

Council Minutes

March 2, 2026

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, March 2, 2026 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Rick Ufford-chase, Council President Kevin Charboneau, John Monette, Andrew Touchette, Carter Finegan, Office Administrator Kari Schulze, City Clerk/ Treasurer James Johnson, Pw Director Tom Bernier, Rep. Woodman Page, members of the Press and Public.

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

Additions/Deletions

Mr. Touchette moved to add Mr. Page to the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Monette, motion carried.

Consent Agenda, Minutes of 2/23/26, AP Warrants: 2/20/26, 2/23/26, 2/278/26, Licenses, R.L. Valley

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

Montpelier Update

Rep. Woodman Page updated the council on what is happening in Montpelier.

Approval to Move Forward with Public Sculpture with Mike Stanley (attached)

Mike Stanley gave a presentation to the council on sculptures, one of which would be placed in Gardner Park. The project would be funded by a grant from the Vermont Arts council. Ms. Finegan moved to approve submitting the grant proposal. Seconded by Mr. Touchette, motion carried.

Certificate of Mileage

Mr. Monette moved to approve the Mileage Certificate ending February 10, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Q&A Regarding Articles to be Voted on by Australian Ballot: town Meeting March 3, 2026

Questions and comments were taken on the Charter, AI, Credit Cards, Deficit, Depreciation, Debt service, Reserve funds and Appropriations.

Task Force Reports

Water/Sewer, no report

Financial Reporting, no report

Housing Insecurity, Training for volunteers at the warming shelter on Saturday and Sunday

Fire Department Strategic Planning, no report

Public Comment

None

New Business

None

Old Business

The Council and members of the public thanked Mr. Charboneau who is not running for reelection, for his eight years of service and dedication to the City of Newport.

Next Meeting dates

Mr. Monette moved to set the next meeting dates: Annual Meeting March 3, 2026 at 8PM and a Special Meeting on March 9, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Touchette, motion carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 7:27 pm. Seconded by Ms. Finegan, motion carried.

Attested James Johnson This 9th Day of March 2026

[Signature] Mayor

To: Newport City Council

From: Newport Downtown Development

Re: Possible Sculpture Project NDD is considering

Date: 2/27/26

Council Members,

Newport Downtown Development was approached by Mike Stanley, a sculptor who lives in North Troy, to ask whether we would like to pursue a possible Animating Infrastructure Grant Proposal to the Vermont Arts Council.

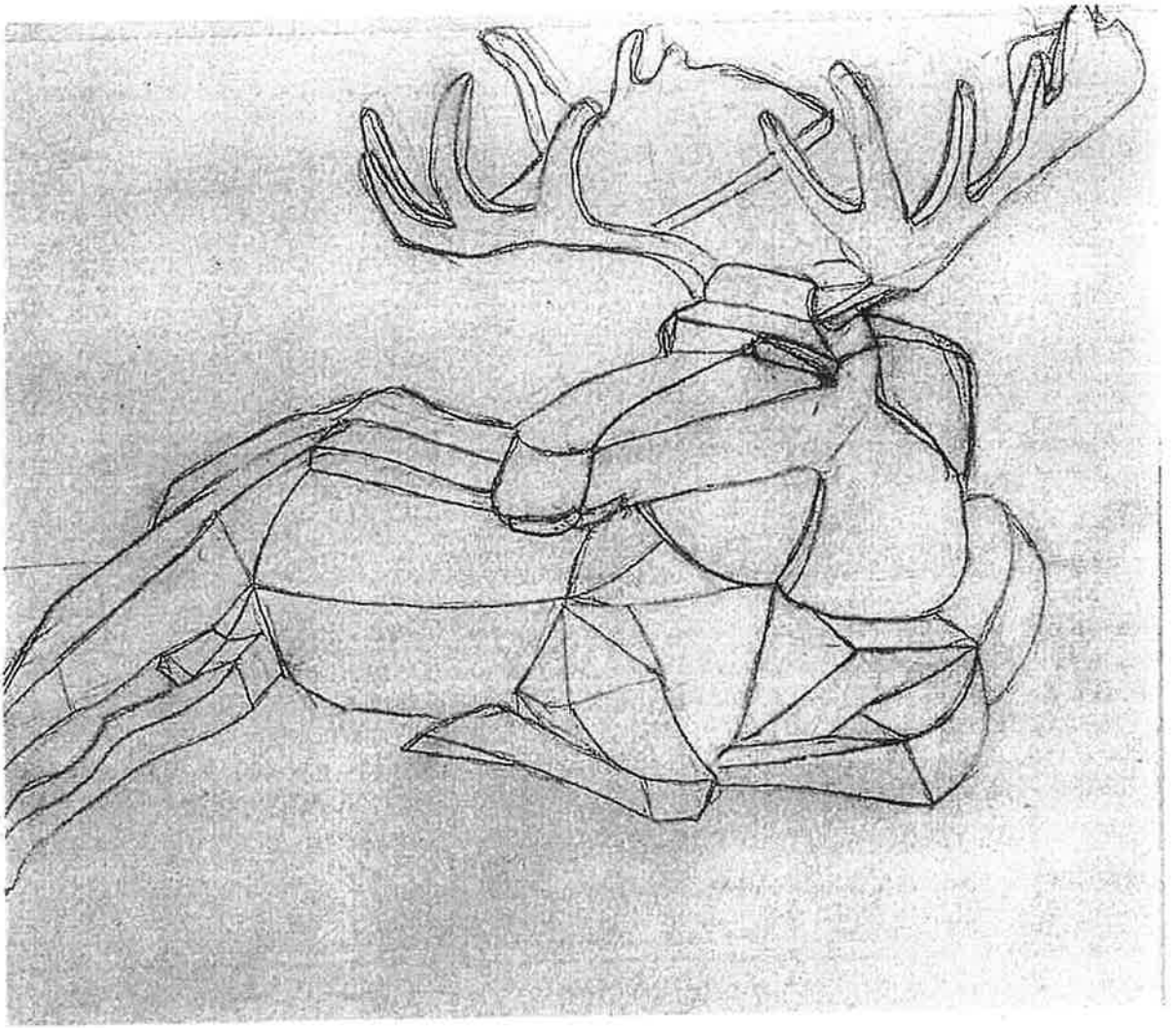
If the grant is awarded, it would come to NDD, and NDD would then administer the grant. Mike's plan is to pursue the creation of 3 sculptures (see concept drawings). We have not yet discussed placement.

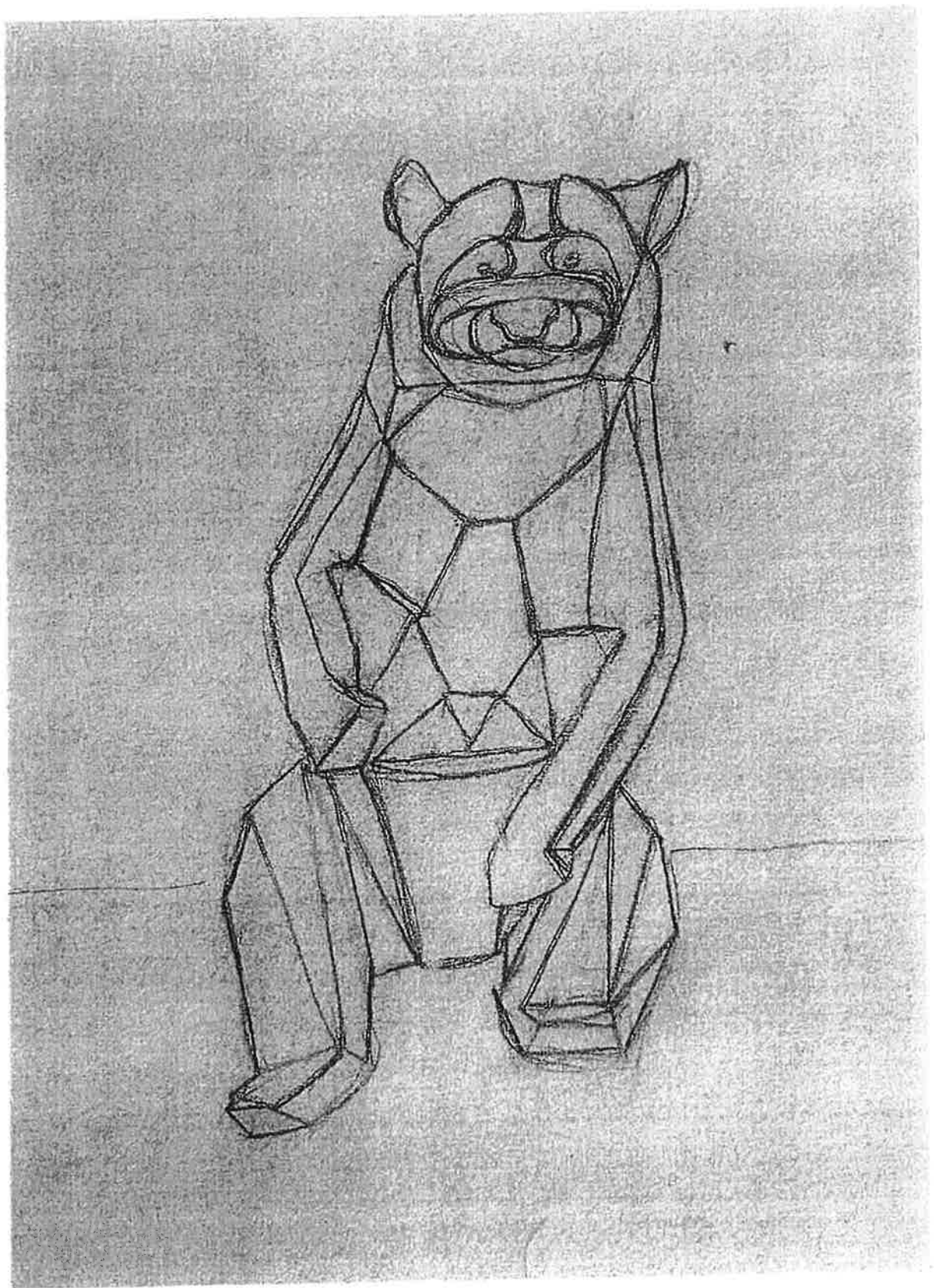
The NDD board met on Monday the 23rd of February and voted unanimously to pursue the project. We wanted to share the designs with City Council to make sure that there is general agreement that this is a plan that makes sense for the City.

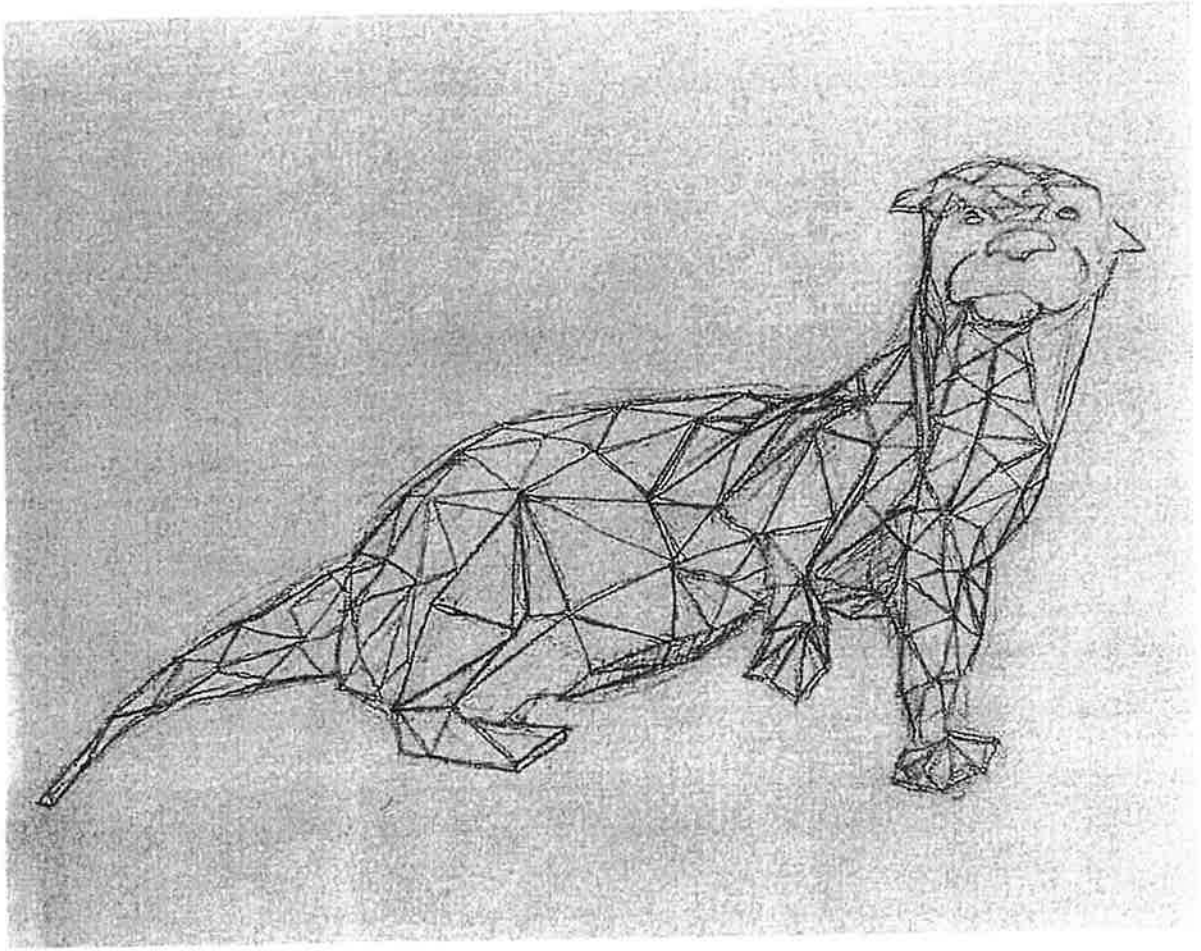
With Council's approval, we will move to submit a letter of interest by the deadline on April 9th. If invited to apply, there will be a more detailed proposal later in the spring.

NDD will manage the grant and will not require any financial support from the City.

Rick (wearing my "director of NDD" hat)







District 9
 Certcode 1015-0

**CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE
 YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

Fill out form, make and file a copy with the Town Clerk, and submit the Mileage Certificate on or before February 20, 2026 to: Vermont Agency of Transportation, Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Mapping Section via email to: aot.mileagecertificates@vermont.gov or if necessary via mail to: VTrans PPAID - Mapping Section, 219 North Main Street, Barre VT 05641.

We, the members of the legislative body of **NEWPORT CITY** in **ORLEANS** County on an oath state that the mileage of highways, according to Vermont Statutes Annotated, Title 19, Section 305, added 1985, is as follows:

PART I - CHANGES TOTALS - Please fill in and calculate totals.

Town Highways	Previous Mileage	Added Mileage	Subtracted Mileage	Total	Scenic Highways
Class 1	6.637			6.637	0.000
Class 2	7.920	.078		7.998	0.000
Class 3	21.67		.02	21.65	0.000
State Highway	1.352			1.352	0.000
Total	37.579			37.637	0.000
* Class 1 Lane	0.296				
* Class 4	0.01				0.000
* Legal Trail	0.00				

* Mileage for Class 1 Lane, Class 4, and Legal Trail classifications are NOT included in total.


PART II - INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES SHOWN ABOVE.

- NEW HIGHWAYS:** Please attach Selectmen's "Certificate of Completion and Opening".
- DISCONTINUED:** Please attach SIGNED copy of proceedings (minutes of meeting).
- RECLASSIFIED/REMEASURED:** Please attach SIGNED copy of proceedings (minutes of meeting).
 .02 mi CL3 TH-150 (Industrial Dr.) designated not up to standard (NUTS)
 .078 mi CL2 TH-11 (Railroad Sq.) Previously unmapped - Remasured
- SCENIC HIGHWAYS:** Please attach a copy of order designating/discontinuing Scenic Highways.

IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES RECORDED THIS YEAR: Place an X in the box and sign below.

PART III - SIGNATURES - PLEASE SIGN.

Signatures of Selectmen/ Aldermen/ Trustees:


 Signature of T/C/V Clerk: James Johnson Date Filed: 3/2/2026

Please sign ORIGINAL and return it for Transportation signature.

AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION APPROVAL: Signed copy will be returned to T/C/V Clerk.

APPROVED:

Representative, Agency of Transportation

DATE: