

**Council Minutes
September 10, 2012**

A duly warned meeting of Newport City Council was held on Monday, September 10, 2012 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Aldermen Richard Baraw, Tim Delabruere and Denis Chenette, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Chris Johansen, Erika Poutre, Jamie LeClair, Trish Sears, Doug Hamblett, Andy Cappello, Meghan Stotko and members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval Minutes of August 20, 2012

Mr. Wilson moved to table until next meeting. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Memphremagog Navigation-Boat Tours, Gateway Building & City Dock

Chris Johansen presented his proposal to bring a tour boat to Newport. The boat is 65 feet long with three decks; it has a capacity of 49 passengers and three crew members. The boat was built in 2003 in a 1920's style and is Coast Guard approved. Chris believes he has financing in place for the million dollar project. Chris is asking the City to host the boat at the city dock. Mr. Johansen would also like to submit an RFP to lease the Gateway or the City Dock or both. The proposal will be on the next meeting agenda.

Proposed Parks & Recreation Facility Rental Rates and Fees

Mr. Cappello stated that in general all fees increased by 3%. Mayor Monette felt the fee for baseball/softball should go up a dollar. Some members of the council felt that some Tennis rates might be too high. Particularly the fees that affect some youth in the City that may not be able to pay. Mr. Cappello and the Rec Committee will revisit those two areas. Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the fees except for the Gardner Park and Tennis fees. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Designate Voting Delegate for VLCT Annual Business Meeting.

Mr. Baraw moved that the Mayor attend the VLCT Annual Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Request Assigned Fund Balances for June 30, 2012 (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the assigned fund balances per the memo dated August 23, 2012. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Set 2012-2013 Tax Rates (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to set the 2012-2013 Residential Tax Rate at \$2.6826. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously. The non-residential rate will be 2.8530

Review FY 12 Audited Financial Statements

Mr. Chenette asked if the East Main St. Cemetery Fund on Pages 10 and 37 should match. Mr. Johnson stated that page ten shows the performance of the funds investments; page thirty seven shows the income and expenses for the cemetery fund during the past year.

Review Proposed Five year Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Ward has this on the agenda incase there were any questions. Mr. Baraw asked if there had been a confirmation on the reduction of the cities share of the Long Bridge from 10% to 5%. Mr. Ward believes that will be the case but has not gotten a confirmation as yet. Mr. Baraw asked about the reappraisal. Mr. Ward stated that the state will probably order a reappraisal in 2013 however he believes that because of the unavailability of firms in that short time period we are planning on a reappraisal in 2016. Mr. Chenette noted that the paving of Weaver St. is scheduled for 2013-2014 and asked if that would be July next year. He would like the see that done as soon as possible in 2013 since it has been a problem for a couple of years. Mr. Baraw asked if the \$292,000 was the projected cost of the new Vactor. Mr. Ward stated that is the actual cost.

Sewer Allocation Request by Robert Miller, 338 Highland Ave.

Mr. Miller wants to add 31 One Bedroom Apts. and 46 Two Bedroom Apts. at the old hospital on Highland Ave. Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Wilson stated that with the large increase in traffic the paving of Longview St. should be moved up in the five year plan.

New Business

Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the vendors permit for Green Mountain Farm to School (Meghan Stotko) effective 9/21/2012. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously. The permit is for vending Fresh Produce and food in the NEKCA parking lot on Fridays.

Phil White asked permission to setup for the Chili Fest on Main St. Sept. 29, 2012 from 12:00 to 2:00 PM. Mr. Delabruere moved to give permission to setup for the Chili Fest. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Mr. Wilson stated that the stop sign at West End Ave. and West Main St. is on the ground.

Mr. Baraw noted an E-Mail from a Mr. P.F. Johnson requesting a sign across from VISTA. Mr. Ward stated that request had already been approved and the sign is up. Mr. Ward stated that Mr. Johnson would like to put up a sign on the corner of Field Ave. from Wednesday to Saturday. Mr. Chenette stated the sign should be put up in the morning and removed at night each day.

Mr. Baraw received a complaint about delivery truck not being able to unload at the corner of Second St. and Main St. because the bike rack is in the way. Mr. Ward stated that after the state is done the paving project that bike rack will be moved to in front of the Library.

Mayor Monette asked that the Gateway carpet be washed. Mr. Ward stated that they intend to replace the carpet.

Mayor Monette opened bids for the new truck body.

Iroquois - \$15,875

H. P. Fairfield- \$18,300 & \$23,990

Tenco-\$18,110 & \$21,725

Mayor Monette stated that the council has been invited to a meeting on Transparency at the Derby Elementary School on Sept. 19th. The Secretary of State will conduct the meeting.

Old Business

None

Next Meeting

September 17, 2012

Executive Sessions -- Village of Derby Water Negotiations and Police Department Negotiations

Mr. Baraw moved to enter executive session for Village of Derby water negotiations. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

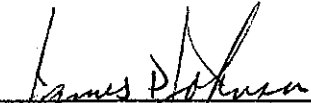
No action taken.

Mr. Chenette moved to enter executive session for Police Department labor negotiations.
Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried.
No action taken.

Adjournment

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 9:20 PM. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried
unanimously.

Attested



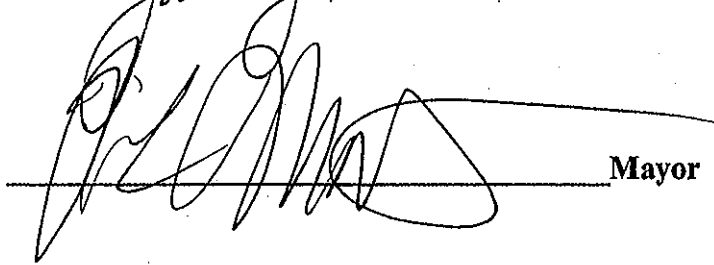
This

17th

Day of

Sept.

2012



Mayor