

Council Minutes

May 15, 2017

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, May 15, 2017 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Alderpersons Julie Raboin, Denis Chenette, James Merriam, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Chief James LeClair, Chief Seth DiSanto, Jessica Booth, Charles Elliott, Karen Geragthy, Phil White, Steve Breault, members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

Sue Watson commented on Main St. and the Centennial. Brian McNeal commented on Main St. Phil White invited city officials and the public to the Northeast Fiddlers Contest. Pam Ladd commented on the forms for the Certificate of Occupancy. Randall Corkins commented on traffic not stopping for pedestrians in the cross walks.

Event Requests

Mr. Wilson moved to approve and waive all fees for the American Legion Memorial Day Parade on May 29, 2017. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to approve and waive the fees for Green Mountain Farm to School Summer Block Party. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried. Mr. Merriam Abstained.

Mr. Merriam moved to approve and waive the fees for NEK Awareness Memorial Walk. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried. Ms. Raboin abstained.

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the Major Family 5K Run and waive the fees. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to approve the Kingdom Swim & party at Prouty Beach and approve a fee of \$500. Seconded by Mr. Merriam, motion carried. Mr. Chenette abstained.

Review of Charter Article 27 (attached)

Ms. Dolgin presented the City Attorney's opinion on Article 27 of the City Charter (sale of city property). A discussion followed with no action.

Gateway Lease (attached)

Ms. Raboin moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a 3-year lease with Newport Natural Foods to operate the Gateway pursuant to 24 VSA, sec. 1061 (b). Seconded by Mr. Merriam, motion carried unanimously.

Letter of Support for Memphremagog Watershed Association Grant Application (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to support the request by Kendall Lambert for the Memphremagog Watershed Grant application to the High Meadows Fund. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Application to Northern Borders on Behalf of the Tasting Center (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the application to Northern Borders on behalf of the Tasting Center. Seconded by Mr. Merriam, motion carried unanimously.

Renewal of Railroad Easements (attached)

Mr. Wilson moved to authorize the Mayor to sign both the Lease Agreement and the License Agreement with Central Maine & Quebec Railways. Seconded by Mr. Merriam, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Ms. Raboin questioned the left turn out of the lower exit from the State Office Building parking lot. Mayor Monette pointed out this was the Police Chief's prerogative.

Mr. Chenette asked who or what Soy Canfrailia was. Mayor Monette explained it was a soy bean processing company interested in locating in Newport.

Ms. Dolgin noted a memo from Spencer Potter updating the progress on the reappraisal. This was posted to our web-site.

Old Business

Mr. Wilson noted the Web-site only listed three council members. Ms. Dolgin stated the web-site has been updated.

Mr. Wilson thanked Ms. Dolgin for having the sneakers removed from the wires on Prospect St. But noted there is another pair on the wires.

Mr. Wilson asked why there was three dates for hazardous waste day. There has always been only two. Ms. Dolgin stated our SWIP requires the third date. She is trying to get a waiver for the August date.

Ms. Raboin asked about the meeting with the other Web-site Co. Ms. Dolgin stated she would have an update at a future meeting.

Next Meeting Dates

Council meeting June 5, 2017, Centennial meeting June 15, 2017

Adjournment

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 8:54 PM. Seconded by Mr. Merriam, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James D. Johnson This 5th Day of June 2017

[Signature]
Mayor