

## **Council Meeting**

**December 17, 2018**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, December 17, 2018 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President Denis Chenette, Council Members Kevin Charboneau, Julie Raboin and Daniel Ross, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, Seth DiSanto, Pedro Grondin, Tom Bernier, Jamie LeClair, Charles Elliott, John Casella, Charlie Pronto, Representatives from D.U.M.P., The Agency of Natural Resources, The Department of Environmental Conservation, the Solid Waste District, Casella Waste Management, Members of the Press and Public.

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Raboin moved to approve the minutes of December 3, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chenette moved to approve the minutes of December 10, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

### **Comments by the Public**

Mayor Monette thanked the Recreation Department and volunteers for the great job done on the Pomerleau Christmas Party.

Mayor Monette thanked Victoria Mathiesen for the Tree of Life presented to Mr. Pomerleau.

Mayor Monette read a Thankyou card from Promise Community Board of Directors for the opportunity to share their community work with the City Council and City Manager.

### **Request by NCUHS to Utilize the Public Works Garage in the Event of Evacuations**

Mr. Ross moved to allow NCUHS to use the Public works Garage in the event of evacuation. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

### **Adoption of Federal Procurement Guidelines**

Ms. Dolgin presented an addendum to the purchasing policy adopted February 6, 2017. She noted that the Financial Monitoring Report of December 4, 2016 indicated that the City's policy lacked a written

approved policy that specifically ensures compliance with federal requirements for use of federal funds. The city has been following the recommendations of VLCT when procuring goods and services, including those using federal funds. Although the program is acceptable for procurement, it does not site the office of Management & Budget federal resolutions

Mr. Charboneau moved to adopt the Addendum to the Purchasing Policy adopted February 6, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Amended By-Law Presentation for Public Hearing on January 7, 2019**

Mr. Elliott presented four Zoning By-Law changes. First, that Light industrial at Lakemont be changed to a Public Health Zone. Second, to update the By-Laws to meet flood plain regulations. Third, to make short term residential rentals a home-based occupation, and fourth, to eliminate the Certificate of Occupancy for home sales from the By-Laws. A Public Hearing on the changes is scheduled for January 7, 2019.

#### **Revisit the Safety of Leachate Treated at our Waste Water Treatment Facility and Revisit Opposition to the Landfill Expansion**

A lengthy and spirited discussion on the safety of Leachate was held with representatives from D.U.M.P., The Agency of Natural Resources, The Department of Environmental Conservation, the Solid Waste District, Casella Waste Management and members of the public. In the end Mr. Chenette moved that "based on the research done by and information provided to the council, I move that we resume the acceptance of leachate at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. The levels of contaminants are found to be well within the federal standards, as well as the state standards which are even more restrictive. Furthermore, I would like to see a partnering of the City of Newport and Casella Waste Management regarding the research and possible implementation of future upgrading to the City's waste water treatment plant with the oversight of the appropriate state department. I would also move that the letter to the Act 250 Commission be withdrawn due to information regarding air quality and the implementation of systems currently in use and proposed at the Casella facility located in Coventry". Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried. Ms. Raboin and Mr. Chenette in favor, Mr. Charboneau and Mr. Ross opposed. Mayor Monette voted in favor of the motion.

#### **New Business**

Penny Thomas and Louise Whipple were present to request a letter of support for Memphremagog Ski Touring Foundation. They are in the process of requesting a grant from the 2019 Recreational Trails Program to open five miles of new mountain bike trails. The grant amount would be between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

Mr. Charboneau move to authorize the City Manager to write a letter supporting Memphremagog Ski Touring Foundations Plans. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chenette asked about the NVDA dues. Mayor Monette stated they are in the budget.

**Old Business**

Mr. Chenette asked if the water meter at Numia had been pulled. Mr. Bernier stated the meter has been pulled but he would have to asked Pedro what the reading was.

Mr. Ross noted the Marijuana report will be coming out shortly. The City should use it to make recommendation to the Legislature to amend the legislation.

Ms. Dolgin noted the next proposed 2019-20 budget session will be January 7, 2019.

**Next Meeting Date**

January 7, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 9:45 PM. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried unanimously.

Attested James D. Mason This 7<sup>th</sup> Day of January 2019

[Signature]  
Mayor