

City Manager..... (802) 334-5136  
City Clerk / Treasurer..... 334-2112  
Public Works..... 334-2124  
Zoning Adm. / Assessor..... 334-6992  
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Fax..... 334-5632



City of Newport  
222 Main Street  
Newport, Vermont 05855  
[www.newportvermont.org](http://www.newportvermont.org)

## **Newport City Council Meeting**

### **Regular Meeting Agenda**

**Monday, November 16, 2020, beginning at 6:30 p.m.**

#### **REMOTE MEETING**

**The Municipal Building is Closed as part of the Stay Home/Stay Safe Measures  
In Order to Participate Remotely:**

**Phone 1- (978) 990-5000 and enter PIN: 185354#**

**or**

**by Computer go to <https://freeconferencecall.com> and join the meeting by using id:  
cityofnewportremote**

City Council: Paul Monette, Mayor  
Dan Ross, Council President  
Kevin Charboneau  
Melissa Pettersson  
John Wilson

Laura Dolgin, City Manager  
James D. Johnson, City Clerk/Treasurer

1. Call the Regular Council Meeting to Order
2. Approve Minutes of November 2, 2020
3. Comments by Members of the Public
4. Budget Review of Administration & Police, Set Budget Review Schedule
5. EV Car Charging Station Rates & Fees, Vote
6. New Business
7. Old Business
8. Set Next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting: December 7, 2020 @ 6:30pm
9. Adjourn

Non-confidential Materials Pertaining to this Agenda are Available for Viewing & Download on the City's Website at <https://www.newportvermont.org/> Commencing at 9:00 a.m., the Morning of the Meeting.

Newport City Council Meeting Participation Guidelines

Newport City Council meetings are for the purpose of allowing Council members to conduct City business. Distinct from public hearings or town meetings, City Council meetings are held in public, but are not meetings of the public. City Council meetings are the only time the City Council members have to discuss, deliberate and decide upon City matters. In an effort to conduct orderly and efficient meetings, the Mayor kindly requests your cooperation and compliance with the following guidelines per the policy adopted on December 21, 2015 and ratified on January 23, 2017, April 1, 2019, and again on March 16, 2020.

1. Please be respectful of each other, Council members, city staff, and the public.
2. Please raise your hand to be recognized by the Mayor. Once recognized, please state your name and address or affiliation.
3. Please address only the Mayor and not members of the public, staff, or presenters.
4. Please abide by any time limits. Time limits will be used to ensure everyone is heard and that there is sufficient time for the Council to complete their agenda within a reasonable timeframe.
5. The Mayor will make a reasonable effort to allow everyone to speak once before speakers address the Council a second time per the limits adopted on March 16, 2020.
6. Once public comment has been heard, discussion will be limited to the City Council members.
7. Please do not interrupt or mock other speakers or otherwise exhibit disruptive behavior during the City Council meeting.
8. Please do not repeat the points made by others, except to indicate agreement or disagreement with other views.
9. Please use the hallway for side conversation. It is difficult to hear speaker remarks when side conversations are occurring in the Council Chamber.
10. Presentations to the Council are not open to public comment. However, per the policy adopted on December 21, 2015, matters on the agenda requiring a vote are open to public comment immediately prior to the Council vote.
11. Individuals who do not abide by these procedures will be asked to leave the Council Chamber.

**DRAFT**

**Council Minutes**

**November 2, 2020**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held remotely on November 2, 2020. The Moderator was Mayor Paul Monette, Council Members participating were Council President Daniel Ross, Melissa Pettersson, Kevin Charboneau and John Wilson, others present were City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, PW Director Tom Bernier, Fire Chief John Harlamert, Rebecca Therrien, Mary Pat Goulding, Ben Copans, Andres Torizzo and members of the Press and Public.

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of October 19, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Ross, motion carried unanimously.

**Comments by the Public**

None

**MWA Grant Close Out for Marina Project Presentation and Letter of Support**

Andres Torizzo gave a presentation on the close out of the Marina Project Grant. Mr. Ross moved to continue the collaboration and ask the Mayor to sign the letter of support for the Newport Marine Services Drainage Stormwater Design Grant. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

**SWIP Public Meeting #2**

The council held the second Public Meeting on the Solid Waste Implementation Plan. Mr. Charboneau moved to approve the SWIP report. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

**Audit Reassignment**

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve the audit reassignments as presented. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

DRAFT

**New Business**

Mayor Monette commended the Recreation Committee on the Jack 'o 'Lantern display at Pomerleau Park.

Mayor Monette read a letter in support of the city's landscaping efforts from Janet Carter Selby.

**Old Business**

Mr. Johnson reminded everyone about the General Election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Next Meeting Date**

November 16, 2020

**Adjournment**

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 7:33 PM. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Attested \_\_\_\_\_ This \_\_\_\_\_ Day of November 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

City Manager..... (802) 334-5136  
City Clerk / Treasurer..... 334-2112  
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November 2, 2020

Agency of Natural Resources  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
One National Life Drive – Davis 2, Montpelier, VT 05620-3522

RE: Newport Marine Services Drainage Stormwater Treatment Design Grant #2019-ERP-D-2-08

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Newport provided a letter of support for the above captioned project in 2017 and is pleased to have been able to participate. As planned, the Director of Newport City Public Works, Tom Bernier, has worked with Memphremagog Watershed Association, Watershed Consulting Associates, and the affected landowners in developing this design proposal. We are pleased that all stakeholder interests have been incorporated into this design.

The City supports the installation of this project because of the environmental benefit of phosphorus and sediment reduction, and it will solve a chronic maintenance issue. The Director Public Works has reviewed and endorses the attached draft 10-year Operations & Maintenance Plan.

The City of Newport remains committed to working in partnership with the Department of Environmental Conservation and MWA to identify, design, and implement cost-effective water quality projects that help meet the water quality goals for Lake Memphremagog.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

  
Paul E. Monette, Mayor  
City of Newport

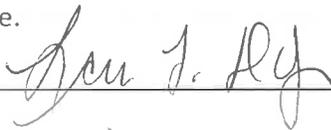
# Operation and Maintenance Agreement

For Newport Marine Services Drainage Stormwater Treatment Design  
Installed under the following agreement: 2019-ERP-D-2-08

This Operations and Maintenance Agreement, ("Agreement") is made and entered into this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2020, between the City of Newport (hereinafter referred to as the "Responsible Party") and the Department of Environmental Conservation, (hereinafter referred to as the "DEC").

1. The Responsible Party agrees to enter a contract (minimum of 10 years from construction) with the Landowner and to keep the signed agreement on file for the length of the contract period.
2. The Responsible Party agrees to inspect and maintain the above-mentioned project(s) or practice(s) at regular intervals, according to the attached Operation and Maintenance Plan.
3. The Responsible Party agrees to correct any maintenance issues or conduct needed repairs that are observed during inspections, such as the as-needed maintenance and repairs listed in the attached plan.
4. The Responsible Party agrees to maintain the practice outlined according to the attached plan for 10 years from the date the project installation and/or construction.
5. DEC staff may periodically visit the project site to inspect the condition of the installed practice(s). If the project is on private land, the grantee and responsible party will be notified by DEC staff at least 48 hours prior to any site visit. The responsible party agrees to facilitate site access for DEC staff or contractors during State of Vermont Business hours (8:00-4:30).
6. If a project or practice is found to be in need of maintenance or in a state of disrepair, DEC will conduct the following steps:
  - a. Notify the Responsible Party of the items that need to be corrected.
  - b. Provide the Responsible Party a reasonable schedule to correct the items in need of maintenance.
  - c. If the items cannot be corrected within the allotted time, require the Responsible Party to establish a schedule to complete the correction
  - d. If no adequate response or correction action has been taken within the allotted time, provide the Responsible Party a written warning that failure to meet all grant conditions could result in the Responsible Party being ineligible for future clean water grants.
7. The Responsible Party shall not be able to transfer or modify its responsibilities with respect to this agreement without the DEC's written prior consent.
8. Any delays in or failures of performance by a party under this Agreement shall not be considered a breach of this Agreement if caused by occurrences beyond the reasonable control of the party affected, including but not limited to: severe storms, floods or other natural events and sabotage. Any time for performance hereunder shall be extended by the time of delay caused by such occurrence.

Signature of Responsible Party:



Date:

November 2, 2020

# Operation and Maintenance Plan

For Newport Marine Services Drainage Stormwater Treatment Design installed under the following agreement: 2019-ERP-D-2-08.

The purpose of this Operation and Maintenance Plan and Agreement is to ensure that the projects and/or practices supported by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) continue to function properly throughout their useful lives and contribute to improving water quality conditions of Vermont's waterways.

Responsible Party Name(s):	The City of Newport
Responsible Party Phone:	( 802 ) 334-5136
Responsible Party Email:	laura.dolgin@newportvermont.org thomas.bernier@newportvermont.org
Property Address/description: (or attach site plan)	84 Farrant Street, Newport, Vermont 05855
Practice Latitude Longitude (center point in Decimal Degrees):	44.937833°N , -72.219018°W
BMP Construction Completion date:	Not yet completed
BMP Useful Life End Date (minimum of 10 years from construction):	30 years from future completion date.
BMP Type:	Gravel Wetland, Cascade Swirl Separator, Catch Basins.
Special Equipment Required:	Vector truck (for jetting and sump cleaning), Excavator to stabilize erosion, if present.
Frequency of Regular Inspections:	Inspect Catch Basins, Gravel Wetland, and outfall annually; Inspect Cascade Separator twice annually.

Regular Maintenance and Frequency: If engineer or designer had designed the project, engineer or designer shall complete the following. Include activities such as weeding, mowing, sediment and debris removal, inlet and/or outlet cleaning, and equipment maintenance per manufacturer.

Maintenance Item	Frequency
<b>Gravel Wetland:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inspect vegetation for dead or diseased plants; replant/reseed as necessary.</li> <li>- Inspect for sediment accumulation on plant surface. Remove sediment as necessary.</li> </ul>	1x annually
<b>Stormwater Outfall:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Check outfall for erosion and damage to pipe from wave action. Stabilize erosion with stone and armor pipe as necessary.</li> </ul>	1x annually
<b>Cascade Separator:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inspect sump for sediment accumulation. Clean with Vector truck when sediment reaches <i>maximum</i> 18" in depth.</li> <li>- Note: sediment may accumulate faster with application of road salt.</li> </ul>	2x annually
<b>Catch Basins:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inspect for sediment accumulation. Clean sumps with Vector truck when sediment reaches <i>maximum</i> 12" in depth.</li> </ul>	1x annually

As needed maintenance and repair: (e.g. replanting, major erosion or damage repair):

**Gravel Wetland:**

- Replant or reseed wetland plantings if annual inspection notes dead or diseased plants.
- If ponding persists for >24 hours, check outlet and underdrain for clogs via inspection port and use jetting to remove sediment.

**Stormwater Outfall:**

- Stabilize erosion with stone and replace end of pipe if damaged.

**Cascade Separators:**

- Clean sumps with Vactor truck when sediment reaches maximum 18" in depth.

**Catch Basins:**

- Clean sumps with Vactor truck when sediment reaches maximum 12" in depth.

To: City Council, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson  
From: Laura Dolgin, City Manager  
Date: November 13, 2020

Re: Rate & Fees for EV Car Charging Station

We are pleased to report the EV Charging station is now up and running. As a reminder, this is the result of a grant for an 'Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment" (EVSE) from the Vt. Dept of Housing and Community Development filed in April of 2019, as part of the RCDI grant. The total project cost was anticipated to be \$24,433. The grant award was for \$21,000.00, with the other costs coming from \$987.00 cash and the remainder from in-kind labor.

In preparation of hosting a ribbon cutting, the City Council is requested to approve the rates and fees structure for the station.

The 2019 Vermont transportation bill included an exception that allows EV charging hosts to charge by the kWh. Here's an excerpt from page 44 of the enacted bill with highlighting on this issue:

(7) Notwithstanding subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section, the Commission and Department shall not have jurisdiction over persons otherwise not regulated by the Commission that is engaged in the siting, construction, ownership, operation, or control of a facility that sells or supplies electricity to the public exclusively for charging a plug-in electric vehicle, as defined in 23 V.S.A. § 4(85). These persons may charge by the kWh for owned or operated electric vehicle supply equipment, as defined in 30 V.S.A. § 201, but shall not be treated as an electric distribution utility just because electric vehicle supply equipment charges by the kWh.

With this in mind and after working with David Roberts who is the Senior Consultant at Vt. Electric Initiative Corporation (VEIC), we make the following recommendation for the EV Car Charging Rates and Fees Schedule:

The rate for the Newport City EV Car charging station located in the municipal parking lot on the corner of Main St and Coventry St, **shall charge \$0.18/kwh and an additional \$1/hr after 4 hrs with a max of \$30/session (for the \$1/hr charge).**

This amount includes a 10% allowable expense for a processing fee charged by the network managing account known as ChargePoint to cover the city's expenses.

This recommendation may be updated from time to time as the electric rates fluctuate.

Recognition to the City of Newport's Programs Manager Becky Therrien, Public Works Director Tom Bernier, Foreman Robert Roberge, and of course NCIC's Mike Welch for making this project happen.



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State of Vermont  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Waste Management & Prevention Division  
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704

November 12, 2020

Laura Dolgin  
City Manager  
City of Newport  
222 Main St., Second Floor  
Newport, VT 05855

**RE: Approval of Newport Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP)**

Dear Laura,

The Newport City Solid Waste Implementation Plan adopted on November 2, 2020 is approved. The Agency finds the SWIP conforms to the State of Vermont Materials Management Plan adopted on November 19, 2019 and the requirements of 10 V.S.A Section 6604(a)(1) and 24 V.S.A. Section 2202a(c)(2).

If you have any questions regarding the implementation of this approved SWIP, please contact Alyssa Eiklor at [alyssa.eiklor@vermont.gov](mailto:alyssa.eiklor@vermont.gov) or 802-477-2097.

Thank you for your work to reduce the volume and toxicity of Vermont's waste as well as the State's other waste management priorities.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Schwer".

Chuck Schwer  
Director  
Waste Management and Prevention Division

Cc:  
Alyssa Eiklor, Solid Waste Program, VT DEC

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City Clerk/Treasurer 334-2112  
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City of Newport  
222 Main Street  
Newport, Vermont 05855

November 10, 2020

Mr. Dennis Fekert, Certification Section Chief  
Mr. Ben Gauthier, Environmental Analyst  
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources  
Solid Waste Management Program  
One National Life Drive, Davis Building – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704

Dear Mr. Fekert and Mr. Gauthier:

The City of Newport would like to provide the following comments regarding the proposed draft amended certifications for the Chittenden Solid Waste District's closed landfill and the proposed compost facilities. Applications # CH920-2020-11 & #CH940-2020-3.

The CSWD Materials Recycling Facility continues to process recyclables from Newport and the Northeast Kingdom. The recyclables generated by our residents are collected by local haulers who then regularly send them for processing at the CSWD MRF in Chittenden County. The truck trip to this facility amounts to some 140-150 round trip miles. Our city is committed to doing what it takes to protect the environment, whether it is the waters of Lake Memphremagog, or minimizing what ends up in the state's only landfill by sending our recyclable materials for remanufacturing.

We have been told by ANR officials that the state's mandatory recycling laws are designed to protect the environment by reducing waste associated with disposal of recyclable materials which in turn reduces the amount of material going into the landfill. This is supposed to allow the material to be remanufactured into new products which is a benefit that not only saves on landfill space but, as importantly, reduces the amount of atmospheric carbon. While at times questions have been raised about the impact of trucking these materials all the way to the CSWD MRF, we trusted that in the end that the right thing was being done by CSWD with the vigilant oversight of ANR.

Now we come to find that in actuality, the glass sent to the CSWD facility for recycling was instead being dumped and has been dumped for years without disclosure to us or anyone else. We find that ANR, the Agency we placed our faith in to make sure our environmental standards are being met, was not checking to ensure CSWD was complying with the law, but simply trusting that they were doing what was required.

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City of Newport  
222 Main Street  
Newport, Vermont 05855

Mr. Dennis Fekert, Certification Section Chief

Mr. Ben Gauthier, Environmental Analyst

Page 2

November 10, 2020

As we now know from the information provided to us and from the documents related to the 2 draft permits that were the subject of your public hearing on October 29<sup>th</sup>, CSWD dumped glass into a landfill that was closed to further solid waste disposal. CSWD additionally dumped glass at a number of other sites, one of which CSWD now seeks to have permitted as a compost facility. Rather than have CSWD remove this glass, which we have been informed does not meet ANR standards due to present contamination, the draft certification amendments propose to paper over these transgressions.

The City of Newport, needless to say, finds what has been uncovered to be very disturbing and finds the behavior of CSWD, with a decade or more of illegal dumping of glass that Vermonters sent for recycling, to be a breach of trust. Rather than reward CSWD by granting them after the fact permits for these illegal practices, we request that ANR prosecute CSWD in court, seeking restitution for the Vermont citizens that have been bamboozled in this terrible scheme dressed up as something green.

As has been requested by the NEK Solid Waste Management District, we ask that ANR in addition immediately halt this permitting process and deny these two draft certification amendments, which only serve to cover up CSWD's misdeeds. To move ahead along the current path will devastate the public's trust in Vermont's recycling laws and in our state's ability to hold environmental scoff-laws fully accountable.

Sincerely,

Paul L. Monette, Mayor  
City of Newport

Cc: City Council  
City Clerk & Treasurer  
City Manager

## **Title: 2021 Biennial Report on Solid Waste**

**Year: 2021**

**Prime Contact: Josh Kelly**

**Date Reported: 11/4/2020**

**Committee: House & Senate Committees  
on Natural Resources**

**Authorizing Law #: 1987 Act  
78; 2019 Act 69**

**Section #: codified at 10 V.S.A. §6604(b);  
§113**

### **Executive Summary**

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Since the [2019 Biennial Solid Waste Report](#), solid waste managers and ANR have been implementing the final phases of the Universal Recycling (UR) law that banned [food scraps from disposal on July 1, 2020](#). Vermont has seen a 10% increase in recycling since 2014 and a surge in food scrap diversion in response to the July 1<sup>st</sup> ban, however, the amount of waste Vermonters generate continues to increase with per capita waste disposal up 16% since 2012. While ANR anticipates the food scrap ban and the July 1, 2020 [Single Use Products law](#) will help reduce waste, there's certainly more work that needs to be done. Since the last Biennial Report, ANR has also implemented an on-line hauler permit system and revised the Solid Waste Rules to accommodate new management techniques for a changing waste stream. ANR will continue its focus on reducing waste and its toxicity, improving recycling, building a culture of reducing food waste and composting the scraps, and improving the Bottle Bill, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) management, and the functioning of our Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws.

### **Key Takeaways**

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**The Universal Recycling (UR) law is working:**

Vermonters [recycle 72% of mandated recyclables](#), which is a great statewide recovery rate. Facilities report that food scrap collection and composting have increased since the ban. The number of licensed food scrap haulers has more than doubled since 2012. ANR will continue implementing UR with sensitivity to restaurants impacted by COVID-19.

**The Single-Use Products law** is helping Vermont reduce reliance on single-use plastics and products. ANR recommends consideration of the [SUP Working Group recommendations](#).

**Bottle Bill:** Vermonters redeem nearly 75% of eligible containers. ANR recommends that the bottle bill handling fee be increased from 4¢ to 5¢ for non-commingled brands.

**Batteries:** Vermont leads the nation in per capita battery recycling, but 5 times more batteries are disposed than recycled, some posing a fire hazard to workers and facilities. ANR recommends expanding the limited battery disposal ban to include all battery types.

**Vermont's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs** continue to lead the nation in per capita recycling of electronics; paint; batteries; and mercury products. View data table [here](#).

## Discussion

- **Vermont Materials Management Plan (MMP):** The current [MMP](#) was adopted in 2019 and Solid Waste Management Entities are adopting new five-year Solid Waste Implementation Plans by the end of 2020. Goals of the 2019 MMP include a 10% decrease in waste generation and a continued push to achieve a 50% recycling/composting rate goal by 2025.
- **Universal Recycling Law (Act 148, 2012):** While diversion rates have remained steady at ~35% over the last 5 years (See the [2018 Diversion and Disposal Report](#) for full data), food scrap collection and composting have increased considerably since the full landfill ban on food scraps went into effect on July 1, 2020. Food scrap management is expected to continue to rise as new services and capacity are built to meet new market demand. In 2019, ANR awarded 4 grants, totaling \$724,357, for food waste management infrastructure, and ANR ran a 2020 public educational campaign, [Let's Scrap Food Waste](#), to raise awareness about the food scrap ban.
- **Single-Use Products (SUP) Law (Act 69 § 113, 2019):** With the start of the SUP law on July 1, 2020, Vermont is transitioning away from plastic bags, straws, stirrers, and foam food and beverage containers. To implement this law ANR has given webinars, conducted social media outreach, sent information to stakeholders, and created a [web page](#) with fact sheets, an informational video, and downloadable signs. Read the SUP Working Group [Final Report](#).
- **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):** Solid Waste Management Entities have offered HHW collection services for the past 20-30 years. To increase convenience, in 2020, ANR awarded 5 grants, totaling \$729,112, for HHW collection facilities.
- **Bottle Bill:** Beginning October 1, 2019, all unclaimed beverage container deposits (except liquor) must be remitted to the Tax Dept. for the Clean Water Fund. To date, \$2,411,182 in unclaimed deposits has been directed to the Fund. From October 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, 74% of non-liquor containers sold in Vermont were redeemed.
- **EPR Program Success:** Thanks to solid waste managers and stewardship organizations, “special recycling” increased 14% for batteries and 4% for paint in 2019. View data table [here](#).
- **Landfills: As required by Act 69 of 2019 this biennial report includes a study—found [here](#)—on issues related to opening a second landfill in the State.** As the report describes, siting additional landfill(s) could decrease greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste transportation to the Coventry landfill. However, significant barriers exist to new landfill construction, including community opposition, state and local permitting constraints, limitations on control of waste flow, and obtaining the necessary economy of scale to make a landfill project economically viable. Efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle our waste decrease the need for additional landfill capacity and have a greater impact on greenhouse gas emission reductions.



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

November 9, 2020

Kimberly Walker  
Retail Operations Director  
Vermont Department of Liquor & Lottery  
Division of Liquor Control  
13 Green Mountain Drive  
Montpelier, VT 05602

(802) 828-4923  
[Kimberly.Walker@vermont.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Walker@vermont.gov)

Dear Director Walker:

We are writing to you concerning the Division's consideration of applications for a new retail liquor agency serving Newport City and the surrounding area.

As you are no doubt aware, many rural areas of Vermont have experienced prolonged economic challenges over the past several years and among them, the Northeast Kingdom has borne more than its share of hardship. The economic fallout from the EB-5 scandals, as well as the border closing with Canada and the impacts of COVID-19, continue to drag on the regional economy. And in Newport City, the economic hub of the region, the failure to develop the Renaissance Block in the center of the downtown district has left a physical and psychological void in the heart of the city.

Notwithstanding these challenges, however, the many dedicated businesses, nonprofits, and government partners in our region continue to make strategic and courageous investments to promote economic development and reinvigorate our communities.

Against this backdrop, we wish to strongly support the application of Joe Warrantz to open a new retail liquor agency located in downtown Newport City. We recognize that all applicants must demonstrate their qualifications and capacity to operate in full compliance with Vermont law and the Division's rules

and procedures. Furthermore, we have complete confidence in the Division's rigorous application process.

Assuming that Mr. Warrantz's proposal meets or exceeds the Division's requirements, we strongly hope that the Division will recognize the significant economic development benefits that would accrue to Newport's downtown district from authorizing an 802 Spirits location in the heart of the city. Adding this new business would contribute significantly to the progress of revitalizing downtown Newport and would mark another step forward in achieving the critical mass that is necessary to sustain a vibrant downtown.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of any service or provide additional information. On behalf of the citizens of our districts and the General Assembly, thank you for the important work you do for the State of Vermont.

Sincerely,

/s/

Rep. Michael Marcotte, Orleans-2

Rep. Woodman Page, Orleans-2

Sen. Robert Starr, Essex-Orleans District

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City of Newport  
222 Main Street  
Newport, Vermont 05855

November 6, 2020

Dept of Liquor & Lottery  
Division of Liquor Control  
13 Green Mountain Drive  
Montpelier, Vt. 05602

Re: Joe Warrantz Application Liquor Agency Application

To Whom it May Concern:

We understand that Mr. Joe Warrantz has submitted an application for a liquor store on Main St. in Newport City. We are optimistic about his proposal. Our Main St. needs retail business and Mr. Warrantz already owns the building. His proposal meets our form based code zoning requirements.

We are writing this letter in the hopes that you will recognize his proposal as being worthy of your consideration. The City experienced a major disappointment when the Main St. Development originally proposed by Ariel Quiros failed in 2016 as a result of the EB-5 scandal. We are in recovery & rehabilitation mode and the empty Main St. Block still remains. We are pleased that our downtown is being viewed as an appealing place to do business as evidenced by Mr. Warrantz application.

We understand that the City Council is by default the Liquor Control Board for the City. Please view this letter as supporting economic development in the City Downtown rather than unduly influencing any ethical responsibilities the Liquor Control Board holds.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul L. Monette, Mayor  
City of Newport

Cc: City Council  
City Clerk & Treasurer  
City Manager