

DRAFT

Council Minutes

November 4, 2019

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, November 4, 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 and Daniel Ross, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, Chief Jamie LeClair, Tom Bernier, Chief Seth DiSanto, Becky Therrien, Jessica Booth, Charles Elliott, Jennifer Smith, Ann and Robert Kelley, members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM immediately following a Public Hearing on the proposed Capital Investment Plan.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

Anne Chiarello commented on the ATV issue.

Penny Thomas stated that she supports the appointment of Paul Dreher to the Planning Commission.

Rec Committee Member Appointment

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Amy Pickering to replace Nicole Gratton to the Rec Committee until March 2020. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Invitation to the Light Up the Night Parade.

Bob and Ann Kelley gave the council an update on the proposed Light Up the Night Parade. This will be the second year of the parade. This year it will run from the former Teddy Bear Factory to the Jr. High School in Derby. The parade will be held on December 7, 2019. The Police Dept will do traffic control within the City.

Addendum to Recreation Rates and Fees Schedule to Include Commercial boat Docking Fee (attached)

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve the addendum to include the fee for commercial vessels at a rate of \$72 per foot (seasonally) from May to October. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Plan Draft

Ms. Raboin moved to acknowledge Receipt of the 2020 Municipal Plan. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Vicious Dog Complaint

The council held a Public Hearing on a vicious dog owned by Mark Roy and Sarah Ray. The council heard and received evidence from the dog owners and officer Lancaster. Mr. Ross moved to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ross moved to enter deliberative session on the vicious dog complaint. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

In open session the council allowed the owner to keep the dog with conditions as follows; The male dog (Bubbles) must be vaccinated and neutered by November 11, 2019. The owner must provide a valid rabies certificate and register the dog with the City immediately. Also, the female dog must be vaccinated and spayed by December 1, 2019. Once this has been completed a copy of the valid rabies certificate must be presented to the City and the dog must be registered annually. The male dog must be muzzled when outside must be on a leash or tethered and be accompanied by an adult.

New Business

None

Old Business

None

Executive Session to Discuss the Appointment of a Public Officer, 1 VSA 313(3)(a)(3)

Ms. Pettersson moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

In open session Ms. Pettersson moved to re-advertise the Planning Commission Vacancy. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried. Charboneau, Ross and Pettersson in favor, Raboin Against.

Executive Session for Real Estate Purchase or Lease Option 1 VSA 313 (a)(2)

Mr. Charboneau moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Ross, motion carried unanimously

No action.

Executive Session for Personnel, 1 VSDA 313 (4)

Ms. Raboin moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

No action.

Next Meeting Date

November 18, 2019

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 9:44 PM. Seconded by Ms. Raboin, motion carried unanimously.

Attested; _____ This _____ Day of _____ 2019

Mayor

To: Newport City Council
Cc James Johnson, Memphremagog Community Maritime (MCM) Board of Directors
From: Laura Dolgin, City Manager; and Jess Booth, Director of Parks & Recreation 
Re: Addendum to Recreation Rates & Fees Schedule to include Commercial Rates for Dock Fees
Date: November 1, 2019

The Northern Star lease with the North Country Federal Credit Union expired on October 31, 2019. Parks & Recreation is preparing to transfer a lease agreement to Memphremagog Community Maritime Inc. (MCM) retro-active to November 1.

We met with the MCM Board of Directors and as a result we are proposing an addendum to the 2020 Parks & Recreation Rates and Fees Schedule for updated commercial rates at the Newport City Dock, as follows:

A new summer commercial rate of \$72/foot billed once seasonally (May 1 - October 31) reflects our current non-resident slip rate (\$60/foot) + 20%. This is similar to the formula used by the City of Burlington at their waterfront facilities, the only other municipal owned marinas in the state.

MCM also asked that we investigate a reduced rate for the winter season when services provided by the City are reduced. To that end, we are recommending \$10/foot winter commercial rate, billed once seasonally (November 1 - April 30).

At these recommended rates, total slip fees for the Northern Star for 2020 will be \$5,330.00 for the year. In addition to the proposed slip fees, MCM has agreed to install their own electric meter and be responsible for the boat's electricity all year round. This agreement is for docking fees only and does not include use of municipal facilities for ticketing or restrooms. MCM knows they are subject to the same annual rate and fees adjustments as other seasonal boaters.

We believe this represents a rate that is fair and equitable to the taxpayers of Newport as well as provides MCM a reasonable rate in which to budget and begin their initiation year.

We ask the council to approve this new Commercial Boat Slip rate as an addendum to the Parks & Recreation rates & fees schedule that was approved on September 9, 2019.