

Council Minutes

October 21, 2013

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, October 21, 2013 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Aldermen Denis Chenette and Tim Delabruere, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Trish Sears, Rob Hodgkins, Conrad Bellavance, Steve Breault, Jack Roberge, Chief DiSanto, Chief LeClair, Tom Bernier and members of the Press and Public. Alderman Baraw was absent.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM immediately following a Public Hearing.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of October 7, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Consider Letter from Brian McNeal Dated 10/07/2013 (attached)

Mr. McNeal read his letter to the council outlining his concerns and opinion.

Request to Temporarily Use Fire Department Kitchen by Umbrella Cornucopia Meals on Wheels (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to approve and support the project. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Request to Have Banner for the Little Shop of Horrors NCUHS Production at Intersection of Causeway and East Main St. for 2 Week Period

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the request starting the last week of October and the first week in November. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Consider Financial Support Request from Newport City Renaissance Corporation

Steve Breault presented a report to update the council on how the position of Newport in the market has changed over the past year. Newport Renaissance also requests that the City increase their pledge of financial support from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Mr. Ward noted the council would consider the request during the upcoming budgeting process.

Consider Broker Agreement with Poulos Insurance for Vermont Health Connect Policies

Mr. Roberge discussed the possibility of continuing to use Poulos Insurance as the broker for the cities health insurance. Mr. Roberge stated that he could help employees with the Vermont Health Connect process for \$13.00 per month per employee. Mr. Ward stated he was not in favor of Mr. Roberge's proposal and that he could get the same support from VLCT for \$1.55 per month per employee. Mr. Chenette moved to table until November 4th in order to look into it and make an informed decision. Seconded by Mr. Delabruere, motion carried.

Consider Proposed Timeline for Tennis Wall (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to proceed with the proposed time table dated October 10, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Consider Proposed Timeline for Replacement Docks at the Newport City Dock (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the proposed timeline dated October 11, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Approve Certificate of Insurance for Kingdom Games, Inc. for Hallóween Hustle and Newport's Santa Run (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the certificate of insurance of Kingdom Games, Inc. for Halloween hustle and the Santa Run. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Consider Bids for 2013, 35,000 GVWR Cab and Chassis (attached)

Mr. Delabruere moved to accept the bid from Charlebois Freightliner in the amount of \$78,810. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Review Budget Status Report

No questions.

Consider Draft Financial Audit of FY 2013

Mr. Delabruere moved to accept the 2012-2013 Audit. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Consider Health Insurance Options for Non-union Staff (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to approve health insurance options 1 & 2 for non-union staff per memo dated October 18, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Delabruere, motion carried.

New Business

Mr. Chenette asked the council should sign the paper work regarding the Newport & Richford RR. Mr. Ward stated the council approved it at the last meeting he signed it and sent it off.

The meeting was being filmed again tonight. Mayor Monette stated that he was filming the meeting and it would be available on the web. Anyone can get a camera from NEKTV and film the meeting. However he would not submit the tape to NEKTV for airing until his disagreement with them is resolved.

Dale Knowles asked if there would be arrows on Main St. directing vehicles in the correct direction. He also asked if there would ever be a traffic light at RR Square.

Old Business

Mr. Wilson thanked Public Works for paving the RR crossing.

Chief LeClair thanked everyone for attending the Fire Department open house.

Next Meeting Date

November 4, 2013

Executive Session -- Liquor License Change of Address Request

Mr. Chenette moved to enter into executive session. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

In open session Mr. Delabruere moved to approve the liquor license address change from 125 Main St. to 137 Main St. L&S Ventures, Inc. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Mr. Chenette moved to go into executive session for Police Department negotiations. Seconded by Mr. Delabruere, motion carried.

Following executive session no action was taken.

Adjournment

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 9:36 PM. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Attested: James D. Johnson This 4th Day of November 2013

[Signature] Mayor