

Council Minutes

October 20, 2014

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, October 20, 2014 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Aldermen Richard Baraw, Denis Chenette and Neil Morrissette, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Bill Stenger, Andrew Stenger, Jack Webster, Phil White, Eric Lefebvre, members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of October 6, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Morrissette, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of October 14, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Public

Beth Barnes thanked Aldermen Baraw, Wilson and Chenette for participating in the Walking School Bus program.

Renaissance Block Update

Bill Stenger, Andrew Stenger and Jack Webster updated the council on the Renaissance Block Project. Mr. Stenger stated that the hazardous material should be removed from the buildings by December or January. The site will be completely fenced in and demolition would take an estimated six to eight weeks after removal of the material. He hopes to start construction during summer of 2015.

Escapades Memphremagog Docking Request (attached)

Phil White and Mr. Lefebvre stated that they have learned that the Canadian tour boat can't dock and let off passengers unless Newport is a certified commercial port. They requested that the council explore what can be done to make this happen. Mayor Monette stated he would talk to the Customs people in St. Albans and contact Senator Leahy's office to see if they can help the process. Jay Peak and NCRC are in favor and would write letters of support.

Kingdom Games Update (attached)

Phil white updated the council on events and initiatives planned for the Kingdom Winter Games. Mr. White asked the council to participate in a group to explore what kind of support can be offered by the city and other groups. Mr. Chenette and Mr. Morrissette will represent the council.

Consider Corrections to 2014 Grand List (attached)

Mr. Morrissette moved to approve the correction to the 2014 Grand List. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Morrissette stated he had received a call from the restaurant at the Country Club stating they are losing money because of the Long Bridge being closed to thru traffic. He would like the signage changed to indicate that the Club is Open and the Long Bridge can be accessed to get to Mt. Vernon St. He also got a call from Newport Car Wash stating they are losing money because of the construction on Western Ave. They would like to know when construction will be completed. Mr. Ward stated construction should be done by the middle of next week.

Old Business

None

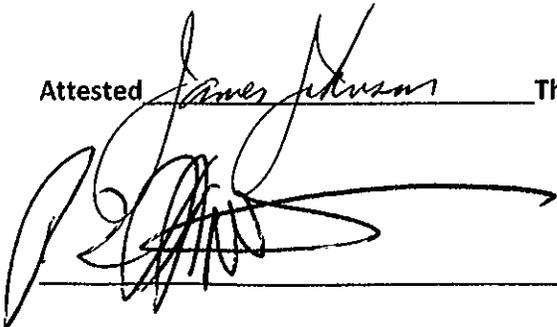
Next Meeting Date

October 27, 2014 following a Public Hearing on expenditure of access bond funds.

Adjournment

Mr. Baraw moved to adjourn at 8:32 PM. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James Johnson This 28th Day of October 2014



Mayor