

Council Minutes

August 19, 2013

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, August 19, 2013 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President ?John Wilson, Aldermen Richard Baraw, Denis Chenette and Tim Delabruere, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Frank Knoll Phil White, Bernard Carrier, Robert George, Jamie LeClair, members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of August 5, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Baraw moved to approve the minutes of August 13, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Request for City to be Co-Applicant on an Act 250 Land Use Permit Concerning Bigelow Bluff Road

Mr. Carrier was present to request that the City be a Co-Applicant on an Act 250 Land Use Permit for a nine lot subdivision of a 10 acre parcel on Lake Memphremagog that includes proposed construction of improvements to the Bigelow Bluff Road. Mr. Carrier tried to develop the area many years ago but met some opposition regarding Bigelow Bluff Road. The Supreme Court has since ruled that the Bigelow Bluff Road is a City street. Mr. Delabruere moved to authorize the City Manager to sign the Act 250 application as Co-Applicant on behalf of the City. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Phil White – Aqua Fest Wrap up

Mr. White gave a wrap up and thanked the City for its support of the Kingdom Swim.

Continued Discussion of electric Light Pole at 328 Main St. (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to accept the estimated cost of \$500 to remove the light pole per the memo dated August 15, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Replacement of Fire Department Heavy Rescue Vehicle

Chief LeClair would like to replace the Heavy Rescue Vehicle it is a 1987 with the equivalent of 1,500,000 miles. It is becoming a safety issue because it is no longer reliable. It is also becoming costly to maintain. A Heavy Rescue vehicle is one of the department's primary vehicles and has gone to every fire in the last ten years. The estimated cost of a new demo vehicle will be \$372,976 and would be financed for no more than 15 years. Chief LeClair will firm up the price and specs for the September 9th meeting.

Consider Special Meeting for VTEL Lease

The council will set a date at the September 9th meeting.

Consider Proposed Agreement on Providing a School resource Officer for North Country Union High

Mr. Baraw moved to table until the September 9th meeting. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Consider Banner Request from the Vermont Symphony Orchestra (attached)

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the request to hang a banner beginning the second week in September and coming down on September 23rd. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Set Real Estate Tax Rates (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to set the 2013-2014 tax rates as presented per memo dated August 15, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Johnson presented an Outside Consumption Permit request from the Tavern on the Hill for August 31 – September 1, 2013. Mr. Chenette moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Baraw noted that about 10 sections of the sidewalk to the Gateway are in really bad condition.

Mr. Ward stated that the council should appoint a delegate to the Annual VLCT Meeting. No one will attend.

Mr. Ward asked if there were any questions on the current budget status. There were no questions.

Old Business

Mr. Chenette asked about the relocation of Prouty Beach. Mr. Ward stated a new section of Prouty Beach has been relocated to the front of the bluff at Prouty Beach.

Next Meeting Date

September 9, 2013

Executive Session – Consider Real Estate Donation

Mr. Baraw moved to enter executive session to consider a real estate donation. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

In open session, Mr. Chenette moved that the City Council appreciates the generous offer of the real estate at 96 School St. by Dr. Guerrette, but respectfully declines the real estate offer since the City lacks the resources and expertise to manage a project of this magnitude. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Baraw moved to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James B. Johnson This 26th Day of August 2013

[Signature]
Mayor