

Special Council Meeting

December 22, 2025

A duly warned Special Meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, December 22, 2025 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Rick Ufford-Chase, Council President Kevin Charboneau on Line, Carter Finnegan on line, John Monette, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, Kari Schulze Finance and Office Administrator on line, Attorney Beriah Smith, members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Ufford-Chase called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Additions/Deletions

Mayor Ufford-Chase deleted item number 4

Consent Agenda, Minutes of 12/15/25, AP Warrants of 12/19/25, PR Warrants, Liquor Licenses

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

Review of finances

Deleted

Resolution re: Invitation from Town of Stanstead, QC Regarding Action to Protect Lac Memphremagog

The council needed more background on the issue. Ms. Finegan will investigate the issue further. Mr. Monette moved to table the item. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Executive Session Under 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)(F) to discuss Confidential Attorney-Client Communications for the Purpose of Rendering Legal Services to the City Regarding Recommendations on the Charter Revisions

Mr. Monette moved that premature public knowledge of the City's attorney-client communications regarding the Charter revisions would place the council at a disadvantage by disclosing the City's privileged attorney-client communications. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Mr. Monette moved to enter into executive session to discuss proposed Charter revision per 1 V.S.A. 313(a) (1) (F) and invite the City Clerk/Treasurer and City Attorney into executive session. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

Mr. Monette moved to come out of executive session. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.
No action.

Charter Revisions and a Decision on Whether to Move Forward with a Public Hearing on January 5, 2026

The council discussed the proposed Charter revisions and took questions and comments and recommendations from the public.

Ms. Finegan moved to empower the Mayor to do his level best to create a new draft reflecting as fully as possible all the comments/conversations we've had tonight and distribute the draft as soon as humanly possible in order for the community and voters to have a clean version on which to reflect. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

Public Comment

Jennifer Hopkins commented on the list of city grants

New Business

None

Old Business

None

Next Meeting Date

Mr. Monette moved to set the next meeting for January 5, 2026. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 9:26pm. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

Attested James Johnson This 28th Day of January, 2026

[Signature] Mayor