

Council Minutes
March 21, 2011

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, March 21, 2011 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Alderman Denis Chenette, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, members of the Press and Public. Aldermen Baraw and Delabruere were absent.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of March 14, 2011 with a spelling correction. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried. Mayor Monette voted in the affirmative.

Consider Request for Free Use of Gateway

Mr. Ward stated that there is no free use of the Gateway unless it is for the benefit of city employees. There was no action taken on this request.

Consider Coin Drop Request

Mr. Dowland from the DAV addressed the councils concern about members of the organization parking on Main St. during the coin drop. City policy is that participants may not park on Main St. during the coin drop. There have been problems in the past. Mr. Wilson moved to adopt schedule A for the coin drops (attached). Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried. Mayor Monette voted in the affirmative.

Consider Creation of Certified Local Government Program (Historic Preservation Commission)

Mayor Monette felt he couldn't support the idea because it added another layer of bureaucracy. Mr. Chenette felt most of the requirement were already laid out in the zoning by-laws. Mr. Wilson asked if we really need it he sees no benefit. Mr. Chenette moved to not adopt the Certified Local Government Program. Seconded by Mr. Wilson.

Discussion: Ann Sproull stated that the Planning Commission had ok'd the program and agreed to act as the commission. There is no cost to the city. It is just another tool to use if needed. Mr. Wilson withdrew his second and Mr. Chenette withdrew his motion. Mr. Chenette moved to table until next meeting so someone from the Vermont Downtown Program can come up and do a presentation. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried. Mayor Monette voted in the affirmative.

Continued Discussion on Water Meters

Mr. Ward presented the council with cost options for installing meters. Mr. Ward suggested option #2. Mr. Wilson suggested waiting until May when Mr. Baraw returns from Florida to make a decision.

Consider Community Forestry Project Tree Planting Grant Proposal

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the Community Forestry Tree Planting Project Grant. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried. Mayor Monette voted in the affirmative.

Review Income/Expense Reports

The council reviewed the current budget status.

New Business

Mr. Monette asked if the city was going to have to pay for some of the final paving on Highland Ave. Mr. Ward stated that the City would not pay anything.

Mr. Wilson stated that he hoped we learned something from the Highland Ave. project and didn't do the same thing when Rt5 from the Palin farm to Derby is done. Mr. Chenette would like to see the Rt 5 project done in one construction season.

The council signed a liquor license.

Old Business

Mr. Wilson referenced a letter from Joe Duncan and asked if we were going to be \$14,000 over on the Prive Pump Station. Mr. Ward stated that the city would do the construction to save money.

Mr. Wilson hoped that the city would be filling potholes again as soon as the snow melts.

Mayor Monette asked about the municipal building mezzanine. Mr. Ward stated the mezzanine had been closed until repaired.

Mr. Chenette thought it ironic that the prison wanted to expand the parking lot on one hand and try to release prisoners on the other hand.

Mr. Chenette asked if we had gotten a quote from Irving for fuel needs. Mr. Ward stated we will this year.

Mr. Chenette asked if anyone had responded the couples request from Germany for info. Neither Mr. Ward nor Mr. Johnson has responded.

Next Meeting Date

April 4, 2011

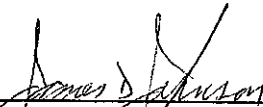
Executive session, Personnel

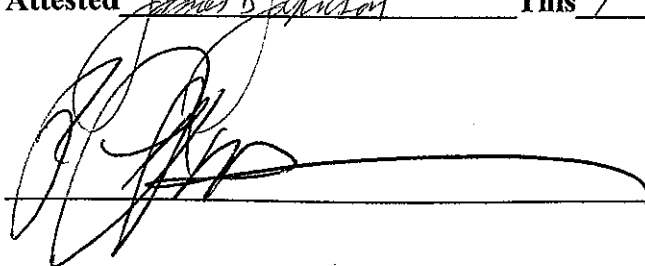
Mr. Chenette moved to enter executive session for personnel. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried. Mayor Monette voted in the affirmative.

No action.

Adjournment

Mr. Wilson moved to adjourn at 8:20 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried. Mayor Monette voted in the affirmative.

Attested  This 4th Day of April 2011

 Mayor