henrich, all ayes. Meeting Adjourned 9:04pm.

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Wayne Westergaard – Mayor

ATTEST:

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Heather Copp – City Clerk