

## **Council Minutes**

**February 6, 2023**

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City Council was held on Monday, February 6, 2023 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Paul Monette, Council President John Wilson, Council Members Melissa Pettersson, Kevin Charboneau, and Chris Vachon, City Manager Laura Dolgin, City Clerk/Treasurer James D. Johnson, Public Works Director Tom Bernier, Zoning Administrator Frank Cheney III, Police Chief Travis Bingham, Recreation Director Michael Brown, Fire Chief John Harlamert, Program Administrator Rebecca Therrien, Newport Elementary School Principal Aaron Larsen, and members of the Press and Public.

Mayor Monette called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the minutes of January 23, 2023. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vachon moved to approve the minutes of January 30, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pettersson moved to approve the minutes of January 31, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried unanimously.

### **Comments by the Public**

Sue Watson commented on the Rules of Procedure.

Pam Ladds commented on the Sewer/Water Budget.

Anne Chiarello commented on the proposed 2023-24 budget.

### **Newport Elementary School Presentation**

Principal Aaron Larsen gave an update on the proposed elementary school budget and described past and present school activities. Mr. Larsen noted that the public is welcome to attend the school's informational hearing on March 1, 2023.

### **Conversion of 95 Main St.**

Frank Ricardi owner of LAGO's gave an update on the proposed conversion of the second floor of 95 Main St. into housing.

### **2023 Coin Drops**

Mr. Wilson moved to approve the 2023 Coin Drops. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

### **2023 Parade Requests**

The city received five parade requests. The City only funds four requests per year. Mr. White withdrew his request for funding but would still hold a parade. Mr. Vachon moved to approve 2023 parade requests. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried unanimously.

### **Certificate of Highway Mileage**

Mr. Charboneau moved to approve the Certificate of Highway Mileage. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business**

Mr. Johnson presented liquor and tobacco licenses for approval. Mr. Charboneau moved to approve liquor and tobacco licenses for Caledonia Spirits, Cumberland farms, and NEK Vapor. Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilson noted the Vietnam Veterans Day, March 29, 2023. A pinning ceremony will be held in Newport this year.

### **Old Business**

Mayor mentioned the Purple Heart signs.

### **Next Meeting Date**

February 27, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

**Executive Session to Discuss Labor Relations 1 VSA 313(a)(1)**

Mr. Vachon moved that making a specific finding that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person(s) involved at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vachon moved to enter executive session to discuss labor relations 1 VSA 313(a)(1). Seconded by Ms. Pettersson, motion carried unanimously.

No action.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 7:52 PM. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried unanimously.

Attested This 27<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2023

*James D. Johnson, City Clerk*

  
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Mayor

# MEMO

**To:** Newport City Council

**From:** Michael Brown, Director of Recreation

**Date:** February 3, 2023

**Re:** 2023 Parade Permits Requests & Policy

Five parade permit requests for 2023 have been received. The municipal budget supports and funds up to \$1000 for 4 seasonal requests. Any other approved parades above the 4 must be funded by the requester. Deviations from the parade route outside the standard course or who require additional support will be responsible for paying all expenses incurred after the \$1000 allowance. Parades hosted by City departments are given priority, followed by preference for parades that are scheduled by season (ideally one parade for each season). This does not include organized walks or processions that use the bike path or do not interrupt the flow of traffic beyond the cross walk areas. Requests are to be submitted between January 1 and January 31 of the year in which the parade is requested to be held.

Parades are defined as a well advertised, organized and coordinated procession of parade participants such as floats, animals, people, marching bands, performers, etc., and must have a registration process that accounts for the number of participants which is provided to the city 3 days prior to the event so that appropriate safety measures can be planned.

## Requested Permits:

- Memorial Day Parade to Gardner Park: 5/29/23  
City of Newport submitted on January 1, 2023
- NEK Pride Celebration Parade: 6/25  
NEK Rainbow Coalition submitted on January 1, 2023
- VT State Firefighter Association Convention Parade: 8/6/23  
City of Newport Fire Department submitted on January 3, 2023
- Light up the Night Parade: 12/2/23  
City of Newport submitted on January 1, 2023
- Kingdom Swim March: 7/28/23  
Kingdom Games/Phil White submitted January 27, 2023