

Council Minutes

June 20, 2022

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, June 20, 2022, in the council room in the Newport Municipal building. Present were Council President John Wilson presiding, council members Melissa Pettersson, Chris Vachon, Kevin Charboneau by phone, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, PW Director Tom Bernier, Recreation Director Mike Brown, Fire Chief John Harlamert, Rebecca Therrien by phone. Mayor Paul Monette was absent.

Council President Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vachon moved to approve the minutes of June 6, 2022. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried.

Comments by the Public

Pam Ladds commented on the council meeting on Juneteenth. Mr. Wilson noted that next time the meeting could be moved to another day.

Authorization to use ARPA funding for the Reservoir Cover and Liner replacement (attached)

Ms. Pettersson moved to authorize the use of ARPA funds for the replacement of the Reservoir Cover and liner. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried.

New Business

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve a vendors permit for Peter Kellaway (The Runaway Tomato). Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried.

Ms. Pettersson asked about the cost of the police department locker room. Ms. Dolgin stated that it is currently around \$230,000 and it is our goal to absorb the cost into this years budget which would be a terrific advantage to the taxpayer.

Old Business

Mr. Wilson thanked public works for line striping West Main st.

Ms. Dolgin noted that the Community summit was a success and thanked Chris Roy for his accurate article following up on the summit.

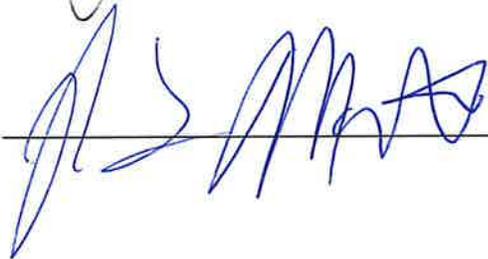
Next Meeting Date

July 11, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

Adjourn

Mr. Vachon moved to adjourn at 6:51 PM. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried.

Attested  This 11th Day of July 2022

 Mayor

To: Water Commissioners/City Council

cc City Clerk & Treasurer James Johnson

From: Laura Dolgin, City Manager & Tom Bernier, Director of Public Works *T.B.*

Date: June 20, 2022

Re: Seeking Authorization to use ARPA Funding for the Reservoir Cover & Liner

Water Commissioners/City Council are well aware of the need to replace the liner and the cover for the reservoir, as this has been an identified issue since 2014 upon an inspection by the State Drinking Water Division, with the anticipated end of life being 2019. The City's primary water storage is the reservoir. The liner and cover protect the City's drinking water from contamination, but have reached the end of their useful life span.

The Water Tower bond vote on March 2, 2021 stated in part, approval for a general obligation bond for the City of Newport in an amount not to exceed Four Million Nine Hundred Eight-Five Thousand Dollars (\$4,985,000), subject to available state and federal reductions and other financial assistance to be issued for the purpose of acquiring land and easements, constructing a water storage tank, replacement of the Palin Hill Reservoir Liner and floating cover, installation of water service connections, with functionally related storage, pumping and transmission, appurtenances and additions.

The estimated cost of the cover and liner replacement at the time of the vote was \$406,000.00. This portion of the Water Tower Project is ready to go to bid.

On Friday, June 17, 2022, the city's engineering firm, Aldrich and Elliott, provided an updated replacement amount due to the increased costs in goods and services and supply chain issues, which is good through September 2022. The Palin Hill Reservoir Liner/Cover updated construction cost estimate is \$560,000.

Notes:

- This includes a 15% contingency.
- It includes both the liner and cover. It sounds like the liner is probably in acceptable condition, so we recommend setting the liner as a bid alternate that would only be selected if the pricing is favorable. The Permit-to-Construct application noted that this is how it might be handled, so shouldn't be a surprise to the State, and will provide more flexibility, which is a very good thing to have these days.
- It includes removal/disposal costs for the existing liner/cover.

Since the bond vote, the City has received \$636,926.71 in ARPA funding and is expecting to receive another \$636,926.71 in October of 2022. The purpose of ARPA funds are many, including making investment in water. This project is an eligible use for these funds and can be used to offset the costs of the total project. The successful bond vote serves as community endorsement.

Should the water commissioners/council see fit, a vote to authorize using a portion of the ARPA funds, as outlined, for this purpose is requested.