

## **Council Minutes**

**March 18, 2019**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, March 18, 2019 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President Julie Raboin, Council Members Kevin Charboneau, Melissa Pettersson, Daniel Ross, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Chief James LeClair Sr., Chief Seth DiSanto, Thomas Bernier, Jessica Booth, Charles Elliott, 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 March 4, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve the minutes of March 5, 2019 Annual Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

### **Comments by the Public**

Anne Chiarello urged the council to be careful with partnerships with big corporations i.e. Casella.

James Leithead expressed concern about the speed limit on Mt. Vernon St. during the I 91 slope construction scheduled for this summer.

### **Election of Council President**

Mr. Ross moved to elect Julie Raboin, Council President. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

### **City Government Appointments**

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Laura Dolgin, City Manager. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint Thomas Bernier, Public Works Director. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Seth DiSanto, Chief of Police. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Spencer Potter, City Assessor. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Charles Elliott, Zoning Administrator. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint James LeClair Sr., Chief of the Fire Department. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint Jessica Booth, Recreation Director. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C., City Attorney. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Frank Ormsbee, John Ward Sr. and Denis Chenette to the Cemetery Commission. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Vaughn Cloney to the Recreation Committee. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint Ruth Sproull to the Planning Commission. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Ruth Sproull to the Historic Preservation Commission. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Erik Voegtlin, Harbor Master. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Steve Edgerley, Tom Latta, John Monette and Cynthia Shelton to the Harbor Commission. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Daniel Pickering to the Development Review Board and appoint Harriet Hall as the alternate. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Laura Dolgin, Delinquent Tax Collector. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint James LeClair Sr., Town Service Officer. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint the Newport Police Department, Animal control Officer(s). Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ross moved to appoint James LeClair Sr., Health Officer. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Robert Gosselin, Tree Warden. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Colleen Moore de-Ortiz, Weigher of Coal. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Jacques Roberge, Inspector of Wood and Shingles. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Laura Dolgin and Paul Monette, Representatives to NVDA Board. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Paul Monette, Representative to NVEDD Board. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint Denis Chenette, Robert Gosselin & Jacques Roberge, Fence Viewers. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Charles Elliott, Building Safety Officer. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Raboin moved to appoint Robert Gosselin, City Landscaper. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business**

The council signed 2019 Liquor License Renewals.

Mayor Monette noted he had written a letter in support of the Thai Restaurant.

### **Old Business**

The council purchased one ticket to the Fire Department Raffle and Banquet on April 6, 2019.

Mr. Ross noted the Newport Downtown Development Organization's Executive Director resigned and he assumes the budget is sound. Ms. Dolgin assured him it is.

Mr. Ross noted that it's time to revisit the Events Policy. Ms. Dolgin noted a review is in process with amendments to be made before July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Ross noted that with the passage of bill #118 Sale of Marijuana leaves it up to each municipality to decide whether to allow the sale of marijuana.

Mr. Ross asked about the Brown Field Grant. Ms. Dolgin noted there have been bi-monthly telephone meetings and most of the projects are in St. Johnsbury and Hardwick.

Mr. Ross asked about the Water Tower. Ms. Dolgin noted to be eligible for the EDA grant the City would have to mandate water meters.

Mr. Ross asked about the Green Lantern project. Ms. Dolgin noted that Sam Carlson from Green Lantern will be spending tomorrow afternoon at our office reviewing past electric bills. She further noted that the City entered into a net metering contract with Great Bay Hydro, now known as Gravity

Renewables back in 2015 that is not the most advantageous for the city because it limits our freedoms. The project is in process.

Mr. Ross asked about water consumption at the Community Garden on Farrant St. Ms. Dolgin noted the consumption is negligible.

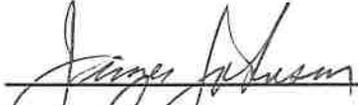
Mayor Monette stated that the meeting at the Career Center last week was an excellent meeting. We are excited about the Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant for Gardner Park Playground and with the VORAC Grant for the Prouty Beach trail construction.

**Next Meeting Date**

April 1, 2019

**Adjournment**

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 7:18 PM. Seconded by Ms. Petterson, motion carried unanimously.

Attested;  This 1<sup>st</sup> Day of April 2019

  
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Mayor