

Council Minutes

December 5, 2016

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, December 5, 2016 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Councilmen John Wilson, Jacques Roberge, Steve Vincent, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Tom Bernier, Jamie LeClair, Andy Cappello, members of the Press and Public. Councilman Morrissette was absent.

Mayor Monette opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Roberge moved to approve the minutes of November 21, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the minutes of November 28, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

None

Methadone Clinic Presentation, Jason Goguen

Cancelled due to the weather.

Request from American Legion for \$500 for Flags

Mr. Vincent moved to take \$500 from the council's Special Projects Fund for the American Legion's request for flags. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session, Pending Litigation/Contract, 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)(A); (a)(1)(E)

Mr. Vincent moved that because premature public knowledge of the subjects of the anticipated executive session would clearly place the board and/or persons involved at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vincent moved to enter executive session with counsel, for confidential attorney-client communications concerning contracts and pending litigation. Seconded by Mr. Roberge, motion carried unanimously.

No action.

Zoning and Planning Updates, Charles Elliott

Mr. Elliott updated the council on the issue at 814 East Main St. After several attempts to correct the issue Mr. Elliott now feels he must pursue court action. Mr. Vincent moved to authorize Mr. Elliott to take court action to correct the violation. Seconded by Mr. Roberge motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Roberge asked about the vacant building on West Main St. Mr. Elliott stated that the owner is supposed to board it up. He will check to see if it has been done. Chief LeClair will talk with the Fire Marshall to see if he can do anything.

Mr. Elliott asked for an executive session to discuss a Planning Commission issue. There was discussion on whether the discussion should be in executive session or not. Ms. Dolgin will ask the City Attorney about the issue. The matter will be taken up at the next council meeting.

FY 17-18 City budget proposal and Review

The council reviewed the proposed FY-17-18 Fire Department and Public Works budgets with Mr. Bernier and Mr. LeClair.

New Business

None

Old Business

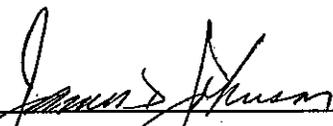
Ms. Dolgin would like to switch Health Insurance plans for the City from Blue Cross Gold to MVP Gold plan. Mr. Vincent about the effect it would have on the Police Dept. contract if plans were switched. Ms. Dolgin stated that the plans are the same just different carriers within Vermont Health Connect. With the MVP plan we get a person to talk to and some savings. Mr. Roberge moved to change to an equivalent plan for all City employees. Seconded by Mr. Vincent, motion carried unanimously.

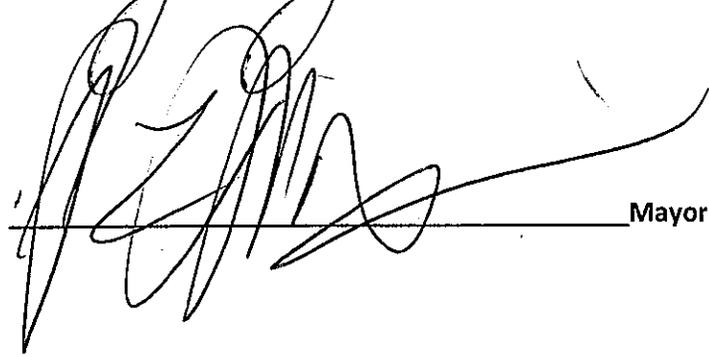
Next Meetings

December 12th proposed FY 17-18 budget, December 19th regular council meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Vincent moved to adjourn at 9:09 PM. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Attested:  This 19th Day of December, 2016

 Mayor