

Council Minutes

September 14, 2015

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, September 14, 2015 in the Gymnasium in the Newport Municipal Building.

Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Aldermen Jacques Roberge, Neil Morrissette and Steve Vincent, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson Fire Chief LeClair, Public Works Director Bernier, Police chief DiSanto, members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Roberge moved to approve the minutes of August 17, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation to Appoint Robert Currier to Planning Commission

Mr. Morrissette moved to appoint Robert Currier to the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Set Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Tax Rate (attached)

Mr. Roberge moved to approve the 2015-2016 tax rate as presented. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Vermont Land Trust Presentation

Tracey Zschau Gave a presentation on conserving the Scott Farm which will be sold at auction on September 28, 2015. Members of the public asked questions and made comments. Mr. Johnson gave examples of potential tax revenue should part of the farm be developed.

Adoption of Stop Sign Ordinance

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the amended Stop Sign Ordinance, adding stop signs to the Prospect St. Third St. Intersection. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried. Mr. Vincent, Mr. Morrissette and Mr. Wilson voting in favor, Mr. Roberge voting against. Mr. Roberge asked Chief DiSanto to look into have a traffic study done at the intersection of Main St., Third St. and School St.

Newport Renaissance Committee Request for Dessert Challenge

Mr. Morrisette moved to approve Newport Renaissance request for the Dessert Challenge on September 19, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Appoint VLCT Delegate

Mr. Roberge moved to appoint Mayor Monette voting delegate to the VLCT Annual Meeting and have him reimbursed for time lost from work, mileage and lodging. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Request from Vermont Symphony Orchestra to Hang Banner (attached)

Mr. Morrisette moved to approve Vermont Symphonies request to hang a banner. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Request to Purchase two Voter Approved Sidewalk Tractor's (attached)

Mr. Vincent moved to purchase two sidewalk tractors from Harvest Equipment for \$49,741.17. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Proposal to Change Council Meeting Start Time to 6:30 PM

The council agreed to start future council meetings at 6:30 PM.

New Business

Mayor Monette requested Slowdown Sharp Curve signs on Logan Dr.

Mr. Wilson noted that elderly couples have complained about the intersection at Cumberland Farms. They are confused about what lane to be in. He requested signs be put up designating left turn and thru traffic lanes.

Julie Raboin noted that the traffic lights at I91 and the Causeway change when there is no traffic. The lights at Cumberland Farms all change one at a time and the left turn at the Coventry St. Intersection into Community Bank is a safety issue and holds up traffic.

Mr. Chenette stated that the shed at the Recycling Center needs a new door and the window needs a screen.

Old Business

Mayor Monette asked that the Crosswalk Signs be put back on Main St.

Mr. Morrissette thanked Public works for the work done on Fernwood Circle.

Mr. Vincent asked the status of the Police Dept. Municipal Building project? Chief DiSanto stated that the holding cell urinals are on back order but everything else is progressing. Mr. Vincent asked about the Underpass at Landing St. Ms. Dolgin stated that it would be repaired as part of the work on the RR spur to Columbia Forest Products they plan to start the week of September 21st. The repairs would take about three weeks

Set Next Meeting Date

September 21, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Adjournment

Mr. Morrissette moved to adjourn at 9:21 PM. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

Attested *James DiSanto* This 21st Day of September 2015

[Signature] Mayor