

Council Minutes

February 6, 2017

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, February 6, 2017 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Aldermen John Wilson, Jacques Roberge, Steve Vincent, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Chief DiSanto, Chief LeClair, Andy Cappello, Misha Cetner, Jay Ancell, Members of the Press and Public. Council President Neil Morrissette was absent.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the minutes of January 23, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried .

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2017 with corrections. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Comments by the Public

None

Lake & Shore land Permitting, Aquatic Plant Control (attached)

Misha Cetner stated that a draft permit has been issued to the City for Hydro Racking and Bottom Barriers for the dock area. Mr. Cetner provided details on each project and answered questions. Mr. Cappello stated that the city will hand pull the weeds at Prouty beach. The City has budgeted \$50,000 for Aquatic Weed Control.

Andy Cappello Boat User and Washing Certificates and Update on Gardner Park Buildings (attached)

Mr. Cappello presented his plan for implementing a Greeter Program at the City Dock as part of the Aquatic Plant Control Project. The greeter would be responsible for greeting boaters, inspection and washing boats before they enter the lake.

Cherry Lane Road Status, Doug Spates

Tabled until February 27, 2017.

Main Street Parking and Municipal Lot Review (attached)

Chief DiSanto Recommended amending Ordinance #94 to include parking or standing is prohibited pursuant to all rules of VT Title 23. This would result in the removal of parking spaces on Main St. that do not meeting state requirements. This includes two spaces in Front of the Library, one space on the corner of Main St. and Second St., one space on the corner of Main St. and Central St. and one space on the corner of Main St. and Seymour Lane. Mr. Vincent moved to amend Ordinance #94 to include All rules of VT. Title 23. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Set 2017 Coin Drop Schedule (attached)

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the 2017 Coin Drop schedule. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Open Vermont Housing Conservation Board Planning grant RFP Bids

Mayor Monette opened four bids.

White & Burke \$49,954

Land Strategies \$40,000

Crane Associates \$49,706.08

SKEO Solutions \$49,993

Karen Geraghty, James Duggan, Steve Vincent and Laura Dolgin will be on the hiring committee.

Adopt Purchasing Policy

The City Manager presented a Purchasing Policy that has been approved by the Auditor. Mr. Roberge fell that major purchases should be anything over \$10,000 instead of \$15,000. Mr. Vincent moved to adopt the purchasing policy with changes. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

New Business

Chief DiSanto presented a Public Records Policy for the Police Department. Tabled until the February 27, 2017 meeting.

Old Business

Mr. Johnson had the council sign loan documents for a new 2017 Police Cruiser in the amount of \$29,810. The council had previously approved the purchase.

Mr. Roberge would like the Prouty Beach and Campground on the agenda for the February 27th meeting.

Executive Session for Personnel

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

In open session, Mr. Vincent moved to advertise for and approve the hiring of a Public Works Foreman. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Mr. Roberge moved to enter Executive Session for personnel. Seconded by Mr. Vincent.

No action.

Executive Session, Pending Litigation/Contract

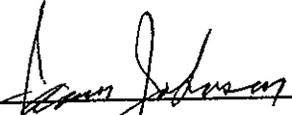
Vincent moved that the council finds that premature public knowledge of the subjects of the anticipated executive session tonight would clearly place the council and/or persons involved at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Mr. Vincent moved to enter executive session with counsel, for confidential attorney-client communications concerning contracts and pending litigation. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

No action.

Adjournment

Mr. Vincent moved to adjourn at 9:14 PM. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried.

Attested  This 27th Day of February, 2017

 Mayor