

Council Minutes

March 16, 2020

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, March 16, 2020 in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council Members Melissa Pettersson, Kevin Charboneau, Daniel Ross, and John Wilson, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, PW Director Tom Bernier, Police Chief Seth DiSanto, Fire Chief John Harlamert, Recreation Director Jessica Booth, Program Administrator Rebecca Therrien, City Landscaper Robert Gosselin, other city employees and members of the Press and Public.

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

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve the minutes of March 2, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Ross.

Discussion, Anne Chiarello noted she commented, not complained about the City Managers Annual report and the Sewer/Water budgets. She would like the minutes to reflect it.

Mr. Charboneau moved to change the minutes to reflect commented rather than complained. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried. Mr. Wilson abstained.

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve the minutes of March 2, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried. Mr. Wilson abstained.

Mr. Ross moved to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2020 Annual Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried. Mr. Wilson abstained.

RE-adopt Rules of Procedure

Mr. Ross moved to adopt the Rules of Procedure. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Comments by the Public

Judy Szych commented on the Farmers Market fees.

Election of Council President

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Dan Ross, Council President. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

City Government Appointments

City Manager:

Mr. Charboneau moved to enter Executive Session to discuss the appointment of the City Manager. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously

In open session Mr. Ross moved to appoint Laura Dolgin, City Manager. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson.

Discussion: Anne Chiarello, Tom Evans, Ruth Sproull and Laurie Grimm noted their reasons why the council should not appoint Ms. Dolgin. Christine Russell, and Jacques Roberge noted their reasons why the council should appoint Ms. Dolgin as City Manager.

Ms. Pettersson, Mr. Ross and Mr. Charboneau voted in favor of appointing Ms. Dolgin, City Manager. Mr. Wilson voted against appointing Ms. Dolgin, City Manager. Motion carried.

Mr. Ross voted in favor because he looks to the future and hopes there will a change for the better.

Mr. Wilson voted against the motion because of her interaction with some members of the public.

Mr. Charboneau voted in favor because Ms. Dolgin gets grants and is very good with the budget. He hopes the council can come together

Ms. Pettersson voted in favor of Ms. Dolgin because the City is running well under her leadership and Ms. Dolgin doesn't take falsehoods or innuendos into consideration.

Mayor Monette stated he would have voted in favor of Ms. Dolgin because she is well respected by the department heads and state officials.

Director of Public works:

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Tom Bernier, Director of Public Works. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Chief of Police:

Mr. Ross moved to table the appointment until April 6, 2020. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Chief of the Fire Department:

Mr. Wilson moved to appoint John Harlamert, Fire Chief. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Director of Parks & Recreation:

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint Jessica Booth, Director of Parks & Recreation. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Administrator:

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Charles Elliott, Zoning administrator. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Tax Assessor:

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint Robert Naramore, Tax Assessor. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney:

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint the firm of Stitzel, Page and Fletcher, City Attorney. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Commission:

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

Recreation Committee:

Mr. Wilson moved to appoint Chad Prue, Jenn Smith, Shari-Lee Ryan and Lori wells to the Recreation Committee for two years. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

City Landscaper:

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

Planning Commission & Historic Preservation:

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Daniel Pickering to the Planning Commission for two years until 2022. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

Harbor Master:

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

Harbor Commission:

Mr. Ross moved to appoint James Johnson and William "Oscar" Round to the Harbor commission for two years. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Development Review Board:

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Agathe Coburn and Daniel Pickering to the Development Review Board for three years. Seconded by Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Delinquent Tax Collector:

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Laura Dolgin, Delinquent Tax collector. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Officer:

Ms. Pettersson moved to appoint the Newport Police Department, Animal control Officers, motion carried unanimously.

Health officer:

Mr. Wilson moved to appoint John Harlamert, Health Officer, motion carried unanimously.

Tree Warden:

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

Representative to NVDA:

Mr. Charboneau moved to appoint Paul Monette and Laura Dolgin as Representatives to the NVDA Board. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Representative to NVEDD:

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

Weigher of Coal:

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Colleen Moore de-Ortiz, Weigher of Coal. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Inspector of Wood and Shingles:

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

Building Safety Officer:

Mr. Ross moved to appoint Charles Elliott, Building Safety Officer. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission Resignation:

Ms. Pettersson moved to accept the resignation of Ruth Sproull from the Planning commission. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

The council signed 2020 Liquor Licenses.

Old Business

None

Next Meeting Date

April 6, 2020

Executive Session, Planning commission Interviews 1 VSA 313(a)(3)

Mr. Charboneau moved to enter executive session for Planning Commission interviews. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

In open session Ms. Pettersson move to appoint Mareo Oldacre to the Planning Commission for three years. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

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

Attested James D. Johnston This 7th Day of April 2020

[Signature]
Mayor

