

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR & ALDERMEN
CITY OF NEWPORT, TENNESSEE
SPECIAL CALLED SESSION
July 28, 2015**

Public Hearing

Mayor Connie Ball opened the public hearing for discussion of Ordinance #2015-09 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School. There was no one to comment.

Discussion of ratifying property tax rate for fiscal year 2015-2016. Finance Director Tina Matthews explained the reason for ratifying the tax rate was the reappraisal of properties in the City that lowered the tax rate increase for total tax rate of 2.8886 per \$100 of assessed value from \$1.00 to ninety nine (99) cents. Alderman Roger Gribble asked if there was any information from the State that was sent to the City. Ms. Matthews explained the only notice was State certified tax rate that came from the Property Assessor Margaret Sorrell office. There were properties that had been appealed the assessments. Alderman Gribble asked if this tax rate would change every year. City Administrator James Finchum stated the tax rates are set by the Board every year. Alderman Gribble asked about the loss of tax money from losing the annexation. Mr. Finchum stated there was a loss of \$100,000 from losing the annexation. Alderman Gribble asked about the services for the properties in the annexation area. Mr. Finchum stated the services of street lights. Alderman Gribble asked about water & sewer services. Mr. Finchum stated that was Newport Utilities.

Mayor Ball closed the Public Hearing.

July 28, 2015

The City of Newport Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in the Newport City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in Special Called Session.

The following officials were present: Mayor Connie Ball, Vice Mayor Mike Proffitt, Alderman, Alderman Roger Gribble, Alderman Mike Hansel, Alderman Bobby Knight, City Attorney Terry Hurst, and City Administrator James Finchum.

The following officials were not present: Jeff Fancher.

Mayor Ball declared a Quorum.

Old Business

2nd Reading of Ordinance #2015-09 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School

Consideration of 2nd Reading of Ordinance #2015-09 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.

Motion was made by Alderman Gribble and second by Vice Mayor Proffitt to approve 2nd Reading of Ordinance #2015-09 Budget Amendment for Newport Grammar School.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Resolution #2015-11 Ratifying Property Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Consideration of Resolution #2015-11 Ratifying Property Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Motion was made by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight to approve Resolution #2015-11 Ratify the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Alderman Gribble recommended changing the tax rate to fifty (50) cents. Alderman Gribble asked what would be the process if the Board lowered the tax rate. Mr. Finchum stated that we would have to redo the budget again. Alderman Gribble stated he would be willing to do whatever it took to lower the tax rate.

Motion was made by Alderman Gribble to amend the tax rate to change the tax rate from ninety nine (99) cents to fifty (50) cents. This motion died for lack of second.

Roll Call For Ratifying The Tax Rate.

Alderman Gribble	NAY
Alderman Hansel	AYE
Alderman Knight	AYE
Vice Mayor Proffitt	AYE

Vote was 3-1. Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Resolution #2015-10 to Declare Certain Property as Surplus Property

Consideration of Resolution #2015-10 to Declare Certain Property as Surplus Property.

Motion by Alderman Hansel and second by Alderman Knight for the approval of Resolution #2015-10 to Declare Certain Property as Surplus Property.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Mayor & Alderman, **motion by Alderman Knight, second by Alderman Hansel** to adjourn.

All Ayes- Mayor Ball declared the motion passed and approved.

Mayor Connie Ball

City Administrator James Finchum

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