

## **Council Minutes**

**January 21, 2019**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, January 21, 2019 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President Denis Chenette, Council Members Julie Raboin and Daniel Ross. Councilman Kevin Charboneau was absent. Also, present were City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Mike Welch, Jessica Booth, James LeClair, Seth DiSanto, Tom Bernier, Charles Elliott, Ryan Able, James LeClair Jr., Rebecca Therrien, members of the Press and Public.

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

### **Honor Newport Fire Department Members**

Mayor Monette recognized Fireman Ryan Able and Fire Department Lt. James LeClair Jr. for rescuing a person from a burning build on September 28, 2018. Both were presented with a State of Vermont House of Representatives Resolution.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Ross moved to approve the minutes of January 7, 2019 as written. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried.

### **Comments by the Public**

Ann Chairello stated she would have liked to have been able to comment on the budget after each department presentation instead of only at the final meeting.

### **Better Connections Grant Application (attached)**

Mike Welch gave an overview of the Better Connections Grant.

Ms. Raboin moved to approve the Better Connections Grant application. Seconded by Mr. Ross motion carried.

### **Final Budget Review**

The council did the final review of the proposed FY 19-20 budget. All department heads were present to respond to comments and questions by the public.

Mr. Chenette moved to approve a budget of \$3,958,869 as presented for FY 19-20. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried.

### **New Business**

Mayor Monette stated that he had been asked by a member of the press if petitions against taking leachate from NEWSVT and the expansion of the landfill were non-binding. Mayor Monette stated he had contacted VLCT and the City Attorney to find out. Both VLCT and the City Attorney stated that the petitions were non-binding.

Mr. Ross moved to put the non-binding articles on the Annual warning. There was no second to the motion.

Mr. Ross moved to not put the non-binding articles on the Annual Warning. Seconded by Mr. Chenette, motion carried. Ms. Raboin, Mr. Chenette, Mayor Monette in favor. Mr. Ross against.

### **Old Business**

Mr. Chenette thanked Mr. Bernier for getting the light at I91 and the Causeway fixed.

Mr. Ross thanked Mr. Bernier for getting the sidewalks cleared

Mayor thanked Mr. Bernier and his crew for a good job on the storm.

### **Next Meeting Date**

February 4, 2019

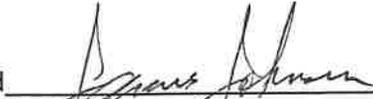
### **Executive Session, Contract 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)**

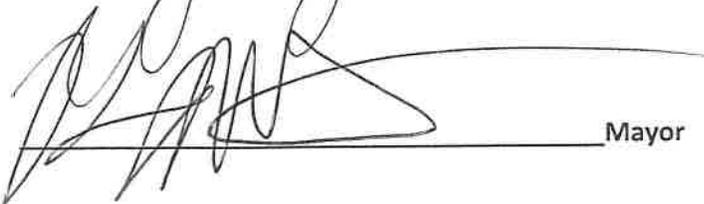
Mr. Chenette moved to go into executive session due to the board's specific finding that the premature general public knowledge of the subjects of the anticipated executive session would clearly place the board and/or persons involved at a substantial disadvantage. 1 VSA 313 (a)(1). And further moved to enter executive session to discuss a contract. 1 VSA 313 (a)(1). Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried.

No action.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Chenette moved to adjourn at 8:45 PM. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried.

Attested  This 4<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2019

 Mayor