

**Council Minutes
December 19, 2011**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, December 19, 2011 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Aldermen Richard Baraw and Denis Chenette, City Manager John Ward Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, J. Paul Duquette, James LeClair, Paul Dreher, Andy Cappello, Tom Bernier, members of the Press and Public. Alderman Delabruere was absent.

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of December 5, 2011. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried.

FY 2012-13 Budget Discussion

The council reviewed the 2012-13 proposed budgets with the department heads. Final review and approval is scheduled for the January 9, 2012 council meeting.

Consider Property and Casualty Insurance Bids (attached)

Mr. Ward recommended going with VLCT since they had more coverage in most areas. Mr. Baraw moved to accept the bid from VLCT in the amount of \$159,643. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Request Approval of Historic Preservation Commission By-law (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the Historic Preservation Commission By-laws with the changes to section #3. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Request Approval of Rules of Procedure of Historic Preservation Commission (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the Rules of Procedure of the Historic Preservation Commission. Seconded by Mr. Baraw, motion carried.

Request approval for Land Value Tax Study (attached)

The council agreed to allow the land value tax study. The study is free and is in collaboration with UVM.

Consider City as Fiduciary Agent for Mass/Surge/Mass Care Facility (attached)

Mr. Baraw moved to approve the City as Fiduciary Agent for the Mass Surge/Mass Care Facility. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Consider Procedure to Hire Police Chief

Two Council members, the City Manager, a police officer not applying for the position and the current Chief of Police will review the applications and select the final candidates. The city will advertise in February, pick candidates in April and interview in May. Chief Duquette plans on retiring on August 1, 2012.

New Business

Mr. Johnson submitted two Niles Fund requests. Mr. Wilson moved to approve both Niles Fund requests. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Mr. Ward stated he had been contacted by Lee Larocque wanting to know if the City was interested in taking over the Boardwalk. The council is not interested at this time.

Old Business

None

Next Meeting Dates

Public Hearing on the Tasting Center, January 2, 2012
Council meeting, January 9, 2012

Adjournment

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 8:06 PM. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Attested James D. Sullivan This 9th Day of January, 2012

[Signature]
Mayor