

Council Minutes

February 1, 2016

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, February 1, 2016 in the council room at the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council president John Wilson, Aldermen Jacques Roberge and Steve Vincent, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, Kathy Austin, Trish sears, Charlie Elliott, Chief Jamie LeClair, Rob Hodgkins, Kelly Stoddard Poor, Jen Willard, Ilene Illuzzi, Trisha Ingalls, Lisa Viles, John Castle, Nancy Frenette, Corinna Lancaster, Jessica Ward, Mary Ellen Prairie and members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of January 18, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried.

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of January 28, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Comments by the Public

Mayor Monette noted that the Annual Report has been sent to the printers and put on the Web-site.

Sue Watson stated that the fund raiser for the Jazz Festival Saturday night had around 130 attendees. She was disappointed that no city officials attended. Mayor Monette stated he can't go to everything and Mr. Roberge stated he didn't know about it. Mr. Vincent noted that the City supports the Jazz Festival by budgeting \$5,000 for it.

AARP Age Friendly Community Action Plan (attached)

Kelly Stoddard-Poor and Trish Sears presented the Age Friendly Community action plan for approval by the council. Mr. Vincent moved to approve the AARP Age Friendly Community Action Plan. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Rural Edge Presentation Regarding Senior Housing and the Neighborhood Works Program (attached)

Trisha Ingalls and Bob Hansen updated the council on Rural Edge programs, the Home Ownership, Rental Empowerment and SASH. They also presented their plans for the former Passumpsic Bank Building on Main St.

Resolution to Increase the Input of Vermont Municipalities Regarding the Siting of Renewable Energy Projects in Certificate of Public Good Hearings before the Public Service Board (attached)

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the resolution. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Approval of Coin Drop Schedule (attached)

Mr. Roberge moved to approve the 2016 coin drop schedule. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried.

Pre-Buy Fuel Oil (attached)

The council discussed pre-buying fuel oil. Mr. Vincent felt the city should put the fuel oil out to bid. Mr. Roberge felt the City should pre-buy during the summer when prices are normally lower. Mr. Vincent moved to get bids on the price of fuel oil by the next council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

New Business

Mr. Wilson stated he was informed of some good news by a resident. The person stated that the sidewalk plow operator stopped the shoveled out a handicapped ramp. Mr. Wilson felt that was a job well done.

The City Manager stated there would be no Winter Fest activities on the Lake. The Recreation Dept. would make ice at the skating rink if the weather permits.

The City Manager noted that it was time to send out Delinquent Tax Notices.

Fire Chief Jamie LeClair informed the council that Engine #1 has a severe oil leak. The truck has 166,000 miles and is 26 years old. The Fire Dept. has applied for a grant to purchase a new truck. If the city doesn't get the grant we can either purchase a used refurbished truck or borrow the funds for a new one. The council felt Chief LeClair should continue searching for a used refurbished truck. (Memo attached)

Old Business

Mr. Roberge asked if there was a deadline to put together something for Annual Meeting in regards to Gardner Park. Mr. Johnson stated that there was no deadline because it would be a nonbinding opinion poll not a binding vote.

Next Meeting Dates

February 29, 2016 at 6:30 PM

March 1, 2016, Annual Meeting voting 8:00 AM to 7:00 Pm

March 1, 2016 at 8:00 PM

Executive Session – Personnel & Contracts

Mr. Vincent moved to enter executive session for personnel and contracts. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

No action.

Adjournment

Mr. Roberge moved to adjourn at 8:15 PM. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried.

Attested _____ This ____ Day of _____ 2016



Mayor