

Special Council Meeting Minutes

March 31, 2025

A duly warned Special Meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, March 31, 2025 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Rick Ufford-Chase, council members Carter Finegan, Kevin Charboneau, John Monette, Andrew Touchette, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, DPW Director Tom Bernier, Rec Director Mike Brown, members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Ufford-Chase called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Mr. Monette moved to add the purchase of a trailer for public works to the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Mr. Charboneau moved the add permits for Tobacco and Tobacco Substitute sales to the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Touchette moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried. Mr. Monette abstained.

Resignation from Planning Commission by John Monette, establishing odd number of positions on the Planning Commission. (Attached)

Ms. Finegan moved to accept the resignation of John Monette from the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Touchette, motion carried.

Mr. Monette moved to return to five members on the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Resignation from the Development Review Board by Andrew Touchette. (Attached)

Ms. Finegan moved to accept the resignation of Andrew Touchette from the DRB. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

Public Works Trailer Purchase (Attached)

Mr. Touchette moved to approve the purchase of a 2025 12-Ton Full Tilt Trailer from Boyd Truck Center in the amount of \$24,900. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

Approval for Recreation Department Summer Staff, Executive Session per 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(3)

Mr. Touchette moved to enter executive session to discuss Rec. Dept. summer staff. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

No action.

Mr. Touchette moved to hire the nine applicants who applied. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Initial Reports from Special Task Forces

Mr. Monette gave a report on the initial meeting of the Water/Sewer Task Force.

Ms. Finegan gave a report on the initial meeting of the Financial Reporting and Fiscal Practices Task Force.

Applications for Parade Permits

Mr. Monette moved to approve parade permit applications Memorial Day, Pride Parade, Kingdom Swim Parade, and Light up the Night Parade. Seconded by Mr. Touchette, motion carried.

Approve Dates Requested for Coin Drops (Attached)

Mr. Monette moved to approve the seven requests for coin drops. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Appointment of Mayor as Representative to NVDA and NVEDD

Mr. Touchette moved to appoint Mayor Ufford-Chase representative to NVDA and NVEDD. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

Public Comment

Ann Chiarello commented on the Water/Sewer budget

New Business

Ms. Finegan noted that volunteers are needed to reopen the NEKCA Thrift Store.

Old Business

Mayor Ufford-Chase noted that tomorrow Mr. Touchette, Mr. LaForce, Mr. Gray, and the Mayor would be meeting with the Governor to discuss development plans for Newport.

Mr. Johnson noted that Dog Licenses are due April 1st and that petitions have been received from Carl King, John Monette, and Adam Ortiz to run for the vacant council seat on May 6, 2025.

Set the Next Meeting Date

Mr. Monette moved to set the next meeting for April 7, 2025 with Chris Vachon available to set up the Tech equipment. Seconded by Mr. Touchette, motion carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 6:45 pm. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

Attested _____ This _____ Day of _____ 2025

_____, Mayor