

## **Council Minutes**

**March 21, 2016**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, March 21, 2016 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President Neil Morrisette, Aldermen Steve Vincent and John Wilson, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, Chief James LeClair, Tom Bernier, members of the Press and Public. Alderman Roberge was absent.

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Morrisette moved to approve the minutes of March 7, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried.

### **Comments by the Public**

Pam Ladd felt the council has become disrespectful to the public and each other.

Ann Chiarello was unhappy that Mr. Wilson was not appointed Council President.

Mr. Wilson voiced his displeasure of not being appointed Council President and of the fact that some members of the council sighted his lack of leadership as the reason.

### **Project Update, Bill Stenger**

Mr. Stenger cancelled and will attend a council meeting in the near future.

### **Appointments**

Mr. Vincent moved to appoint the firm of Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, as City Attorney. Seconded by Mr. Morrisette, motion carried.

Mr. Morrisette moved to appoint Helena Hicks, Town Service Officer. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Mr. Wilson moved to appoint Charles Elliott, Building Safety Officer. Seconded by Mr. Morrisette, motion carried.

### **Sign the Annual Certification of Compliance for town Road and Bridge Standards**

Mr. Vincent moved that the City Council sign the certificate. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried.

### **Sign the Annual Financial Plan for Town highways**

Mr. Vincent moved that the City Council sign the plan. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

### **New Business**

Mr. Johnson presented liquor licenses for the council to approve and sign.

Mr. Wilson noted he had read an article in the Orleans Record that the City would be paying for the road work at Wal-Mart. Mr. Bernier stated that Derby had agreed to pay 50% of the road and lights.

Mayor Monette stated that the Mayor's Coalition is watching bills pending in the legislature on CSO's Clean Soil and legalization of Marijuana.

Ms. Dolgin noted that there will be a public hearing on the Recreation Depts. Application for the VCDP Grant on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Also a hearing on the Hazardous Waste Mitigation plan on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Brad Bowen stated that the bank near his home at Memphremagog Views is washed out and the storm drain is undermined. Ms. Dolgin stated Public works will look at it.

### **Old Business**

Mr. Wilson noted that the agenda was not posted at the Post Office as usual. Mayor Monette stated that it was posted on Friday.

Mr. Wilson will get the tickets to the Fireman's Raffle.

Mayor Monette noted that AARP will be meeting at the Gateway on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Ms. Dolgin noted that the purchase order for the used Fire truck has been issued.

Ms. Dolgin noted that the delinquent tax collection is going well.

Ann Chiarello asked if the council was going to ask the Renaissance Corp. to account for not hiring an Executive Director. Ms. Dolgin will ask them to attend the next council meeting.

Mr. Bernier asked if the new Fire Truck would be put out to bid. Mr. LeClair stated probably not since if the new truck is ordered within 18 months the company will refund the purchase price of the used truck.

Mr. Chenette asked about the City Barn. Ms. Dolgin stated that Mr. Knoll is aware of the April 2016 deadline for his decision.

**Next Meeting Date**

April 4, 2016

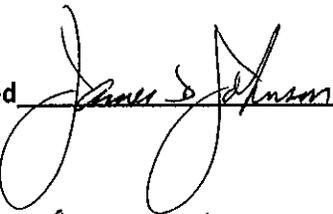
**Executive Session for Personnel and Contract**

Mr. Morrissette moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

In open session Mr. Morrissette moved to ratify the Police Dept. contract effective July 1, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Vincent moved to adjourn at 8:07 Pm. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried.

Attested  This 4<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2016

 Mayor