

Council Minutes

May 19, 2014

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, May 19, 2014 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Alderman Neil Morrisette, Mark Stewart, Chief James LeClair, Chief Seth DiSanto, Beth Barnes, members of the Press and Public. Aldermen Chenette and Baraw were absent.

Mayor Monette opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of May 5, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Morrisette, motion carried.

Comments from Members of the Public

Beth Barnes invited the council to a showing "Deadly Persuasion" a video about the manipulative marketing strategies used by the alcohol and tobacco industries. She also thanked Mr. Bernier for signs to the City Dock and Bike Path.

Request Permission to apply for Police Vehicle Grant

Mr. Morrisette moved to grant permission to apply for the police vehicle grant. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Request Permission to Apply for COPS Hiring Program (attached)

The grant would pay 75% of the officer expense for three years. The city would pay 100% in the fourth year. Mr. Morrisette moved to approve the request. Hearing no second to the motion. The motion died.

Presentation on Upgrade of Municipal Building

Mark Stewart made a presentation to the council on the proposed upgrade to the municipal building. A copy of the proposed plan is available for review in the City Clerks office

Request by Police Department to Close Veterans Ave. Between the two Soccer Fields from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM on May 22, 2014 for a Mock Crash Exercise

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Morrisette, motion carried.

Continued Discussion and Action on Needle Exchange Program

Theresa Vezina the exchange coordinator was present to further discuss the mobile needle exchange program. Mr. Morrisette moved to approve the program as long as it stays mobile and that Chief DiSanto chooses the exchange sites. Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Discussion: It was determined and confirmed by Ms. Vezina that the program was not 100% a one for one. Mr. Wilson withdrew the second and Mr. Morrisette withdrew the motion. Mr. Morrisette moved to table the issue until the full council is in attendance. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Cruzin for Cancer Motorcycle Ride Request (attached)

Mr. Dana Lesperance was present to ask that the City Police escort the ride through the city. Mr. Morrisette moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

New Business

Mr. Johnson presented a vendor permit for Green Mountain Farm to School Lunch Wagon. Mr. Wilson moved to approve the vendor permit. Seconded by Mr. Morrisette, motion carried.

Mr. Wilson noted that the RR tracks are getting very rough.

Mr. Wilson stated he counted 10 dead trees on Main St. Mr. Ward stated that the trees are replaced when we are sure they are dead.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Gardner Park Veterans Memorial is very dirty and would like it cleaned before Memorial Day.

Mayor Monette asked why the police dept. was setting up radar in Newport Center. Chief DiSanto stated it was a special detail.

Mayor Monette asked about the Personnel Policy. Mr. Morrisette stated he would be meeting with Stacey Therrien next week.

Mayor Monette asked about the plaque for the Veterans Memorial Long Bridge. Mr. Ward stated he would have some designs for the council the look at.

Mayor noted that Micheline Auger will be in the Super Senior segment on WCAX TV.

Mr. Morrisette stated that he had been approached by several groups that want to make changes at Gardner Park.

Mr. Ward stated that the road would be closed to the Veterans Memorial Long Bridge so construction crews can put rafters up at the new Poulin Grain building.

Mr. McNeal noted a water leak on Main St. Mr. Ward stated it was a leaky valve and would be repaired as soon as they get a chance.

Mr. Johnson noted a pot hole at the corner of Veterans Ave. and Duchess St. and one near the fire hydrant on Duchess St.

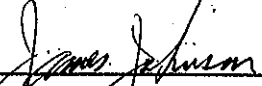
Next Meeting Date

June 2, 2014

Adjournment

Mr. Wilson moved to adjourn at 8:20 PM. Seconded by Mr. Morrisette, motion carried.

Due to the absence of two aldermen, Mayor Monette voted on each agenda item.

Attested  This 2nd Day of June 2014

 Mayor