

Council Minutes

August 6, 2018

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, August 6, 2018 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President Denis Chenette, Council Members Julie Raboin, Kevin Charboneau and Dan Ross, city Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Chief Seth DiSanto and Jessica Booth.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Mayor Monette noted that number 11 on the agenda should have read Executive Session to Discuss Civil Litigation, also number 8 will be tabled until next meeting out of respect to Mr. Bessette who passed away last weekend. The Bessette's donated the marquee to the City.

Mr. Chenette moved to accept the amended agenda for August 6, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Chenette noted that the minutes didn't reflect that Mr. Ross seconded the motion on the line of credit. Mr. Chenette moved to approve the minutes of July 16, 2018 as amended. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

Michelle Rossi presented a petition signed by 102 concerned citizens requesting that the Newport Police Dept. look into the opioid problem on Third St.

Request for Water/Sewer Allocation

Water/Sewer allocation for 23 Orchard St. ID# 134154.

Ms. Raboin moved to approve the allocation request. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Event Requests

Ms. Raboin moved to approve the Out of Darkness Walk on September 8th and waive the fee of \$191.00. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the Paws for Cause event on September 15th and waive the \$191.00 fee. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ross moved to approve the Rotary Club Duck Regatta on September 23rd and waive the fee of \$191.00. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the North Country Chamber's Newport Fall Festival on September 29th and waive the fee of \$909.00. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

All fees will be expended from council special projects and shown as revenue in the appropriate waived event fees category.

Public Records Policy Review

Mr. Ross moved to table the policy review until next meeting. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Social Media Policy Review

Mr. Ross moved to table the policy review until next meeting. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Mayor Monette noted that the owners of the Thai Restaurant have gotten their Visa's and are waiting for Passports.

Old Business

Mr. Johnson noted that there was a mix up of the date for the American Legion coin drop. They request that the date be move from August 18th to August 11th. Mr. Chenette moved to allow the Legion coin drop on August 11th instead of August 18, 2018. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin asked about the status of the Designated Downtown Director's position. Ms. Dolgin indicated that a candidate was hired but backed out for personal reasons. The position will be advertised again.

Ms. Dolgin stated that Newport's Downtown Designation has been approved at the July 23rd Vermont Downtown Board meeting without any further conditions. The designation is in place for the next 8 years, with a mandatory 4-year check-in.

Ms. Dolgin noted that the Northern Borders grant application has been withdrawn due to the EB5 civil settlement.

Ms. Dolgin stated that EDA will require water meters as part of the grant for the new water tower. The question has been asked if we can include water meters in the grant or is it time for the council to make water meters mandatory.

Executive Session – Civil Litigation

Mr. Chenette moved that premature public knowledge of the subjects of the executive session will clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing its negotiation strategy and move that we enter executive session to discuss the pending litigation on the advice of counsel under the provisions of 1 VSA 313 (a)(1). Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

No action.

Executive Session to Discuss Labor Relations

Mr. Chenette moved that premature public knowledge of the subjects of the executive session will clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing its negotiation strategy and move that we enter executive session to discuss labor relations under provisions of 1 VSA 313 (a)(1). Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

No action.

Next Meeting date

August 20, 2018

Adjournment

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 9:20 PM. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James Johnson This 20th Day of August 2018

[Signature]
Mayor