

Council Minutes

October 21, 2024

A duly warned meeting of the Newport city council was held on Monday, October 21, 2024 in the council room in the Newport Municipal Building. Present were Mayor Linda Sullivan, Council President Chris Vachon, Council Members Kevin Charboneau, Rick Ufford-Chase, Clark Curtis. City Manager Jon DeLaBruere, City Clerk/Treasurer James Johnson, PW Director Tom Bernier, David Rhue, John Kleish, Marilyn Mahusky, members of the Press and Public.

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

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Item number 4 changed to read Confidential Attorney-Client Communications Regarding legal services, Employee evaluations.

Item number 6 changed to read Preliminary Waste Water and water Allocation Application.

Consent Agenda

- a. **Regular meeting minutes of October 7, 2024**
- b. **Accounts Payable Warrants of October 7, 2024, October 14, 2024**
- c. **Payroll Warrant of October 17, 2024**
- d. **Liquor License**

Mr. Vachon moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Curtis, motion carried.

Confidential Attorney – Client Communication Regarding Legal Services, Employee Evaluation Executive Session 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)(F)

Mr. Vachon moved for the board's specific finding that premature general public knowledge of the subjects of the anticipated executive session tonight would clearly place the board and/or persons involved at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Ufford-Chase, motion carried.

Mr. Vachon moved to enter into executive session for Confidential Attorney-Client Communications and invite attorney's Rhue, Mahusky, Kleish, City Manager, and Clerk/Treasurer into executive session.

No action.

City Financial Position

Mr. Johnson and Mr. DeLaBruere discussed with the council the cities financial position regarding Cash Flow, Line of Credit, Sewer/Water Fees and funds owed by the Sewer/Water Funds to the General Fund.

Preliminary Wastewater and Water Allocation Applications

Mr. Vachon moved to approve the preliminary Wastewater and water allocation for Seth Rafferty on Penny Lane. Seconded by Mr. Ufford-Chase, motion carried.

VT Trans Class 2 Paving Grant TA-65 Request for Reimbursement (attached)

Mr. Vachon moved to approve the VT Trans Paving Grant reimbursement request TA-65. Seconded by Mr. Curtis, motion carried.

Payment to Mystig Heights for Water Tower Project

Mr. Vachon moved to authorize payment of \$5,000 to the law firm account to be held for Mystig Heights for the water tower project. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Employee Evaluation- Executive Session 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(3)

Mr. Vachon moved to enter executive session for employee evaluation and invite Attorney MaHusky and the City Manager as needed. Seconded by Mr. Curtis, motion carried.

No action.

Comments by the Public

Anne Chiarello commented on the salary allocations to Sewer and Water.

Jennifer Hopkins commented on the meaning of statutory employee.

Pam Ladds commented on dealing with minuscule problems when there are many more important things to do.

Mike Coutu commented on the speeding on Sias Ave.

New Business

Mr. Vachon noted that four nomination had been received for the Extra Mile award. The Military Funeral team form the Orleans Post, Sarah Chadburn, Amy Gillespie, and John Aldrich.

Mr. Charboneau suggested the council issue a proclamation against closing the hospital.

Mayor Sullivan thanked council members Curtis and Vachon for attending the Press Conference on closing North Country hospital in Montpelier.

Old Business

None

Next Meeting Date

Mr. Vachon moved to set the next council meeting for November 4, 2024. Seconded by Mr.Charboneau, motion carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 9:24 PM. Seconded by Mr. Ufford-Chase, motion carried.

Attested _____ this _____ day of _____, 2024

Mayor