

Special Council Meeting

October 28, 2024

A duly warned special meeting of the Newport City council was held on Monday, October 28, 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, Zoning Admin. Francis Cheney, Interim Fire Chief Kevin LaCoss, members of the Press and Public.

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

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Mayor Sullivan added Playground Equipment to number 3 and reversed the numbers 4 and 5.

Playground Equipment Installation

Mr. Bernier requested that the equipment company help Public works install the playground equipment since Public works has never done anything like that. The cost would be \$18,000 and funds are available. Mr. Vachon moved to have the equipment company help the Public works Dept. install the playground equipment. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

Financial Discussion and Tax Rate

The council with the City Manager and Clerk/Treasurer discussed salary allocations to the Water/sewer funds, Sweep Account, Budget Status Report, Water/Sewer Fund Rates and the General Fund finances.

Mr. Ufford-Chase moved to increase the Water/Sewer rates. 8% for Metered Sewer, 26% for non-metered sewer, 6% for metered water, and 6% for Non-metered water effective November 1, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Vachon, motion carried. Charboneau, Ufford-Chase, Vachon in favor, Curtis against.

Fire Department Personnel Matters- Potential Executive Session 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)

Mr. Vachon moved to enter executive session for Fire Department Personnel matters and invite the Interim Fire Chief and other Fire Department officials. Seconded by Mr. Curtis, motion carried.

No action.

Employee Evaluations of City Official – Executive Session 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(3)

Mr. Vachon moved to enter into executive session for Employee Evaluations of City Officials and invite the City Manager when needed. Seconded by Mr. Charboneau, motion carried.

No action.

New Business

Mr. Johnson provided the council with Accounts Receivable Reports and a list of other accounts held by the city.

Old Business

Mr. Vachon note that Extra Mile awards have been presented and hopes to have pictures for the next council meeting.

Mayor Sullivan stated the council will be issuing a proclamation in support of the North Country Hospital.

Adjournment

Mr. Charboneau moved to adjourn at 10:22 PM. Seconded by Mr. Ufford-Chase, motion carried.

Attested _____ This _____ Day of _____ 2024

Mayor