The following information will help you understand the City Council Agenda and what occurs during a City Council meeting. Your participation in your City government is encouraged, and we hope this information will enable you to become more involved.

The City Council meets regularly on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 37101 Newark Boulevard, Sixth Floor. Special meetings are called as necessary by the Mayor and noticed at least 24 hours in advance. The Order of Business for Council meetings is as follows:

A. ROLL CALL
B. MINUTES
C. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS
D. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS
E. PUBLIC HEARINGS
F. CITY MANAGER REPORTS
G. CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS
H. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
I. COUNCIL MATTERS
J. SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
K. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
L. APPROPRIATIONS
M. CLOSED SESSION
N. ADJOURNMENT

Items listed on the agenda may be approved, disapproved, or continued to a future meeting. Many items require an action by motion or the adoption of a resolution or an ordinance. When this is required, the words MOTION, RESOLUTION, or ORDINANCE appear in parenthesis at the end of the item. If one of these words does not appear, the item is an informational item. The reading of the full text of ordinances and resolutions will be waived unless a Council member requests otherwise.

The Agenda lists the items coming before the Council for consideration. A City staff report is prepared and gives the Background/Discussion of agenda items. Following this section is the word Attachment. Unless “none” follows Attachment, there is more documentation which is available for public review at the Newark Library, 6300 Civic Terrace Drive, on the city website www.newark.org, or in the City Clerk’s office, 5th floor at City Hall. Those items on the Agenda that were reviewed by the Planning Commission will also include a section entitled Update, which will state what the Planning Commission’s action was on that particular item. Action indicates what staff’s recommendation is and what action(s) the Council may take.
**Addressing the City Council:** You may speak once on any listed item at the appropriate time. You may speak once on any item **not** on the agenda during **Oral Communications.** To address the Council, please seek the recognition of the Mayor by raising your hand. Once recognized, come forward to the lectern and you may, but you are not required to, state your name and address for the record. Public Comments are limited to five (5) minutes per speaker, subject to adjustment by the Mayor. The City Clerk will advise you when you have one (1) minute remaining on your allotted time. Matters brought before the Council which require an action may be either referred to staff or placed on a future Council agenda.

No question shall be asked of a council member, city staff, or an audience member except through the presiding officer. No person shall use vulgar, profane, loud or boisterous language that interrupts a meeting. Any person who refuses to carry out instruction by the presiding officer for the purpose of maintaining order may be guilty of an infraction and may result in removal from the meeting.


**Americans with Disabilities:** Anyone who is planning to attend a City Council meeting who is visually or hearing-impaired or has any disability that needs special assistance should call the City Clerk's Office at 510-578-4266 or send an email to city.clerk@newark.org at least 48 hours in advance of the Council meeting to arrange for assistance.

**Vocabulary List**

**Closed Sessions:** These are meetings held to discuss confidential matters such as litigation, personnel, or real property. Per the Brown Act, these are the only meetings closed to the public and the press.

**Consent Calendar:** A listing of routine business items which are adopted with one motion, without discussion. Any Councilmember, citizen, or staff member may request that an item be pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action. The item is then considered after the Consent Calendar items are voted upon.

**Minutes:** The written record of prior actions presented to the Council for approval at the following meeting. Minutes are not considered official until approved by the City Council.

**Motions:** The least formal of actions. A motion is a proposal that the City Council takes action on.
The Newark Economic Development Corporation was created by the City Council in 1996 to encourage economic development through various means. The Corporation is organized under the California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation Law for public purposes. The City Council serves as the governing board for the Corporation; however, the Council and the Corporation are two separate, distinct legal entities.

The Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency was created by the City Council in 2012. On December 29, 2011, the California Supreme Court ruled that Assembly Bill 1x26, the Redevelopment Dissolution Act, was constitutional. This decision meant that all redevelopment agencies in the State of California were dissolved.

As provided for under the new law, the city formed a Successor Agency for the purposes of winding down the affairs and obligations of the previous Redevelopment Agency. The Newark City Council serves as the Successor Agency.

Oral Communications: The time during which citizens may address the Council on any matter not on the agenda. The Brown Act generally prohibits the City Council from taking immediate actions on items not listed on the agenda. The City Council may refer topics brought up under Oral Communications to the appropriate staff member for follow up. See Addressing the City Council for details.

Ordinances: Formal written documents enacting laws which can be enforced by the City. With few exceptions, ordinances become part of the City Code. Except for urgency ordinances, all ordinances require action at two separate meetings: At one meeting for the first reading and discussion, and at a second meeting for the second reading and adoption. Most ordinances become effective 30 days after adoption.

Public Hearings: The formal process of getting opinion on major legislative matters as required by the City Code or Government Code. Examples include conditional use permits, rezoning, building code amendments, etc.

Quorum: Requirement that three Councilmembers be present to conduct a meeting.

Resolutions: Formal written motions acted upon by the Council.

Study/Work Sessions: These are public meetings which the Council sets periodically for a detailed review of important matters. They are sometimes held jointly with another City commission or governmental agency. No formal action may be taken at this time.

Questions? Contact the City Clerk at 510-578-4266 or via email city.clerk@newark.org.