

Council Minutes

August 22, 2016

(Revised)

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, August 22, 2016 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Monette, Council President Neil Morrisette, Councilmen John Wilson, Jacques Roberge and Steve Vincent, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, Chief DiSanto, Chief LeClair, members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Morrisette moved to approve the minutes of August 1, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vincent moved to move item #3 after item #4 on the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development Update

Several agencies and organizations were present and made short presentations about what their organizations/agencies do and what they could do for the economic development of the city. The presenters were Martin Hahn – VHCB, Ted Brady – USDA, Lucy Leriche – Commerce and Community Development, Ben Doyle – USDA, Jon Freeman – NCIC, Dave Snedeker – NVDA, Cynthia More – NCRC, Mike Welch – NCIC, Slohan Smith – VLT, and Jenna Koloski – VT Council RD. City Manager Laura Dolgin moderated the presentation.

Comments by the Public

A petition was presented to the council in favor of retaining the School Resource Officer. Karen Chitamber read a statement, Chief DiSanto responded to the statement. Questions were asked Chief DiSanto responded to each one. This was basically a follow up to the Public Forum held by Community Commons at the Gateway on August 17, 2016.

Set 2016-17 Tax Rate (attached)

Mr. Morrissette moved to set the 2016-17 tax rate as presented. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously. Resident 2.8653, Non-Resident 3.0008

Centennial Meeting Update

The next meeting of the Centennial Committee will be held on August 29, 2016 at 6:00 PM.

New Business

None

Old Business

Mr. Roberge asked what happened to the green tarp that was supposed to be the background on the Main St. fence. Ms. Dolgin stated that it didn't work behind the art work so it wasn't put up in those spaces.

Mr. Roberge moved to bill the Chronicle for attorney's fees related to the request for council e-mail. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried. Roberge, Vincent and Morrissette in favor, Wilson Against.

Mr. Vincent didn't agree with Mr. Johnson statement that this year's budget was basically level funded. He noted that a lot of work went into getting the budget where it was. Mr. Johnson noted his statement was simply a general statement since in the end the budget was only \$33,000 more than the year before.

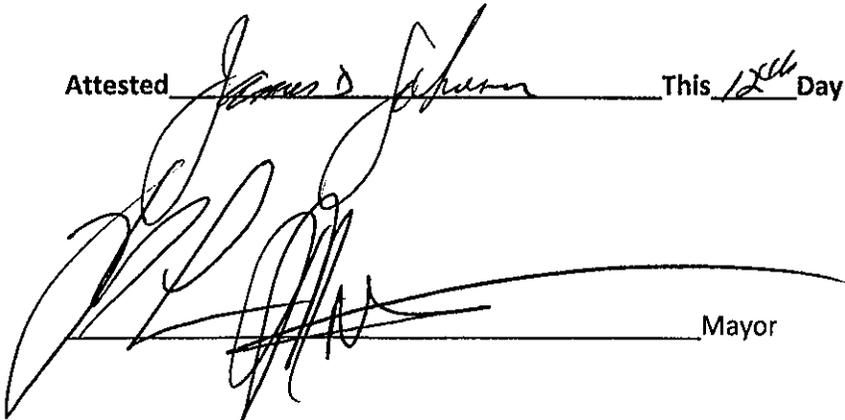
Next Meeting date

September 12, 2016

Adjournment

Mr. Roberge moved to adjourn at 9:01 PM. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James D. Johnson This 12th Day of September, 2016



Mayor