

Council Minutes

December 4, 2017

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, December 4, 2017 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council president John Wilson, Council Members Julie Raboin, Denis Chenette and James Merriam, Laura Dolgin City Manager, James D. Johnson City Clerk/Treasurer, Tom Bernier, Jamie LeClair, Seth DiSanto, Stacey Therrien, Becky Therrien, Gillian Staniforth, Roger Gosselin, member of the Press and Public.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2017 and November 27, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

Pam Ladds had a question on communications in the proposed budget.

Anne Chiarello questioned the additional dispatch services in the proposed budget and felt that an additional \$20,000 should be taken out of the Wal-Mart funds to offset the budget.

Laurie Grimm thanked the council and Public Works for painting the Water tower.

Ken Cartee asked if anything had been heard from the receiver about the vacant lot on Main St.

Proposed VAST Feeder Trail Presentation

Roger Gosselin gave a presentation to the council on a proposed feeder trail on Broadview Ave. The trail would allow access to the Eastside Restaurant and Lake Shore Plaza. Gillian Staniforth a resident on Broadview Ave. voiced her opposition to the proposal.

Errors and Omissions re: Grand List

A memo from Spencer Potter noted that Parcel ID# 105054 at 155 Cherry Lane was missed during the reappraisal. The total assessment is \$220,000. Ms. Raboin moved to accept the omission and correct the error of Parcel # 105054 on the Grand List. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Water/Sewer Utility Van (attached)

Mr. Bernier stated that the 2007 Ford F150 Van is no longer able to be inspected and needs to be replaced. It is a crucial piece of equipment. Ms. Raboin moved to authorize Mr. Bernier to get prices from area dealers. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Budget Review

Ms. Dolgin stated the proposed budget is ready except for the Ambulance service whom we should hear from the next council meeting on the 18th. The council will wait until December 18th to vote on the proposed FY18-19 budget.

New Business

Ms. Dolgin explained that the Internet, phone system, cell phones, answering service, IT, Google and Web-site, fire alarms and the postage meter, etc. are all included in the communications line items in the budget and is spread out over all depts.

Chief DiSanto stated that the additional \$55,000 in the proposed budget for dispatch is mainly for the City; if we get other agencies to sign on that's fine but the City needs 24/7 dispatch.

Ms. Dolgin stated that the use of Wal-Mart funds are intended to mitigate impacts the project might reasonably be expected to cause in Newport and should not be used to lower the taxes.

Old Business

The VCRP community visit is scheduled to take place on December 13th. A community diner^A is scheduled to take place in the municipal building gym. We want to thank and acknowledge Community National Bank for their generous offer to fund the diner^A as a show of support for this process.

Next Meeting dates

Council Meeting December 18, 2017, Centennial Meeting December 19th, 2017.

Adjournment

Ms. Raboin moved to adjourn at 8:18 PM. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Attested: James Johnson This 18th Day of December 2017



Mayor