

Council Minutes

September 8, 2014

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, September 8, 2014 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Aldermen Denis Chenette, Richard Baraw, Neil Morrissette, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Andy Cappello, members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Monette opened the Meeting at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Baraw moved to approve the revised minutes of August 18, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Comment from members of the Public

Mr. McNeal wondered if the council had asked how downtowns in other communities had survived without any major development.

Anthony Moccia explained to the council why he had decided to move the bike race to Burke.

Consider Proposed Parks and Recreation Rates for 2015

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the 2015 Parks and Recreation rates as presented. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Discuss Creation of Standard Policies and Procedures for Use of City Owned Facilities and Equipment by Outside Groups and Individuals

Mr. Ward suggested setting up a committee to come up with a policy. Mr. Chenette and Mr. Morrissette volunteered to serve on the committee. Mr. Ward also suggested a couple of Dept. Heads and members of the public.

Request to Change Security Policy at the Gateway

Mr. Ward felt this should be brought up by the committee working on the policy for City owned facilities and equipment.

Request for Reduced Fee for Gateway Use by Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council

Mr. Wilson moved to waive the security deposit as requested by Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council for use of the Gateway. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Request for Fall Foliage Festival Caravan

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the Fall Foliage Caravan on September 20, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Consider Utility Net Metering Credit Purchase Agreement with Great Bay Hydro Corporation

Mr. Morrissette moved to approve and authorize the City Manager to sign the Net Metering Agreement with Great Bay Hydro. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Determine Voting Delegate for the VLCT Annual Business Meeting

Mr. Chenette moved to appoint Mayor Monette as voting delegate to the VLCT Annual Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Review Capital Improvement Program

The council will review the plan and approve it at the next meeting.

New Business

Mr. Wilson noted that the grass at the top of West Main St. is taking over the sidewalk.

Mr. Wilson asked when the center line on West Main St. would be applied. Mr. Ward will check with Mr. Bernier.

Mayor Monette read a request from North Country Quilt Guild to hang a banner at the bottom of East Main St. from Sept. 13 – 20. Mr. Baraw moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Monette asked if we had gotten back to Mr. Choquette. Mr. Ward said no it's an ongoing legal issue that will take care of itself.

Mr. Chenette noted two signs at the recycling facility that need to be painted or replaced.

Mr. Morrissette noted that 4 out of 5 grills at the park have no grates for the charcoal.

Mr. Ward stated that according to the draft audit we will have a \$318,000 surplus. He would like to assign \$298,000 to road reconstruction and paving because reconstruction and paving was underspent last year and assign the other \$20,000 to the reserve fund.

Brian McNeal noted on Western Ave. there are two lanes but there is no arrow for a left turn onto the access road. There could be an accident if a cars in both lanes are trying to go straight because the road narrows to one lane near the Fire Station. The left lane should be marked "left turn only".

Hugh McNeal noted that the light at Cumberland Farms is green for only a few seconds. Mr. Ward will have Mr. Bernier check it.

Mr. Wilson asked if the new police boat is in the water. He noted a boat being stored behind the treatment plant. Mr. Ward stated it was the old police boat.

Old Business

Mr. Johnson presented the council with the Warning, Ballot and Resolution Certificate for the Special Meeting on November 4, 2014. Mr. Baraw moved to approve the Warning, Ballot and resolution certificate for the vote on November 4, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Monette noted that the Dead End sign at the end of Broadview Ave. still needed to be installed.

Mr. Chenette asked about the \$125,000 for the police boat. Mr. Ward stated we will pay for it and then submit a reimbursement request. There will be no cost to the City.

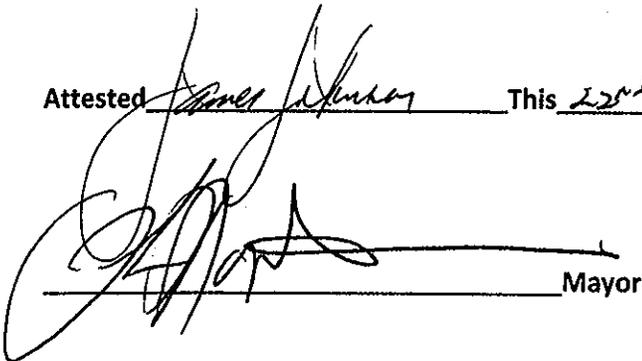
Next Meeting Date

September 22, 2014

Adjourn

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 8:25 PM. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James Johnson This 22nd Day of September, 2014



Mayor