

Council Meeting

October 7, 2013

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, October 7, 2013 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Aldermen Tim Delabruere, Richard Baraw and Denis Chenette, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Paul Dreher, Tom Bernier, Andy Cappello, James LeClair, Greg Walker, members of the DRB, members of the Planning Commission, members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of September 23, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Baraw moved to approve the minutes of September 26, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Consider request for Water Meter by Shelia and Greg Walker

The Walkers would like to have a water meter installed at their cottage and be billed at the metered rate. The voters have turned down water meters and Mr. Baraw felt it would be unfair to allow a meter for one and not the others. No action was taken on the request.

Consider Liquor License Change of Address – David Steadman

Mr. Delabruere moved to table until next meeting. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Tennis Wall Location with Gary Atchinson (attached).

The council discussed the proposed Tennis wall and its proposed location. Mr. Atchinson favored putting the wall just off the Basketball court at approximately the same location (A) as the old wall. Mr. Cappello favored location (D) at the east end of the Tennis Courts which would require the installation of a new 53 X 24 foot asphalt pad. Mr. Chenette moved to place the new concrete wall at location "A". Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Consider Proposed 2014 Rates for Recreation & Parks Facilities

Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the 2014 Recreation and Parks rates. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Consider Request to Close Main Street on October 26, 2013 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM for all Hollow's Eve Event

Mr. Delabruere moved to close Main St. from Coventry St. to Second St. on October 26, 2013 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM as requested. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Consider Banner Request for Green Mountain United Way

Mr. Delabruere moved to approve a banner for Green Mountain Way at Pomerleau Park from October 8th to October 21st, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Application #13-051 by R.L. Vallee Inc.

Per a request by a member of the Planning Commission that the council appeal permit #13-051 issued by the DRB to R.L. Vallee Inc. for a Maplefields on the corner of Main and Third Streets because it did not conform to the Zoning By-laws. In order to make an informed decision the council heard testimony from members of the DRB, Planning Commission, applicant and members of the public. After lengthy testimony from all concerned and hearing no motion to appeal the permit. Mayor stated there was no action and the permit stands as issued.

Consider Town of Coventry Proposal on Newport City Fire Department Billing (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the proposed billing to the Town of Coventry as presented by the City Manager. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Request to Approve Assigned Items for FY 13 Financial Audit (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the request per the September 17, 2013 memo from the city Manager. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Review Tax Stabilization Agreement with Revision Military/Robert Miller

Before Mr. Miller forwarded the tax bill to Revision Military he wanted to know what percentage of the bill per the stabilization agreement would be Revision Military's responsibility. Mayor Monette wondered that since Revision Military has laid off most of its work force do they still qualify for stabilization. Mr. Ward felt that since they are no longer in compliance with the agreement they should

be billed at 100%. Mr. Wilson moved that since Revision Military is not in compliance with the tax stabilization agreement they should be billed at 100%. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Wilson wondered if the same should apply to Numia. Mr. Ward felt the Numia situation was a little different but he will look into it.

New Business

Mr. Johnson presented a request for Niles Funds. Mr. Wilson moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Baraw noted that the stop sign and street sign on his street has been leaning over for a long time. He would like to have it straightened up.

Mr. Wilson noted a Planning Commission meeting tomorrow on the Marijuana Dispensaries.

Mr. Wilson noted the Fire Department open house on Saturday, October 12, 2013 at noon.

Mr. Wilson noted that the RR Crossing is getting rough. Mr. Ward noted that state will be fixing the RR Crossings with 10% being funded by the state and 90% being funded by the feds.

Mr. Wilson would like to have the union pick up all the AFSCME signs in the City since the vote was last week.

Mr. Ward would like authorization to sign a Finance and Maintenance agreement with the state to fix the RR Crossing. Mr. Delabruere moved to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Monette stated that Kerry Steel requested permission to place a Hunger Fest banner at the bottom of East Main St. from October 13th to October 20th. Mr. Baraw moved to approve the request. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Monette was asked why the council meetings were not being aired on NEK-TV. Mayor Monette stated he was taping the meetings on his own and he was now having issues with NEK-TV and he would not be taping any more.

Dave Steadman asked why his request for an address change on his liquor license was tabled. Mr. Ward stated that the Chief of Police had some issues on the matter and wished to speak with the council before any action was taken.

It was noted that lights on the Long Bridge were out.

Mayor Monette noted that the Lights at the intersection of East Main and Western Ave. are not working properly.

Mr. Delabruere asked about the lights on the Causeway. Mr. Ward felt they were working properly.

Mr. Chenette asked about the arrow going from the Causeway to I-191. Mr. Ward stated that the arrow would be eliminated along with the arrow going up East Main St. from the Causeway.

Stacey Therrien asked about the water allocation for the camper on Coventry St. The camper was placed on the site without permission from the council. Mr. Johnson noted that we have still not received a water on notice. Mr. Ward stated that is a problem no water is to be turned on without a permit. A water allocation permit needs to be approved. Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the water allocation for the camper. Hearing no second the motion died. Mr. Ward will ask the City Attorney what to do next.

Mr. Ward noted Police Department negotiations, Tuesday at 9:00 AM

Old Business

Mr. Wilson wanted to know when West Main St. was going to be stripped. He has told people that it was going to be done. He noted that he was forced off the road at the corner by a vehicle to far over in his lane. Mr. Bernier has not heard from the contractor yet.

Mr. Chenette handed Mr. Ward photos taken by a concerned person of the embankment giving way under the underpass. The next stop may be the National Transportation Board. Mr. Ward stated it is not the cities problem but would forward the photos to the railroad co.

Next Meeting Date

October 21, 2013

Executive Session – Personnel

Mr. Chenette moved to enter executive session for personnel. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

No action taken.

Mr. Baraw moved to enter executive session for Public Works Union Negotiations. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously. Following executive session Mr. Chenette moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Newport and AFSCME Local 2413, Newport DPW Employee's Union regarding medical insurance. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

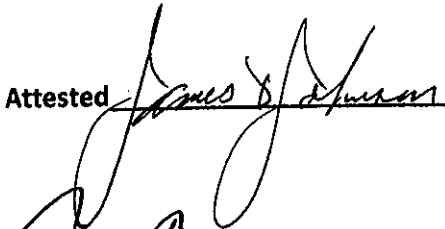
Mr. Chenette moved to enter executive session for a personnel issue. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

No action taken.

Adjournment

Mr. Baraw moved to adjourn at 11:25 PM. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

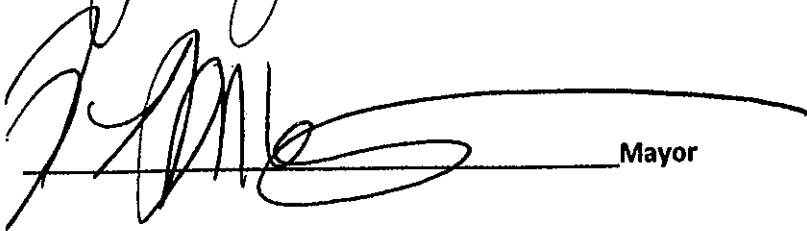
Attested



This

21st

Day of October, 2013



Mayor