

Council Minutes
November 20, 2017

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, November 20, 2017 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Council Persons Julie Raboin and Denis Chenette, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Charles Pronto, Amanda Carlson, Jamie LeClair, Charles Elliott, Karen Geraghty, Clark Curtis, Tom Bernier, Seth DiSanto, Jacques Roberge, Michelle McCutcheon-Schour, Hillary Orsini, members of the Press and Public. Council member James Merriam was absent.

Mayor Monette opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Public Hearing on the Amendment to the Municipal Plan

Postponed until December 18, 2017. So that we can meet the 15 day warning requirement as out lined in 24 VSA 4444.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of November 6, 2017. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried.

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

Comments by the Public

Anne Chiarello presented a questionnaire regarding the proposed Eastside Water Tower.

Municipal Plan vote

Tabled

Efficiency Vermont Services Presentation

Michelle McCutcheon-Schour and Hillary Orsini gave a presentation on what Efficiency Vermont can offer Newport residents and businesses.

Brokerage Services Vote

The council had received two proposals, Jacques Roberge who is a local broker offered services for \$6,720 (\$20/ employee) and VLCT at \$5,540 (\$15/employee) both proposals are based on 28 employees for calendar year 2018.

Mr. Chenette moved to go with the local broker Mr. Roberge at \$20 per employee. There was no second to the motion.

Ms. Raboin moved to go with VLCT for brokerage services. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion failed. (Raboin and Wilson in favor, Chenette and Monette opposed). When asked, Ms. Raboin based her decision on how Mr. Roberge acted when he was on her side of the table. Mr. Wilson based his decision on the lower rate.

Newport Ambulance FY 18-19 Budget Presentation

Charlie Pronto gave a presentation of the Ambulance Service proposed 2018-19 budget. He is proposing a maximum increase of \$80,000 from \$105,000 to \$185,000.

NVDA Intersection Study and AARP Walk Audit Report Acceptance

Mr. Chenette moved to accept the reports from NVDA and AARP. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Old Fire Truck Removal and Equipment Trade (attached)

Mr. Chenette moved to accept the proposal per Chief LeClair for the removal of the truck in trade for equipment. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

New Business

Mayor Monette responded to a list of questions that had been submitted by Ms. Raboin.

Ms. Raboin asked if the City was applying for the Transportation Alternative Grant. Ms. Dolgin's answer was no.

Old Business

Mr. Chenette asked about the light at the corner of Pine St. and Clover Lane. Mr. Bernier stated that the request had been called in to VELCO.

Executive Session to discuss Real Estate Purchase Options

Mr. Chenette moved to enter executive session for real estate purchase options and that a motion for the Board's specific finding that premature public knowledge of the subject of the anticipated executive session tonight would clearly place the Board and/or persons involved at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

No action.

Next Meeting Dates

Centennial Meeting November 21, 2017, Budget Meeting November 27, 2017, Council meeting December 4, 2017.

Adjournment

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried.

Attested  This 4th Day of December 2017

 Mayor