

Council Minutes

June 20, 2016

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, June 20, 2016 in the council room of the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President Neil Morrissette, Councilmen John Wilson, Jacques Roberge, Steve Vincent, Chief LeClair, Chief DiSanto, Charles Elliott, members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Roberge moved to approve the minutes of June 6, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

Janice Ploof was concerned about the number of junk and unregistered vehicles in the yard of the garage next to her property.

Thadd Beebe was concerned about the cost of meters for people on fixed incomes. The City Manager is looking into ways to finance the purchase of water meters.

Gene McCormick and Cynthia Moore updated the council on the Jazz Fest scheduled for July 8,9 &10.

Lighting Request for Sidewalk by Tastings (attached)

Paul Dreher was present to request approval to string lights from the Tasting Center building to the street light pole. The lights would be approximately fourteen feet above the sidewalk. Mr. Dreher is opening a new Coffee Shop in the Tasting Center. Mr. Morrissette moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Request from Ames Family to Install a Memorial Bench (attached)

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the request and that the Ames family will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining the bench. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Police Dept. Request to Replace Vehicle (attached)

Chief DiSanto stated the 2010 Fusion Hybrid has developed a problem of overheating and not starting. He would like to sell the Fusion for \$9,000 and purchase a used 2013 Ford Interceptor Utility Vehicle for \$12,000. Mr. Roberge wanted to have the vehicles checked out by a certified hybrid technician to see if it can be repaired. If so keep it and use another city vehicle to tow equipment. Mr. Morrissette noted that a Fire Dept. vehicle would not be readily available. Mr. Wilson worried about dangerous situations when backup is needed and the vehicle won't start. Mr. Wilson moved to approve Chief DiSanto's request. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried. Wilson, Morrissette in favor. Vincent, Roberge against. Mayor Monette voted in favor.

Proposed Chicken Ordinance

Charles Elliott, Planning Commission Chair reviewed the proposed ordinance with the council. He requested that the City attorney review section 113 and complete wording for the enforcement of the ordinance. Mr. Roberge moved to have the City attorney review the ordinance and provide wording for section 113. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Request to Waive Condition to Move to the City

Mr. Roberge moved that in keeping with the request we waive the condition that the City Manager live in the City of Newport. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Roberge moved to renew the Line of Credit for the city with Passumpsic Bank for 2016-2017 Fiscal Year. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, carried unanimously.

Mr. Morrissette moved to give \$250 towards a plaque for firemen who have served for a number of years (to be determined) in memory of Ed Newton. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vincent felt the council needs to be aggressive in recruiting younger members of the Fire Dept.

The City Manager noted that Phil white thanked everyone for the use of Prouty Beach for his swimming events

Mr. Morrissette reminded everyone of the of the fundraising event for Marcel Poulin at the Elks Club on Saturday, June 25th.

Old Business

Mayor Monette asked when the construction at the dock would be done. Ms. Dolgin stated it would be done by July 1st.

Ms. Dolgin stated the street light requested by Mr. Beebe would be going up soon.

Ms. Dolgin stated that the store at Prouty Beach Camp Ground is open.

Mr. Roberge wanted a cap put on the Tennis Wall at Prouty Beach to keep the rain out.

Mr. Roberge asked about the Shuffle Board at Prouty Beach. Ms. Dolgin stated it is being worked on.

Ms. Dolgin Noted that three panels have gone up on the Main St. fence and other groups are interested it being involved. MAC will stay involved to insure quality work, the City Manager will approve all panels. Ms. Dolgin stated the green tarp will be going up on the fence in the next few days.

Mayor Monette asked about the status of the abandoned house on West Main St. Chief LeClair has talked to the owner and Mr. Elliott plans to call the owner. Mr. Roberge mentioned to other houses on Pleasant St. that Mr. Elliott should look into.

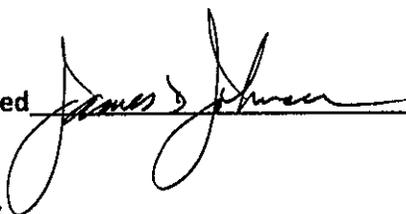
Chief LeClair thanked the Police Dept. and EMS for helping with Ed Newton.

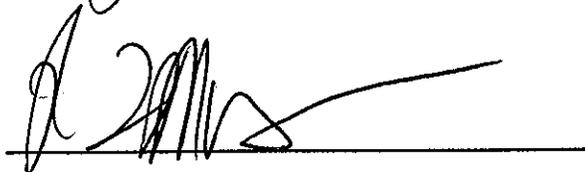
Next Meeting Date

July 11, 2016

Adjournment

Mr. Vincent moved to adjourn at 8:20 PM. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Attested  This 11th Day of July, 2016

 Mayor