

Council Minutes

March 1, 2021

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held remotely. Participating in the meeting were Mayor Paul Monette, Council Members Melissa Pettersson, Kevin Charboneau and John Wilson, Wayne Elliott and Michael Mainer from Aldrich & Elliott, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, Tom Bernier PW Director, Fire Chief John Harlamert, Police Chief Travis Bingham, Recreation Director Jessica Booth, Zoning Admin. Erik Voegtlin, Becky Therrien, Stacey Therrien, Robyn Churchill, and members of the Press and Public.

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

Public Hearing on Eastside Water Tower Bond Vote

Wayne Elliott gave a power point presentation on the proposed Water Tower, Reservoir Cover & Liner, and the Water Meter installation. This is Article 5 on the March 2, 2021 ballot.

Public Informational Meeting on the Articles for the Annual Meeting

No questions

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of February 8, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Comments by the Public

Ms. Bjurling commented on the link to the remote Council Meetings.

Planning Commission Member Appointment

Mr. Wilson moved to appoint Amanda Chaput to the Planning Commission to finish the term of Dan Pickering which ends in 2021. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Planning Commission Resignation

Ms. Pettersson moved to accept the resignation of Mario Oldacre from the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Downtown Transportation Grant Application (attached)

Ms. Pettersson moved to adopt the grant application as written. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Executive Session, Appointment or Employment or Evaluation of a Public Officer or employee 1 VSA 313(4)

Ms. Pettersson moved to enter Executive session. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

In open session Ms. Pettersson moved that due to internal restructuring, the Public Works Director, Tom Bernier, will be paid \$41.73 per hour effective January 25, 2021; the Nonunion Working Foreman, Robert Roberge, will be paid \$29.65 an hour effective January 25, 2021, and the Recreation Director, Jessica Booth, will be paid \$22.44 per hour effective with the Monday, March 8, 2021 pay period. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried. Ms. Pettersson, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Charboneau voting in favor.

New Business

Mayor Monette acknowledged and thanked the Recreation Department for the beautiful Fireworks held Sunday, February 28, 2021, and the Public Works Department & Recreation department for the sledding hill at Prouty beach, which has been a terrific success. He also acknowledged the skating rink has been wildly popular and it has been fun to watch the community enjoy these assets.

Ms. Pettersson recognized that Dan Ross was absent from this evening's meeting and given that he is not running for re-election, she appreciated him for his service to the City over the past few years, acknowledging it has been a pleasure working with him. All council members agreed.

Mr. Wilson noted this is pothole season.

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Old Business

Mr. Wilson confirmed the process for signing the Downtown Grant Resolution after the Planning commission presumably endorses the project, and Mr. Charboneau confirmed the remote log-in details for Article 17, occurring at 8:00 PM on March 2, 2021.

Next Meeting Date

March 15, 2021

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 9:10 PM. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried.

Attested _____ this _____ day of _____ 2021.

_____ Mayor