

## **Council Minutes**

**June 2, 2025**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, June 2, 2025 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Rick Ufford–Chase, Council President Kevin Charboneau, council members Carter Finegan, John Monette, Andrew Touchette, Tom Bernier, Jack Roberge, Kevin LaCoss, Andrew Carbine, members of the Press and Public.

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

### **Additions /Deletions**

None

### **Consent Agenda Minutes, Warrants, Licenses and Permits**

Mr. Charboneau moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

### **Task Force Reports**

Mr. Charboneau reported that the Housing Task force will have its first meeting on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Monette reported on the S/W, they are talking about the metering issue.

Ms. Finegan reported on the Financial Reporting and Fiscal Practices Task force. They are working on the cash flow issue.

Chip Stearns from NEMRC updated the council on the issue and his recommendations (attached).

Mr. Charboneau moved that the City council instruct the city Treasurer not to fund any FY 24-25 commitments listed in the Restricted, Committed, Assigned find Balances spreadsheet as presented and further instruct the City treasurer not to fund the following FY 24-25 budgeted amounts from Sewer and Water budgets in order to mitigate the cash deficits each fund is carrying.

Sewer 8-50-95.63 Vactor Sinking Fund \$50,000

Water 9-50-95.60 Vactor Sinking Fund \$50,000

Water 9-50-95.85 Sias Ave Sinking Fund \$100,000

Water 9-50-95.89 WTF Replacement Fund \$30,000

Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

Mr. LaCoss and Mr. Carbine asked the council to consider a Task Force to create a five year plan for the Fire department Mr. Charboneau to form a task force to create a five year plan for the Fire Department. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

### **Review Dental and Vision Insurance Packages**

Mr. Roberge reviewed the Dental and Vision Insurance plans with the council. There are now three tiers to each plan, Single, Two person and family.

### **Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP)**

Ms. Finegan gave a power point presentation regarding the MERP award to make City-owned buildings more energy efficient

### **Brainstorm on Resources, Information and Presentations the Council would like to Have Available in July as we Review the Personnel Policy**

Copy of each policy (three versions), contact VLCT for best practices, and compare policies from other towns.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Johnson commented on an article in the May 22, 2025 issue of the Newport Daily Express.

Ms. Finegan mentioned Public works being everywhere and the painting of the cross walks.

### **New Business**

Mr. Touchette mentioned the Police Departments new graduate from the Police Academy.

### **Old Business**

Mayor Ufford-Chase thanked Ms. Finegan and Mr. Monette for standing in for him at several events last week.

### **Next Meeting Date**

Mr. Touchette moved to set the next meeting for Monday, June 16, 2025. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

Attested \_\_\_\_\_ This, \_\_\_\_\_ Day of June 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor