

Council Minutes

September 12, 2016

A duly warned meeting of the Newport city council was held on Monday, September 12, 2016 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President Neil Morrisette, Councilmen Jacques Roberge, John Wilson and Steve Vincent, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Andy Cappello, Jamie LeClair, members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Morrisette moved to approve the minutes of August 22, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

Pam Ladds noted that at the last meeting a motion was passed to bill the Chronicle for Attorney fees. It was hard to hear and there was no discussion on the issue. She felt that all issues should be on the agenda. Mayor Monette stated that he researched and found out that attorney fees are not something we can bill for in the public right to know area and that the Chronicle has not been billed. Mr. Roberge would like to see a fee schedule for research set up.

Request for Water Meter Proposal Endorsement (attached)

Mr. Vincent moved to adopt a fee structure and schedule for people who want water meters per recommendation of the Water Committee dated July 29, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Morrisette, motion carried unanimously.

Consider Recreation Rates for 2017 (attached)

Mr. Cappello recommended a 2% increase in recreation rates. Several campers were present and objected to the increase since there had been a 10% last year along with promises that never materialized i.e., phone service, internet service, pumping stations and longer management hours including the Store and Ticket Booth.

Mr. Vincent moved to leave the rates for the Prouty Beach Campground and the City Dock the same as last year (2016) and approve the 2% increase in all other fees. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Elect Vermont League of Cities & Towns Voting Delegate

Mr. Vincent moved to elect Mr. Morrissette as voting delegate to VLCT. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Wastewater Allocation Application Form for 80 West End Ave. Apt. Building (Spates)

Mr. Roberge moved to approve the wastewater allocation for 80 West End Ave. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Permission to Apply for Environmental Review and Planning Grant from ACCD

This grant will tie in with the grant application to VHCB authorized by the legislature. Mr. Morrissette moved to approve the request to apply for the VCCD grant and conduct the environmental review. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Centennial Update

Ms. Dolgin updated the council on the progress of the Centennial Committee. The next meeting is on September 19th at 6:00 PM.

New Business

Mr. Johnson requested approval of a request for Niles Funds. Mr. Roberge moved to approve the Niles Fund request. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilson noted potholes on Winter and Central Streets and one of the advertisements on the fence at Gardner Park is hanging loose.

Mr. Wilson noted that Mr. Knolls deadline for purchase of the Red Barn is November 1st. He may have another party interested in the property.

Mr. Roberge didn't remember giving permission for the parade on the 10th to the Out of Darkness group. They walked up Main St. instead of the sidewalk as in the past. Permission was given early in the Spring.

Ms. Dolgin stated she has been approached by Ted Bradley from USDA to hold the finally of their conference in Newport on September 23rd at 3:00 PM.

Ron Horton would like to see a Public Forum to get ideas for the empty space on Main St. He also mentioned the possibility of an Airline service at the Airport.

Old Business

Mr. Johnson noted the right turn lane markings on Western Ave. onto I91 Access are only about five feet wide. They should be much wider.

Mayor Monette stated that Mr. Bernier did a great job of explaining the pump station on the Lake Road. It is on the Cities Web-site.

Next Meeting Date

September 26, 2016

Executive Session: City Manager Evaluation

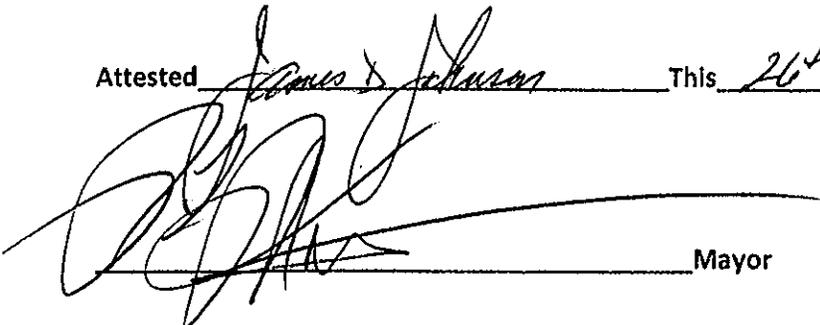
Mr. Roberge moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

No action.

Adjournment

Mr. Roberge moved to adjourn at 8:43 PM. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James D. Johnson This 26th Day of September, 2016



Mayor