

Council Minutes

July 1, 2024

A duly warned meeting of the Newport City council was held on July 1, 2024, in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Linda Sullivan, Council President Chris Vachon, Council Members Kevin Charboneau, Clark Curtis, Rick Ufford-Chase, City Manager Jonathan DeLaBruere, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, PW Director Tom Bernier, Police Chief Travis Bingham, Zoning Administrator Frank Cheney, City Attorney David Rugh, members of the Newport City School Board

Mayor Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Representative Woodman Page commented on the merger of NEK Communication Union District, NEK Broadband, and CVFiber. There will be a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 6:00 pm. This will be a hybrid meeting with a TEAMS link. (attached)

Additions, Deletions to the Agenda

Mr. Curtis questioned invoices from Phil Laramie, Great Bay Hydro, Al's Snowmobile and John Gilfoil.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Curtis moved to approve the consent agenda with changes. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried.

Newport City Elementary School Board

Mr. Curtis moved for the boards finding that specific premature general public knowledge of the subjects of the executive session tonight would clearly place the board and/or persons involved at a substantial disadvantage. 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1). Seconded by Mr. Ufford-Chase, motion carried.

Mr. Curtis moved to enter executive per 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(2) for discussions with the School Board. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried.

Mr. Curtis moved that each Newport City School District Trustee be bonded in the amount of \$100,000. Seconded by Mr. Ufford-Chase, motion carried.

Evaluation of a City Councilor 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(3)

Mr. Ufford-Chase moved to enter executive session for confidential discussion of evaluation of a city councilor 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(3). Seconded by Mr. Curtis.

Discussion, Mr. Charboneau noted that the statute reference should be 313 (a)(4) not 313 (a)(3). Mr. Charboneau would like the discussion in open session.

The motion carried, Curtis, Ufford-Chase, Vachon in favor, Charboneau against.

No action.

Comments by the Public

Jennifer Bjurling commented on the delay in the Personnel Policy.

Jennifer Hopkins commented on the Personnel Policy and non-union personnel being treated differently than union personnel.

Laurie Grimm commented on the situation between Mr. Charboneau and Mr. Curtis.

Claire McIntyre commented on Canada Day.

New Business

Mr. Curtis noted there was no manager report in the council packet. He had been asked where the Fire works were being held. Mr. Curtis thanked the Police Dept for handling the robbery.

The council signed the Gardner Park Remediation loan documents.

Mr. Johnson presented loan documents for a new \$2,000,000 LOC. Mr. Ufford -Chase moved to extend the 1,700,000 LOC until August 1, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried. Vachon, Ufford-Chase, Charboneau in favor, Curtis against.

Mayor Sullivan and Mr. Vachon met with the Happy Campers group. The council has been invited to breakfast at Prouty Beach on Saturday, July 6 at 9:00 am.

Old Business

Mr. Charboneau read a statement.

Mr. DeLaBruere stated he is still working on his report.

Mayor Sullivan presented a list of department liaisons from July 1, 2024, to March 1, 2024. (attached)

Next Meeting

Mr. Curtis moved to set the next meeting for July 15, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Ufford-Chase, motion carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried.

Attested _____ This _____ Day of July 2024

_____ Mayor

DRAFT