



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA
Monday, September 25, 2023 - 11:00 AM
Council Chambers

All public meetings of the City of Newport will be held in the City Council Chambers of the Newport City Hall, 169 SW Coast Highway, Newport. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter, or for other accommodations, should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to Erik Glover, City Recorder at 541.574.0613, or e.glover@newportoregon.gov.

All meetings are live-streamed at <https://newportoregon.gov>, and broadcast on Charter Channel 190. Anyone wishing to provide written public comment should send the comment to publiccomment@newportoregon.gov. Public comment must be received four hours prior to a scheduled meeting. For example, if a meeting is to be held at 3:00 P.M., the deadline to submit written comment is 11:00 A.M. If a meeting is scheduled to occur before noon, the written comment must be submitted by 5:00 P.M. the previous day. To provide virtual public comment during a city meeting, a request must be made to the meeting staff at least 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting. This provision applies only to public comment and presenters outside the area and/or unable to physically attend an in person meeting.

The agenda may be amended during the meeting to add or delete items, change the order of agenda items, or discuss any other business deemed necessary at the time of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

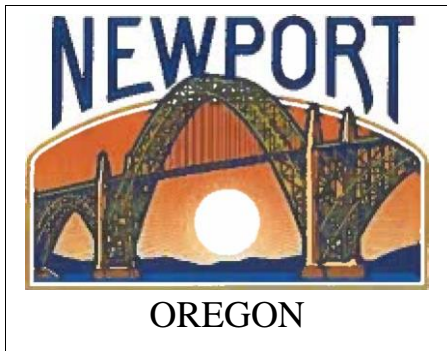
2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.A City Manager's Report

[City Manager's Report
Interview Questions.pdf](#)

- 2.B **First Candidate Interview, 11:15, Scout Hockema**
[Scout Hockema Application for City Committee.pdf](#)
- 2.C **Second Candidate Interview, 11:30, Robert Emond**
[Robert Emond Application for City Committee.pdf](#)
- 2.D **Lunch 11:45**
- 2.E **Third Candidate Interview, 12:15, Mark C. Phillips**
[Mark Phillips Application for City Committee.pdf](#)
- 2.F **Fourth Candidate Interview, 12:30, Steven Hickman**
[Steven Hickman Application for City Committee.pdf](#)
- 2.G **Fifth Candidate Interview, 12:45, Fernando Garza**
[Fernando Garza Application for City Committee.pdf](#)

3. ADJOURNMENT



Spencer Nebel City Manager
CITY OF NEWPORT
169 S.W. Coast Hwy.
Newport, OR 97365
s.nebel@newportoregon.gov

MEMO

DATE: September 22, 2023

TO: City Council

FROM: Spencer Nebel, City Manager

SUBJECT: Report on the work session and special meeting on Monday, September 25, 2023, beginning at 11 AM.

A special work session and a special meeting of for City Council has been set up to conduct interviews of applicants to serve the remaining portion of the Council term vacated by Jan Kaplan following his appointment as Mayor. This term which will run to January 4, 2027. The voters of the City of Newport will fill this position at the November 2026 election. A special Council meeting will be held on or after 1 PM to consider appointment to the City Council.

The City Recorder received nine applications for this position prior to the September 20 deadline. Chapter VII, Section 28 of the City Charter provides:

- (a) The Mayor and each Councilor must be a qualified elector under state law, and reside within the City for at least one year immediately before election or appointment to office.

One applicant did not meet residency requirements, and three applicants have since withdrawn, so there are five qualified applicants to consider for appointment to serve the remainder of this term. We have invited the applicants to participate in interviews based on the date of their application.

Work Session Interviews (11 AM)

The work session will begin at 11 AM. The Council will discuss the process outlined for the selection of the new Council member. Questions have been provided to the applicants. Each interview has been allocated 15 minutes. The interview questions have been attached. The applicants are invited to remain in the Council Chambers during the entire interview process. The work session will be adjourned following the last interview.

Special City Council Meeting (1 PM)

The Council member will be appointed at a special City Council meeting beginning at 1 PM.

The City Council consists of a Mayor and six Councilors nominated and elected from the city at-large. The City Charter provides that Council will appoint a qualified applicant to fill the remainder of a vacated term by majority of the remaining Council members.

The City Council is a representative body to address community issues on behalf of the citizens of Newport. As such, Council may wish to consider a variety of factors in filling this vacancy to assure that Council reflects the community being served. These factors can include:

- 1) Race, including underserved populations.
- 2) Age demographics.
- 3) Income.
- 4) Professional/Life background.
- 5) Geographic/Neighborhood Representation. (a map is attached).

In addition, it is important that Council consider how the newly appointed member may work with remaining members of the Council and what each applicant may bring to the table to broaden discussions that lead to collaborative decisions to move the community forward. That being said, it is solely up to a majority of Council to decide on who will represent the community for remainder of this Council term.

The proposed process for appointing the Council member is suggested as follows:

- 1) The Mayor will convene the special meeting of the City Council to proceed with the appointment of a new Council member.
- 2) Council can have a discussion on the various applicants who were interviewed by the City Council.
- 3) Ballots will be distributed with the names of the five applicants for the vacated Council seat.
- 4) Council members will select one of the candidates on the ballot and write down their own name on the ballot. (This is not a secret ballot. The ballots will be read aloud along with the name of the Council member casting the ballot.)
- 5) The City Recorder will count the ballots. Under Chapter VII, Section 33 of the City Charter: "A Mayor or Councilor vacancy will be filled by appointment by a majority of the remaining Council members." Since there is one vacancy on the Council, leaving six Council members, four affirmative votes are required before an applicant can be selected as a new Council member.
- 6) If no applicant receives four votes at the end of the first round of voting, ballots with the names of the five applicants will be redistributed and a second round of voting will occur. Additional rounds of voting would continue until a candidate has four affirmative votes. Should there not be the required four votes for appointing a new Council member at this meeting, the Council could consider continuing the selection at the October 2 meeting.
- 7) Once an applicant has received four or more votes a motion should be made to formally appoint that candidate as Mayor of the City of Newport.

Recommendation:

I recommend that the Council consider the following motion:

I move to appoint_____as a member of Council for the City of Newport to fill the balance of a vacated term ending January 4, 2027.

The appointed Council member will be sworn in at the October 2, 2023 Council meeting. An orientation will be provided prior to that meeting and the appointed Council member will be provided with an iPad and other materials prior to October 2. We have also maintained a room and registration for the new Council member to participate in the League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference which will take place in Eugene, Oregon, Wednesday, October 11 through Saturday, October 14. We will need to confirm whether they can attend this meeting following their appointment to Council.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. R. Nebel", written in a cursive style.

Spencer R. Nebel
City Manager

Questions for September 25, 2023 Interviews for City Council Vacancy

Note: Questions 5 and 7 contain important information that will **not** be read during the interview.

1. Does your interest in serving on the City Council stem from a personal interest or goal? Is there something in particular you hope to accomplish while serving on the City Council, and why is serving on the Council important to you? Please elaborate.

2. What has been your involvement with the City of Newport, either serving on a City Committee or otherwise? How have you contributed to the City of Newport in your time as a resident?

3. What unique skills, experiences, perspectives, and relationships would you bring to this leadership position that could support and advance the work of the City?

4. What do you perceive to be the current challenges and opportunities facing Newport?

5. If appointed to the City Council, what steps would you take to assure opportunities for underserved populations to fully participate in city services and decision-making? How do you see yourself adding to the diverse composition of the council?

(Background for #5 above- The role of a member of the City Council is to represent all citizens living within the community. The City of Newport recognizes there are underserved populations that may not have had the same access to services in City governance due to language, cultural, social, or other barriers. Some of these underrepresented and underserved populations include: Native Americans, BIPOC folks, immigrants, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ individuals, younger adults and youth, economically-disadvantaged folks, farm and migrant workers, and rural residents.)

6. The City Council must render decisions regarding the implementation of policies and/or programs that may be somewhat controversial. Are you willing to take on the responsibility of making decisions that are in the best interest of the public even though they may be somewhat controversial?

7. The position of City Councilor is a time consuming position. With various community and committee meetings etc. Would you be able to devote the necessary time to adequately fill the position?

(Background for #7 above- Meeting days/times: City Council:

Regular Sessions:

- 1st & 3rd Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

Work Sessions:

- 1st and 3rd Monday at 4:00 p.m.

2 council regular session meetings per month (**generally 3 hours twice a month**);

2 council work sessions per month(**generally from 1.5 hours, twice a month**)

Meeting materials reading & meeting preparation (**generally 10 hours a month**)

Potential Additional Commitments:

- Committee meeting(s) as Council Liaison(**generally 1.5-2 hours per committee, per month, generally in the evenings. Generally, a council member is appointed to serve on between 3-5 committees as liaison**)
- Special Meetings – as needed
- Budget Meeting(s) in Spring(**Typically one 1.5 hour intro meeting, two four hour budget meetings, one 1 hour final budget meeting**)
- Representation as Liaison on boards & committees

Committee assignments:

(Dependent upon appointment)”

Application for City Committee - Email Application

Date: 8/22/2023

Commission/Committee of Interest: City Council

Name: Scout hockema

Address:

Workphone: 541-961-2982

Homephone: 541-961-2982

Email:

Occupation: Owner operator LLC

Employer: Marine Diesel Services LLC

Why do you think you are qualified to be a Committee member?

As a long time resident of Lincoln county it would be an honor to represent the city I work in and own a home in. I know what it takes to create a open and transparent line of communication with the members of the community and city council. Newport is a beautiful hub for so many people to come to and feel safe and at home

State your educational background.

Highest level of education is trade school for diesel mechanics, and working to become a master journeyman in my field

Have you ever served on a community committee? If so, what kind?

No I've never served, however a fresh look at current issues and a biased knowledge of the commuty would greatly impact the city in a good way.

Do you agree with consensus decision making?

Yes I agree with doing what's right as a group for the best outcome

Are you willing to attend regularly scheduled meetings for your term of office?

Absolutely

Would you make decisions based on the facts and standards even though you may not agree with the ultimate decision?

Yes factual knowledge is key when understanding a situation

Do you anticipate having many conflicts of interest that may disqualify you in making decisions, due to personal and/or business relationships?

Not at all

List all other pertinent information/background for this position.

As a long time member of the community and local business owner I feel that I would be a great fit for this position

Application for City Committee - Email Application

Date: 8/30/2023

Commission/Committee of Interest: City Council

Name: Robert Emond

Address: 720 W. Olive St.

Workphone: 5417319397

Homephone: 5417319397

Email: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Retired

Employer:

Why do you think you are qualified to be a Committee member?

As a former attorney and IT manager I am used to working with various groups who have different competing goals and bringing those groups together by building a consensus position that works for all stakeholders. I also studied anthropology which helped me develop an ability to work with people of different cultures and/or opinions. These skills will translate as a City Councilor. I have also gained working experience in City business as a member on the Parking Committee.

State your educational background.

2002-04 Thomas Jefferson School of Law and visiting scholar University of Oregon School of Law.

1983-87 UCLA - Archaeology.

Have you ever served on a community committee? If so, what kind?

Yes, I serve on the Newport Parking Committee.

Do you agree with consensus decision making?

Yes.

Are you willing to attend regularly scheduled meetings for your term of office?

Yes.

Would you make decisions based on the facts and standards even though you may not agree with the ultimate decision?

Yes.

Do you anticipate having many conflicts of interest that may disqualify you in making decisions, due to personal and/or business relationships?

No.

List all other pertinent information/background for this position.

I have been on the board of three non-profit organizations that I helped found. I was also the chairperson for one which was a medical and animal 501(c) charity. I have volunteered legal services for seniors as well as a mock trial coach for High School. I have taught classes on continuing legal education, high school civics, and a variety of software and IT topics.

Application for City Committee - Email Application

Date: 9/4/2023

Commission/Committee of Interest: City Council

Name: Mark C Phillips

Address: Home: [REDACTED]

Mailing: [REDACTED]

Workphone: None

Homephone: 541-961-9872

Email: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Retired Attorney, Judge, and Ethics Instructor

Employer: N/A

Why do you think you are qualified to be a Committee member?

As a long-time attorney, judge, and ethics instructor, I know what is right and what is not. I spent my 32-year legal career advising municipalities, counties, and state agencies, so I have both the expertise and experience to work in local government, including as an advocate. I have lived in Newport for 10 years and been visiting Newport since 1981, so I know the local issues and want to "give back" to the community now that I am retired. I have a strong passion for public service.

State your educational background.

B.A. Philosophy, St. John's College

M.A. Philosophy, Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology

J.D. California Western School of Law

Have you ever served on a community committee? If so, what kind?

I have run Shriners organizations both in Lincoln County and statewide since 2016. This requires leadership, strong communication skills, and the ability to gain community support for the Shriners Children healthcare system, which treats on average 80 youth in Lincoln County alone every year.

Do you agree with consensus decision making?

Yes, absolutely.

Are you willing to attend regularly scheduled meetings for your term of office?

Yes, absolutely.

Would you make decisions based on the facts and standards even though you may not agree with the ultimate decision?

Yes, absolutely.

Do you anticipate having many conflicts of interest that may disqualify you in making decisions, due to personal and/or business relationships?

No, none at all.

List all other pertinent information/background for this position.

I am a centrist, accustomed to bridging gaps within the community. I am a listener, accustomed to facilitating a consensus. I have a physical disability that makes me sensitive to the needs of others. I want

to be of service to my hometown and hope the Council will allow me to show what I have by allowing me to serve on the Council at this time. Thank you very much.

Wed 8/30, 5:53 PM

Melanie Nelson;

Application for City Committee - Email Application

Date: 08/04/1959

Commission/Committee of Interest:

Name: Steven Douglas Hickman

Address: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Workphone: 6192009944

Homephone: 6192009944

Email: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Currently Retired

Employer: Currently Retired

Why do you think you are qualified to be a Committee member?

Having served as leader and innovator in several settings, including in academia, non-profits and startups, I have learned a great deal about a variety of activities including financial management, human resources, negotiation, compromise, consensus-building and strategic visioning. I believe that these are skills and talents that would be welcome in the context of the Newport City Council. I also bring a certain creative approach to problem solving that may be valuable.

State your educational background.

I have a Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) degree from the California School of Professional Psychology as well as a Bachelor of Science in Film and Television Production from Montana State University.

Have you ever served on a community committee? If so, what kind?

While I have served on a number of academic committees, I have not served on a community committee in the past.

Do you agree with consensus decision making?

While consensus decision making can sometimes lead to less than satisfying results for many of those participating in the process, I strongly believe that this approach is the key to bridging different points of view and finding common ground between competing perspectives on important issues that require meaningful action. It isn't always easy (or tidy), but it seems that it is always worth the effort if all parties are working together in good faith, with a shared desire for success and good governance.

Are you willing to attend regularly scheduled meetings for your term of office?

Absolutely.

Would you make decisions based on the facts and standards even though you may not agree with the ultimate decision?

Similar to my response to Question #4 above, I can appreciate that sometimes we may not be happy with a final decision, but it's important to stick to facts and community or ethical standards to solve problems and to meet the needs of the larger community. Honest disagreement (without taking things personally) is a foundation of our democracy and how we assure that all voices are heard, even when some will be unhappy with the ultimate outcome of important decisions.

Do you anticipate having many conflicts of interest that may disqualify you in making decisions, due to

personal and/or business relationships?

Given the relative short period of time I have lived in Newport (3 years) and the fact that I have never been employed here or have any financial or professional investments in the local community thus far, it seems unlikely that I would have many conflicts of interest.

List all other pertinent information/background for this position.

I am an accomplished leader, a successful entrepreneur, a former academic and teacher and trainer of professionals. While these are not specifically community-focused, I think this background brings a unique and fresh perspective to local government and community leadership that could complement the skills and talents of others who have had more specific experience in city business. Plus I absolutely love Newport and am so glad that my wife and I chose to move here when we did. I'm proud to call Newport home and would love the opportunity to give back to this rich and wonderful community! (My resume/CV is available upon request, along with references if required.)

Application for City Committee - Email Application

Date: 9/20/2023

Commission/Committee of Interest: City Council

Name: Fernando Garza

Address: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Workphone: 503-812-7264

Homephone: 503-812-7264

Email: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Professional Interpreter--SPANISH

Employer: self employed

Why do you think you are qualified to be a Committee member?

I feel that I represent a part of the Hispanic community that is still undeserved and under represented in Lincoln County.

"When a person doesn't see themselves in the media or in the surrounding conversations or areas they tend to think that they don't exist or that they don't matter and that they are less than and not a part of this society or its culture. It is up to all of us to take the responsibility and ownership for our fellow man. Whether we have failed them intentional or not that is not a community that I want to live in 2023 or any time in the past or the future" F Garza 2021

State your educational background.

High School Graduate

Administrative Associates Degree Administrative Accounting

Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration

Qualified/Certified Oregon Medical Interpreter

Have you ever served on a community committee? If so, what kind?

I have served with the Newport Police Advisory Committee

I've taken the CERT program and a couple other local police training programs.

Do you agree with consensus decision making?

I agree with a consensus agreement especially if all avenues, ideas and suggestions have been discussed and looked at for the Pros and Cons of said decisions

Are you willing to attend regularly scheduled meetings for your term of office?

Yes

Would you make decisions based on the facts and standards even though you may not agree with the ultimate decision?

Yes I will make decisions even if I may not agree

Do you anticipate having many conflicts of interest that may disqualify you in making decisions, due to personal and/or business relationships?

Not that I can foresee

List all other pertinent information/background for this position.

I have previously ran in Lincoln City Mayor's election and City County in Lincoln City.
Currently I'm a member of T.A.C. State of Oregon's Translation Advisory Council